



# Senior Courts Act 1981

## 1981 CHAPTER 54

### PART III

#### PRACTICE AND PROCEDURE

##### THE COURT OF APPEAL

##### *Distribution of business*

### 53 Distribution of business between civil and criminal divisions.

- (1) Rules of court may provide for the distribution of business in the Court of Appeal between the civil and criminal divisions, but subject to any such rules business shall be distributed in accordance with the following provisions of this section.
- (2) The criminal division of the Court of Appeal shall exercise—
  - (a) all jurisdiction of the Court of Appeal under Parts I and II of the <sup>M1</sup>Criminal Appeal Act 1968;
  - (b) the jurisdiction of the Court of Appeal under section 13 of the <sup>M2</sup>Administration of Justice Act 1960 (appeals in cases of contempt of court) in relation to appeals from orders and decisions of the Crown Court;
  - (c) all other jurisdiction expressly conferred on that division by this or any other Act; and
  - (d) the jurisdiction to order the issue of writs of venire de novo.
- (3) The civil division of the Court of Appeal shall exercise the whole of the jurisdiction of that court not exercisable by the criminal division.
- (4) Where any class of proceedings in the Court of Appeal is by any statutory provision assigned to the criminal division of that court, rules of court may provide for any enactment relating to—
  - (a) appeals to the Court of Appeal under Part I of the Criminal Appeal Act 1968; or
  - (b) any matter connected with or arising out of such appeals,

*Changes to legislation: Senior Courts Act 1981, Cross Heading: Distribution of business is up to date with all changes known to be in force on or before 19 June 2024. There are changes that may be brought into force at a future date. Changes that have been made appear in the content and are referenced with annotations. (See end of Document for details) View outstanding changes*

to apply in relation to proceedings of that class or, as the case may be, to any corresponding matter connected with or arising out of such proceedings, as it applies in relation to such appeals or, as the case may be, to the relevant matter within paragraph (b), with or without prescribed modifications in either case.

**Marginal Citations**

**M1** 1968 c. 19.

**M2** 1960 c. 65.

**Changes to legislation:**

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**Changes and effects yet to be applied to the whole Act associated Parts and Chapters:**

Whole provisions yet to be inserted into this Act (including any effects on those provisions):

- s. 31(3)(a) word inserted by [2015 c. 2 s. 85\(1\)\(a\)](#)
- s. 31(3)(a) word inserted by [2015 c. 2 s. 85\(1\)\(a\)](#)
- s. 31(3)(b) and word inserted by [2015 c. 2 s. 85\(1\)\(b\)](#)
- s. 31(3)(b) and word inserted by [2015 c. 2 s. 85\(1\)\(b\)](#)
- s. 31(3A)(3B) inserted by [2015 c. 2 s. 85\(2\)](#)
- s. 31(3A)(3B) inserted by [2015 c. 2 s. 85\(2\)](#)