



Domestic Abuse and Civil Proceedings Act (Northern Ireland) 2021

CHAPTER 2

DOMESTIC ABUSE AND CIVIL PROCEEDINGS ACT (NORTHERN IRELAND) 2021

PART 1

Domestic abuse: offence and aggravation

CHAPTER 1

Offence of domestic abuse

Course of abusive behaviour

1. The domestic abuse offence
2. What amounts to abusive behaviour
3. Impact of behaviour on victim
4. Meaning of behaviour etc.

Personal connection

5. Meaning of personal connection
6. Establishing connection by notice
7. How notice is to be served

Changes to legislation: There are currently no known outstanding effects for the Domestic Abuse and Civil Proceedings Act (Northern Ireland) 2021. (See end of Document for details)

Aggravating factors

8. Aggravation where victim is under 18
9. Aggravation where relevant child is involved

Applicable rules and penalty

10. Behaviour occurring outside the UK
11. Exception where responsibility for children
12. Defence on grounds of reasonableness
13. Alternative available for conviction
14. Penalty for the offence

CHAPTER 2

Aggravation as to domestic abuse

Sentencing aggravation

15. Aggravation as to domestic abuse
16. What amounts to the aggravation
17. Exception regarding the aggravation

Personal connection

18. Meaning of personal connection
19. Establishing connection by notice
20. How notice is to be served

CHAPTER 3

Miscellaneous provision

Definitions for child cruelty offence

21. Meaning of ill-treatment etc. in offence provision

Criminal cases involving domestic abuse

22. No right to claim trial by jury
23. Special measures directions
24. Prohibition of cross-examination in person
25. Meaning of offence involving domestic abuse etc.

Information-sharing and victim protection

26. Information-sharing with schools etc.
27. Protective measures for victims of abuse

Civil legal aid for victims of abuse

28. Eligibility of victims for civil legal aid
29. Proposals as to availability of civil legal aid

Guidance and operational matters

30. Guidance about domestic abuse
31. Guidance on data collection
32. Training within relevant bodies
33. Independent oversight of this Part
34. Report on the operation of this Part

PART 2

Provision for civil proceedings

Residence and contact orders

35. Factors relevant to residence and contact orders

Cross-examination and special measures

36. Prohibition of cross-examination in person in family proceedings
37. Special measures directions in family proceedings
38. Prohibition of cross-examination in person in civil proceedings generally
39. Special measures directions in civil proceedings generally

PART 3

Commencement and short title

40. Commencement
41. Short title

Changes to legislation:

There are currently no known outstanding effects for the Domestic Abuse and Civil Proceedings Act (Northern Ireland) 2021.