



Family Law Act 1996

1996 CHAPTER 27

PART II

DIVORCE AND SEPARATION

PROSPECTIVE

Court orders

^{F12} **Divorce and separation.**

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Textual Amendments

F1 Pt. II repealed (except for s. 22) (13.5.2014) by [Children and Families Act 2014 \(c. 6\)](#), ss. **18(1)**, 139(4)

^{F13} **Circumstances in which orders are made.**

.....

Textual Amendments

F1 Pt. II repealed (except for s. 22) (13.5.2014) by [Children and Families Act 2014 \(c. 6\)](#), ss. **18(1)**, 139(4)

^{F14} **Conversion of separation order into divorce order.**

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Status: This version of this part contains provisions that are prospective.

Changes to legislation: Family Law Act 1996, Part II is up to date with all changes known to be in force on or before 10 May 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

Textual Amendments

F1 Pt. II repealed (except for s. 22) (13.5.2014) by [Children and Families Act 2014 \(c. 6\), ss. 18\(1\), 139\(4\)](#)

PROSPECTIVE

Marital breakdown

F15 Marital breakdown.

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Textual Amendments

F1 Pt. II repealed (except for s. 22) (13.5.2014) by [Children and Families Act 2014 \(c. 6\), ss. 18\(1\), 139\(4\)](#)

F16 Statement of marital breakdown.

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Textual Amendments

F1 Pt. II repealed (except for s. 22) (13.5.2014) by [Children and Families Act 2014 \(c. 6\), ss. 18\(1\), 139\(4\)](#)

Reflection and consideration

PROSPECTIVE

F17 Period for reflection and consideration.

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Textual Amendments

F1 Pt. II repealed (except for s. 22) (13.5.2014) by [Children and Families Act 2014 \(c. 6\), ss. 18\(1\), 139\(4\)](#)

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PROSPECTIVE

F18 Attendance at information meetings.
.....

Textual Amendments

F1 Pt. II repealed (except for s. 22) (13.5.2014) by [Children and Families Act 2014 \(c. 6\)](#), **ss. 18(1), 139(4)**

F19 Arrangements for the future.
.....

Textual Amendments

F1 Pt. II repealed (except for s. 22) (13.5.2014) by [Children and Families Act 2014 \(c. 6\)](#), **ss. 18(1), 139(4)**

PROSPECTIVE

Orders preventing divorce

F110 Hardship: orders preventing divorce.
.....

Textual Amendments

F1 Pt. II repealed (except for s. 22) (13.5.2014) by [Children and Families Act 2014 \(c. 6\)](#), **ss. 18(1), 139(4)**

PROSPECTIVE

Welfare of children

F111 Welfare of children.
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Textual Amendments

F1 Pt. II repealed (except for s. 22) (13.5.2014) by [Children and Families Act 2014 \(c. 6\), ss. 18\(1\), 139\(4\)](#)

PROSPECTIVE

Supplementary

^{F1}12 Rules about procedure

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Textual Amendments

F1 Pt. II repealed (except for s. 22) (13.5.2014) by [Children and Families Act 2014 \(c. 6\), ss. 18\(1\), 139\(4\)](#)

PROSPECTIVE

Resolution of disputes

^{F1}13 Directions with respect to mediation.

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Textual Amendments

F1 Pt. II repealed (except for s. 22) (13.5.2014) by [Children and Families Act 2014 \(c. 6\), ss. 18\(1\), 139\(4\)](#)

^{F1}14 Adjournments.

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Textual Amendments

F1 Pt. II repealed (except for s. 22) (13.5.2014) by [Children and Families Act 2014 \(c. 6\), ss. 18\(1\), 139\(4\)](#)

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PROSPECTIVE

Financial provision

F¹15 Financial arrangements.

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Textual Amendments

F1 Pt. II repealed (except for s. 22) (13.5.2014) by Children and Families Act 2014 (c. 6), ss. **18(1)**, **139(4)**

F²16

Textual Amendments

F2 S. 16 repealed (1.12.2000) by 1999 c. 30, s. 88, **Sch. 13 Pt. II**; S.I. 2000/1116, art. **2(g)**

F³17

Textual Amendments

F3 S. 17 repealed (6.4.2002) by 1999 c. 30, s. 88, **Sch. 13 Pt. II**; S.I. 2001/4049, art. **2(3)(c)**

F¹18 Grounds for financial provision orders in magistrates' courts.

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Textual Amendments

F1 Pt. II repealed (except for s. 22) (13.5.2014) by Children and Families Act 2014 (c. 6), ss. **18(1)**, **139(4)**

PROSPECTIVE

Jurisdiction and commencement of proceedings

F¹19 Jurisdiction in relation to divorce and separation.

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Textual Amendments

F1 Pt. II repealed (except for s. 22) (13.5.2014) by [Children and Families Act 2014 \(c. 6\), ss. 18\(1\), 139\(4\)](#)

^{F1}20 Time when proceedings for divorce or separation begin.

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Textual Amendments

F1 Pt. II repealed (except for s. 22) (13.5.2014) by [Children and Families Act 2014 \(c. 6\), ss. 18\(1\), 139\(4\)](#)

PROSPECTIVE

Intestacy

^{F1}21 Intestacy: effect of separation.

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Textual Amendments

F1 Pt. II repealed (except for s. 22) (13.5.2014) by [Children and Families Act 2014 \(c. 6\), ss. 18\(1\), 139\(4\)](#)

Marriage support services

22 Funding for marriage support services.

- (1) The [^{F4}Secretary of State] may, with the approval of the Treasury, make grants in connection with—
 - (a) the provision of marriage support services;
 - (b) research into the causes of marital breakdown;
 - (c) research into ways of preventing marital breakdown.
- (2) Any grant under this section may be made subject to such conditions as the [^{F4}Secretary of State] considers appropriate.
- (3) In exercising his power to make grants in connection with the provision of marriage support services, the [^{F4}Secretary of State] is to have regard, in particular, to the desirability of services of that kind being available when they are first needed.

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Textual Amendments

F4 Words in s. 22 substituted (12.1.2004) by [The Transfer of Functions \(Children, Young People and Families\) Order 2003 \(S.I. 2003/3191\)](#), art. 6, **Sch. para. 2**

Modifications etc. (not altering text)

C1 S. 22: functions transferred (12.1.2004) by [The Transfer of Functions \(Children, Young People and Families\) Order 2003 \(S.I. 2003/3191\)](#), **arts. 3, 4**

PROSPECTIVE

^{F1}23 **Provision of marriage counselling.**

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Textual Amendments

F1 Pt. II repealed (except for s. 22) (13.5.2014) by [Children and Families Act 2014 \(c. 6\)](#), **ss. 18(1), 139(4)**

PROSPECTIVE

Interpretation

^{F1}24 **Interpretation of Part II etc.**

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Textual Amendments

F1 Pt. II repealed (except for s. 22) (13.5.2014) by [Children and Families Act 2014 \(c. 6\)](#), **ss. 18(1), 139(4)**

^{F1}25 **Connected proceedings.**

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Textual Amendments

F1 Pt. II repealed (except for s. 22) (13.5.2014) by [Children and Families Act 2014 \(c. 6\)](#), **ss. 18(1), 139(4)**

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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. 63(2)(k) inserted by [2021 c. 17 s. 52\(2\)](#)