



Courts and Legal Services Act 1990

1990 CHAPTER 41

PART III

JUDICIAL AND OTHER OFFICES AND JUDICIAL PENSIONS

Judges

72 Presiding Judges.

- (1) For each of the Circuits there shall be at least two Presiding Judges, appointed from among the puisne judges of the High Court.
- (2) There shall be a Senior Presiding Judge for England and Wales, appointed from among the Lords Justices of Appeal.
- (3) Any appointment under subsection (1) or (2) shall be made by the Lord Chief Justice with the agreement of the Lord Chancellor.
- (4) In this section “the Circuits” means—
 - (a) the Midland and Oxford Circuit;
 - (b) the North Eastern Circuit;
 - (c) the Northern Circuit;
 - (d) the South Eastern Circuit;
 - (e) the Western Circuit; and
 - (f) the Wales and Chester Circuit,or such other areas of England and Wales as the Lord Chancellor may from time to time, after consulting the Lord Chief Justice, direct.
- (5) A person appointed as a Presiding Judge or as the Senior Presiding Judge shall hold that office in accordance with the terms of his appointment.
- (6) In section 4 of the ^{M1}[^{F1}Senior Courts Act 1981] (composition of High Court)—
 - (a) in subsection (1), after the words “Vice-Chancellor” there shall be inserted—

“(dd) the Senior Presiding Judge”; and

Changes to legislation: Courts and Legal Services Act 1990, Section 72 is up to date with all changes known to be in force on or before 25 May 2023. 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

- (b) in subsection (6) for the words “or Vice-Chancellor” there shall be substituted “Vice-Chancellor or Senior Presiding Judge”.

Textual Amendments

- F1** S. 72: for the words "Supreme Court Act 1981" wherever they occur there is substituted (1.10.2009) the words "Senior Courts Act 1981" by virtue of [Constitutional Reform Act 2005 \(c. 4\), ss. 59, 148\(1\), Sch. 11 para. 1\(2\); S.I. 2009/1604, art. 2\(d\)](#)

Marginal Citations

- M1** 1981 c. 54.

Changes to legislation:

Courts and Legal Services Act 1990, Section 72 is up to date with all changes known to be in force on or before 25 May 2023. 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.

[View outstanding changes](#)

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. 58A(2)(fe) inserted by [2021 c. 17 s. 53](#)