



## 2021 CHAPTER 2

### **PART 1**

#### Domestic abuse: offence and aggravation

##### CHAPTER 1

##### Offence of domestic abuse

##### *Course of abusive behaviour*

#### **Meaning of behaviour etc.**

- 4.—**(1) This section has effect for the purposes of this Chapter.
- (2) Behaviour is behaviour of any kind, including (for example)—
- (a) saying or otherwise communicating something as well as doing something,
  - (b) intentionally failing—
    - (i) to do something, or
    - (ii) to say or otherwise communicate something.
- (3) Behaviour is directed at a person if it is directed at the person in any way, including (for example)—
- (a) through—
    - (i) conduct relating to the person's ability to acquire, use or maintain money or other property or the person's ability to obtain goods or services, or
    - (ii) other conduct concerning or towards property, or
  - (b) by making use of a third party,

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**Changes to legislation:** There are currently no known outstanding effects for the Domestic Abuse and Civil Proceedings Act (Northern Ireland) 2021, Section 4. (See end of Document for details)

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as well as in a personal or direct manner.

(4) A course of behaviour involves behaviour on at least two occasions.

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**Commencement Information**

**II** S. 4 in operation at 21.2.2022 by [S.R. 2022/57](#), [art. 2\(d\)](#)

**Changes to legislation:**

There are currently no known outstanding effects for the Domestic Abuse and Civil Proceedings Act (Northern Ireland) 2021, Section 4.