

CRIME AND POLICING ACT 2026 : CONFISCATION PROVISIONS

By [Richard Beynon](#), Barrister, Red Lion Chambers

PART 12 - PROCEEDS OF CRIME AND OTHER PROPERTY CONNECTED WITH CRIMINAL BEHAVIOUR

- s.189 Confiscation
- s.189(1) Schedule 21 makes provision about confiscation orders in England and Wales

(And see also p.28 below for updates on Section 190 Crime and Policing Act 2026: Proceedings for civil recovery: costs and expenses)

Schedule 21: Confiscation Reforms Overview –

Enabling Statutory Instrument: [The Crime and Policing Act 2026 \(Commencement No.1 and Saving Provision\) Regulations 2026](#)

Provisions coming into force on 29th June 2026: 2(z12) Schedule 21 (confiscation orders: England and Wales), except paragraphs 6 and 17, Part 8, paragraph 26(1), (2) and (4) and Part 13.

Explanatory notes to the act can be found by clicking [HERE](#).

Ministry of Justice & Home Office Factsheet can be found by clicking [HERE](#).

(Throughout this guide, hyperlinks to legislation and related materials appear in underlined blue text. This guide is intended as a general overview of selected legislative changes only. It is not legal advice and should not be relied upon as a substitute for advice on the facts of any particular case.)

Provision	Status	Legislative change	Practical significance	Effect
Part 1			The Principal Objective	Explanatory Notes HERE Home Office Circular HERE
Schedule 21, para. 1 — Principal Objective	In force	New s.5A ; Amends s.69	Provides an interpretive legislative steer for confiscation decisions and enforcement powers, likely to be invoked where discretion is exercised.	Before: POCA 2002 contained no express overarching objective for confiscation proceedings. Instead, the courts relied on section 69 POCA, which governs the exercise of court and receiver powers but not the making of confiscation orders under section 6, and on developing case law. See the Law Commission Final Report HERE, many of whose recommendations informed the long-overdue amendments to POCA 2002. After: Introduces a principal objective for Part 2 powers: depriving the defendant of benefit from criminal conduct so far as within the defendant's means and aligns the court and receiver powers with that objective. (s.5A(1) and (2)) The defendant's means are taken to include any tainted gifts made by the defendant. (s5(A)(3)). A court or person must exercise any power to which this section applies in the way which the court or person considers is best calculated to further the principal objective (s5(A)(4)). S.5(A)(5)) provides that, where they conflict, the objective in s.5(A)(2) takes precedence over s.2A(1) POCA 2002 – (which requires a relevant authority to exercise its functions under the Act in the way which it considers is best calculated to contribute to the reduction of crime).

Part 2			Criminal Lifestyle	Explanatory Notes HERE Home Office Circular HERE
Para. 2 — Prosecutor's discretion	In force	Amends ss. 6(4), 16, and 20(2)	Gives prosecutors greater control / flexibility over whether criminal lifestyle assumptions are pursued and should make the prosecution's position explicit at an early stage. Better deployment of resources	Before: Courts had to consider criminal lifestyle status in all relevant / qualifying cases. After: Requires the court to determine criminal lifestyle only if asked by the prosecutor and adjusts the statement of information and reconsideration provisions accordingly. (s.6(4)(a)-(c)) If not applied, the determination is based on Particular Criminal Conduct as before.
Para. 3 — Serious risk of injustice test	In force	Amends s.10 Inserts s10(6A)	Clarifies scope of test. May assist defendants resisting assumptions where evidence is unavailable, while giving courts a clearer structured approach.	Before: The court should not apply the assumptions if there would be a "serious risk of injustice" in their application (section 10(6)(b) of POCA). Narrowly construed. After: In determining whether there would be a serious risk of injustice if a required assumption were made in relation to particular property or expenditure, the court MUST consider all the circumstances of the case and MUST in particular give appropriate weight to any evidence about the serious risk of injustice and any explanations given by the defendant for being unable to provide evidence that would have shown the assumption to be incorrect. (s10(6A)(a) and (b)).
Para. 4 — Criminal lifestyle cases	In force	Amends s.75(3)	Expands the range of cases potentially subject to lifestyle assumptions and increases the importance of early prosecution/defence analysis.	Before: "Conduct forming part of a course of criminal activity" if the defendant had benefited from the conduct and in the proceedings in which he was convicted he was convicted of three or more other offences, each of three or more of them constituting conduct from which he has benefited After: Broadens criminal lifestyle by including intended benefit and reducing the relevant course-of-criminal-activity threshold from three offences to two, subject to transitional limits i.e. The amendments relating to intended benefit do not apply to conduct that took place wholly or partly before the date on which those provisions came into force. "Intended to benefit" reflects the Law Commissions recommendation (37 p 227) in relation to inchoate offences and that convictions for attempts to benefit should count towards satisfaction of the number of offences which may satisfy the course of criminal activity trigger. "The attempt to benefit is an equally valid part of the pattern of offending"

Para. 5 — Criminal lifestyle offences	In force	Amends Sch. 2 Para 8; inserts s33A SOA1956; and inserts 9C (Environmental Offences)	Brings more offence types within automatic lifestyle treatment, particularly waste related environmental offending.	Adds x3 further criminal lifestyle offences: Section 33A of the Sexual Offences Act 1956 (Keeping a brothel used for prostitution) Depositing certain waste otherwise than in accordance with an environmental permit (section 33(1)(a) of the Environmental Protection Act 1990), and Operating a regulated facility or causing or knowingly permitting a water discharge activity or groundwater activity, otherwise than in accordance with an environmental permit (regulation 38(1)(a) of the Environmental Permitting (England and Wales) Regulations 2016). Transitional Provisions: Does not apply in relation to an offence committed wholly or partly before the coming into force of the sub-paragraph in question (29 June 2026)
Para. 6 — Recoverable amount	Not yet in force	Sch 21 Para 6 of the Crime and Policing Act Amends POCA ss.7, Amends POCA s.21	Once commenced, may reduce double-counting and improve fairness / proportionality where property has already been restored, seized or compensated.	Property excluded expanded s.7 POCA (defines the recoverable amount) amended to expand the categories of property excluded from the available amount. New exclusions included in Para 6: - any property in respect of which certain court orders were made before confiscation proceedings, - any property restored to a victim or other person entitled to recover it, - any property handed over to an appropriate officer, - any seized property that has not been released, - and amounts paid by the defendant by way of compensation to any victim. This is to ensure that the benefit figure realistically reflects the defendant's benefit from crime and, in accordance with the overarching objective, ensures no double counting. Burden of Proof: s.7(2) As currently drafted the burden is on a defendant to "show" that the amount available for confiscation is less than the benefit or nominal if nil. Para 6(2) of Sch 21 amends Section 7(2), and requires a defendant instead to prove such matters or to otherwise satisfy the court.

				Reconsideration: s.21 amended to allow reconsideration of benefit if new evidence emerges or seized property is released.
Part 3			Amount to be paid under a Confiscation order	Explanatory Notes HERE Home Office Circular HERE
Para. 7 — Hidden property	In force	Amends s.9 POCA, Inserts 9A, Amends 21, 22, 23	Enables courts to reflect hidden assets in the available amount and may strengthen enforcement where dissipation or concealment is alleged.	Before: Where the defendant's available amount appeared to be lower than the benefit, the court could treat the difference between the values as assets which have been hidden by or on behalf of the defendant, and available to satisfy the confiscation order. After: Put on Statutory footing. S 9A POCA applies where it appears to the court that the defendant's benefit exceeds the total value of free property and tainted gifts, and some or all of that excess results from property having been hidden by or on behalf of the defendant. The court must determine the total value of the property that the court considers has been hidden and in making that determination the court must consider the extent to which there are other circumstances that may account for the excess, such as expenditure incurred by the defendant or changes in property values. The available amount calculation under s.9 is amended to include any amount determined under section 9A. Ss9 and 9A inserted into s 21 reconsideration of benefit) s22 (reconsideration of available amount and s23 (inadequacy of available amount: variation of order).
Para. 8 — Tainted gifts	In force	Amends s.77(5)	Simplifying when gifts are tainted by reference to the offence date or earliest offence date.	Clarifies and broadens when a gift is considered "tainted" for confiscation purposes, ensuring that gifts made after the earliest relevant offence can be included in the calculation of a defendant's available assets. Captures individuals who transfer criminal property to others on the day of their offending and aligns with Parliament's original intention for the tainted gift regime.
Para. 9 — Benefit	In force	Amends ss.76, and 84	Gives courts greater flexibility to ensure benefit calculations reflect the true circumstances, preventing unjust outcomes	s. 76(8) : Where a person intended to have only a limited power to control or dispose of property, held the property temporarily, or is treated as obtaining property under section 84(3), and the court believes that the amount of benefit would produce an unjust result, the court may reduce that amount to such amount as the court believes is just.

Limited or Temporary Control		Inserts s.76(8) and s84(3)	where a defendant's connection to property is limited or temporary.	The court can set the benefit amount to any figure it believes just, including zero. The example given in the explanatory notes is money that was held temporarily by a person (e.g. coaxed into allowing their bank account to be used by a criminal gang such that they took temporary possession of funds should not form part of the benefit of that person. s.84(3) amended to provide that if, as a result of or in connection with conduct, a person keeps property that the person already has, where the court believes it just to do so, the person is to be treated as obtaining the property as a result of or in connection with the conduct.
Para. 10 — Value of property obtained	In force	Amends section 79(5), section 80; Inserts new section 80A (mortgages)	Ensures only the criminally obtained portion of property is counted in confiscation calculations, and introduces a specific method for valuing increases in land purchased with criminally obtained mortgage loans	Where property is acquired partly with legitimate funds and partly with criminal proceeds, only the criminally funded proportion counts as benefit. (s.79(5) s.80(5)). Special rules now apply to mortgaged property so that defendants are not automatically treated as benefiting from the entire mortgage advance. The value attributed to criminal conduct is calculated using a formula that takes into account the amount of the loan, the value of the interest at purchase, and the increase in value during the loan period $(A / B) \times C$, where: A = amount of the loan, B = value of the land when purchased, C = increase in value of the land during the loan period. (s.80A). Adjustments are made if the loan period ends before the court's decision, to account for changes in the value of money. Example in the Explanatory notes : Property purchased with a loan-to-value ratio of 75%, and the property increased in value by £100,000, then the increase that is attributable to the mortgage is £75,000.
Para. 11 — Property sold or destroyed	In force	Amends s.80 Inserts new ss 80(3)(A-C)	Reduces uncertainty in benefit valuation after disposal or destruction of assets, including crypto-asset destruction orders. Ensures that, for confiscation orders, the value of property sold or destroyed is calculated in a way that reflects either the actual proceeds or the last known value, and	Specifies valuation rules where obtained property has been sold or destroyed, including sale proceeds, pre-sale value, market value and currency conversion. s.80(2) amended so that, except where new subsections (3A) or (3B) apply, the value of property is determined as before. (3A): If the property was sold, its value at the material time is the greater of (a) the proceeds of the sale (adjusted for changes in the value of money), or (b) the value immediately before the sale (also adjusted for inflation).

			that adjustments are made for inflation and currency conversion where necessary	(3B): If the property was destroyed by a court order (including destruction of cryptoassets), its value at the material time is the market value as set out in the court order, adjusted for inflation. (3C): If the sale proceeds are in a foreign currency, they must be converted to sterling at the exchange rate on the day of sale s.80(4) amended to ensure references to the new valuation rules are included. (see s.79)
Part 4			Priority Orders	Explanatory Notes HERE
Para. 12 — Priority orders	In force	Amends ss.13, 19, 20, 21, 22, 55	Clarifies payment sequencing and should improve handling of competing confiscation and compensation/priority liabilities. So, where both a confiscation order and other financial orders are made against a defendant, the court must direct that unpaid amounts under the other orders are paid from any sums recovered under the confiscation order, giving clear priority to victims and other claimants	Reworks the relationship between confiscation and priority orders, introducing priority payment directions s.13(3A) Defines “Priority Orders” as -compensation orders, -surcharge orders, -unlawful profit orders, -slavery and trafficking reparation orders Section 13(5) and (6) of POCA 2002 are replaced with new provisions When a court makes both a confiscation order and one or more priority orders against the same person in the same proceedings, the court must also make a “priority payment direction” ensuring that any amount payable under the priority order(s) that remains unpaid when sums are recovered under the confiscation order is to be paid out of those sums.(s.13(7)). Sections 19, 20, 21, and 22 POCA amended to update references to priority orders and payment directions in the context of reconsideration of cases, benefit, and available amount. s55 amended so the designated officer must apply recovered sums to unpaid priority orders in the order they were made, after the making of a priority payment direction.

Part 5			Compensation Directions	Explanatory Notes HERE
Para. 13 — Compensation Directions	In force	Inserts s.22A, Amends s.55 by insertion of 5B	The aim of this provision is to compensate the victim, so far as possible, for their total original loss not covered by a compensation order in the original confiscation proceedings and allows courts to redirect increased sums from confiscation orders to compensate victims if the defendant's assets increase after the original order.	Creates compensation and supplementary compensation directions where the available amount later increases and victim loss remains unpaid. s22A POCA (Increased available amount: compensation directions): - Allows the court, when varying a confiscation order to increase the amount payable, to direct that additional sums recovered can be paid to a victim if their compensable loss exceeded the original compensation order. - Also allows the court to direct payment to a victim where no compensation order was made but a loss was known at the time of the confiscation order. - Sets limits so that the amount paid does not exceed the actual loss or any statutory maximum. S.55 amended so the designated officer must apply recovered sums to unpaid priority orders in the order they were made, after making a priority payment direction. Example from Explanatory notes: Fraud with individual loss of £50,000. Benefit calculated £50,000. Available amount £10,000. At Confiscation hearing: -Compensation order £10,000. -Confiscation order nominal £0. Later assets of £30,000 found. S 22 Application: Court varies the original confiscation order to include the new £30,000 and makes a compensation direction to redirect the £30,000 to the victim who was not compensated fully for their loss at the original confiscation hearing. Total amount of compensation awarded to the victim since the confiscation proceedings is £40,000 Remaining amount to be paid towards the confiscation order remains nominal (£0).

Part 6			Procedural Matters : Timing of confiscation proceedings and effect on sentencing	Explanatory Notes HERE Home Office Circular HERE
Para. 14 — Timing and sentencing	In force	Inserts section 15A; Omit sections 14 and 15.	Changes case management practice and may require sentencing courts to preserve financial orders until confiscation is determined. Replaces postponement provisions (ss.14 and 15) with a new timetable regime which ensures confiscation proceedings are timetabled and prioritised before the imposition of other financial penalties, and clarifies how and when sentences can be varied after confiscation, streamlining the process and reducing delays and limits certain sentencing orders before confiscation is resolved	Before: Confiscation proceedings could be postponed for up to two years; correction period for sentencing was 28 days. After: Courts must set a timetable at sentencing; correction period extended to 56 days; s.15A provides that when the court sentences the defendant before proceeding with confiscation, the court must draw up a timetable for the section 6 proceedings before the end of the hearing at which it sentences the defendant. The court may revise a timetable drawn up under ss (3) The Court must not impose a fine, make certain financial orders, or compensation / surcharge / unlawful profit orders (except for property of little or no value) until after confiscation proceedings are complete. The court must set a timetable for confiscation proceedings at the sentencing hearing and may revise it. ss(4) After confiscation proceedings, the court can vary the sentence to impose a fine or make the relevant orders, but only within 56 days of the confiscation order or decision not to make one.(s.15A(7)) For appeal purposes, the sentence is regarded as imposed on the day it is varied.

Para. 15 — Early resolution meeting	In force	Amends POCA 2002 section 6; inserts new sections 15B and 15C.	Promotes earlier narrowing of issues and may reduce contested confiscation hearing length. See Home Office Circular HERE	s.15B Introduces early resolution of confiscation (EROC) meetings and hearings to encourage agreement or identify disputed issues. s.6(4) amended to allow the court to decide questions about criminal lifestyle and benefit in accordance with an agreement reached by the prosecutor and defendant at an Early Resolution of Confiscation (EROC) meeting. There are two stages Stage 1: s.15B (Early resolution meeting) The Crown Court can direct that an EROC meeting be held on its own initiative or on the Prosecution’s application. The prosecutor and defendant (or their legal representative) must attend the meeting to try to agree whether a confiscation order is required and, if so, the amount to be paid. (s.15(B)(2); s.15B(3)(a)) If no agreement is reached, the meeting helps identify the issues in dispute.(s.15B(3)(b)); Paragraph 15(2) of schedule 21 provides, where agreement is reached at the EROC meeting, that the court may make determinations about the defendant’s criminal lifestyle under section 6(4) and recoverable amount under section 6(5) in accordance with the terms of the agreement reached by the prosecutor and defendant at the EROC meeting The court can require other relevant parties (e.g., those with an interest in key property or accredited financial investigators) to attend. s.15B(4). Key property is defined in s.15(B)(6) as property held by the defendant that the court believes will need to be realised or otherwise used to satisfy any confiscation order that may be made Stage 2 : s.15C (Early resolution hearing if no agreement reached): After an EROC meeting, the court must hold an EROC hearing if agreement is not reached or if the court decides not to make an order on the agreed terms. The hearing determines the next steps in the proceedings as part of active case management.
--	-----------------	---	---	--

Part 7			Reconsideration and Provisional Discharge	Explanatory Notes HERE
Para. 16 — Reconsideration after order	In force	Amends ss.21, 22, 39; Inserts s.21A	Provides relief where later realisation values are materially lower, without refunding sums already paid. Paragraph 16 provides a fair process for reducing the amount a defendant must pay under a confiscation order if the value of relevant property has decreased due to sale or destruction, ensuring the order reflects the true benefit retained	Creates a mechanism for recalculating benefit and varying an order where relevant property later sold or destroyed has decreased in value. s. 21A (Order made: reconsideration of benefit on decrease in value and sale etc): - Allows the prosecutor, a receiver, or the designated officer for a magistrates' court to apply to the Crown Court for a recalculation of the defendant's benefit if property originally included in the benefit calculation has since been sold or destroyed (including by court order for destruction of cryptoassets). - The court compares the current value of the property (using updated valuation rules) with the value originally used. - If the current value is lower, the court must reduce the benefit figure accordingly and vary the confiscation order to reflect the new, lower amount. - The variation does not affect any interest already due or require repayment of sums already paid. Amends sections 21, 22, and 39 which ensures that the new reconsideration process applies to all relevant cases and clarifies how interest and prison terms are handled when orders are varied.
Para. 17 — Provisional discharge of orders	Not yet in force	Inserts ss.24A, 24B, 24C; Replaces ss.24, 25	Once commenced, may allow long running or uneconomic confiscation orders to be treated as satisfied on a provisional basis. Paragraph 17 Sch 21 creates a process for provisionally discharging confiscation orders after two years if further enforcement is not	s. 24A POCA (Provisional discharge of order): After two years from the making (or variation) of a confiscation order, the Crown Court may, on its own motion or on application by the prosecutor, designated officer, or receiver, provisionally discharge the order if it is in the interests of justice. The court must consider factors such as amounts already paid, interest, enforcement steps taken, and whether further reasonable enforcement steps are possible.

			justified, with safeguards for review and the ability to require updated financial information from the defendant.	s. 24B (Effect of provisional discharge and revocation): A provisionally discharged order is treated as satisfied, but applications to vary or reconsider the order can still be made. The court can revoke the provisional discharge if justice requires, at which point the order is no longer treated as satisfied and enforcement can resume. s.24C (Financial status orders): The court may require the defendant to provide information and evidence about their assets and finances to assist in decisions about provisional discharge or revocation.
Part 8			Enforcement	Explanatory Notes HERE
Para. 18 — Enforcement plans	Not yet in force	Inserts ss.13ZA, 13ZB, Amends s. 13A	Would front-load enforcement planning and help courts move quickly on default. Paragraph 18 requires courts to proactively plan for enforcement when making confiscation orders, by preparing enforcement plans and scheduling initial enforcement hearings if there is a risk of default, thereby strengthening the effectiveness and efficiency of confiscation order enforcement.	s.13ZA (Enforcement plans): When a court makes a confiscation order, it must also prepare an enforcement plan if there are reasonable grounds to believe the defendant might default, or if the court considers it appropriate to ensure the order is effective. The enforcement plan is a document setting out drafts of one or more orders that the enforcing court could make if the defendant defaults (e.g. warrants, attachment of earnings, or other enforcement actions). If the Court of Appeal makes the confiscation order, it may direct the Crown Court to prepare the enforcement plan. s.3ZB (Initial enforcement hearing): If an enforcement plan is prepared, the enforcing court must set a date for a hearing to take place if the defendant defaults, scheduled for the first available date after the due date for payment. If the due date changes, the hearing date must be reset accordingly. If the enforcing court is a magistrates' court, it is responsible for these duties. s.13A amended to clarify that compliance orders can be made whether or not an enforcement plan is also prepared.

Para. 19 — Default term and enforcing court	Not yet in force	s35A- R; Replaces s35 Amends sections 25A, 38, 39, 54, 459	Would materially change default enforcement, including how imprisonment/detention terms and enforcement hearings operate. Paragraph 19 establishes a robust, flexible, and court-managed system for enforcing confiscation orders, with clear rules for default terms, court jurisdiction, enforcement actions, and the ability to compel compliance and transfer enforcement as needed.	Introduces a comprehensive new framework for the enforcement of confiscation orders under the Proceeds of Crime Act 2002. Paragraph 19 replaces the previous 'enforcement as fines' approach with a structured, court-managed system for enforcing confiscation orders, clarifying the process for default terms and expanding the powers and responsibilities of both the Crown Court and magistrates Default Term (35A–35C): Courts must set a default term of imprisonment or detention when making a confiscation order, with maximum terms based on the amount owed. The default term is reduced proportionally if part payment is made, and full payment leads to release from custody. <table><tr><th>Amount</th><th>Maximum term</th></tr><tr><td>£10,000 or less</td><td>6 months</td></tr><tr><td>More than £10,000 but no more than £500,000</td><td>5 years</td></tr><tr><td>More than £500,000 but no more than £1 million</td><td>7 years</td></tr><tr><td>More than £1 million</td><td>14 years</td></tr></table> Enforcing Court (35D–35E): must specify whether the Crown Court or a magistrates’ court will enforce order. Enforcement can be transferred between courts to ensure effective enforcement, and the new enforcing court can vary or revoke previous enforcement actions	Amount	Maximum term	£10,000 or less	6 months	More than £10,000 but no more than £500,000	5 years	More than £500,000 but no more than £1 million	7 years	More than £1 million	14 years
Amount	Maximum term													
£10,000 or less	6 months													
More than £10,000 but no more than £500,000	5 years													
More than £500,000 but no more than £1 million	7 years													
More than £1 million	14 years													

				Initial Enforcement Hearing (35F): If an enforcement plan exists and the defendant defaults, the enforcing court must hold an initial enforcement hearing and make orders as set out in the plan, unless not in the interests of justice. Powers to Compel Attendance and Obtain Information (35G–35H): The enforcing court can issue summonses or warrants to bring the defendant before the court and require financial information to assist enforcement. Confiscation Assistance Advisers (35I): The court may appoint advisers to help the defendant satisfy the order (with consent). Enforcement by Magistrates' Courts (35J): Magistrates' courts can enforce confiscation orders as if they were fines, with special rules for warrants and imprisonment. Enforcement by Crown Court (35K–35R): The Crown Court is given powers equivalent to magistrates' courts, including issuing warrants of control and commitment, postponing warrants, and transferring enforcement to Scotland or Northern Ireland. The Crown Court can also enforce payment through the High Court or county court. Miscellaneous Other Amendments: Related amendments are made to sections 25A, 38, 39, 54, and 459 POCA to align with the new enforcement framework.
Para. 20 — Extension to Crown Court of powers in relation to money, cryptoassets and personal property	Not yet in force	Amends section 67, 67ZA, 67A, 67AA, 67B, 67D, 69(2A).	Paragraph 20 of Schedule 21 extends the Crown Court's powers in relation to the enforcement of confiscation orders under the Proceeds of Crime Act 2002 (POCA). Paragraph 20 ensures that the Crown Court has equivalent enforcement powers to magistrates' courts for money, cryptoassets, and personal property in confiscation proceedings, supporting a unified and flexible enforcement regime.	s.67 POCA (money): Amended so that references to "a magistrates' court" are replaced with "the enforcing court," allowing the Crown Court to exercise the same powers as magistrates' courts regarding the payment, receipt, and handling of money recovered under confiscation orders. New provisions clarify where money must be paid depending on which court is enforcing. s.67ZA POCA (cryptoassets): Amended to allow the Crown Court, as enforcing court, to deal with the realisation and payment of proceeds from cryptoassets, mirroring the powers previously held only by magistrates' courts. Section 67A, 67AA, 67B, 67D POCA: Amended to substitute "the enforcing court" for "a magistrates' court," extending powers over seized personal property, destruction of cryptoassets, costs of storage/realisation, and proceeds of realisation to the Crown Court.

				s. 69(2A) POCA: Amended to refer to "the enforcing court" instead of "a magistrates' court"
Para. 21 — Extension to Crown Court of powers under Schedule 5 to Courts Act 2003	Not yet in force	Amends schedule 5 Courts Act 2003 (collection of fines and other sums imposed on conviction)	Ensures that the Crown Court has the same powers as magistrates' courts to make attachment of earnings orders and benefit deduction applications for the enforcement of confiscation orders, supporting a unified and flexible enforcement regime.	Extends the Crown Court's powers to make attachment of earnings orders and applications for benefit deductions for confiscation orders: Application : Parts 1, 3, 3A, and 10 of Schedule 5 will also apply where a person aged 18 or over is liable to pay a sum under a confiscation order and the Crown Court is the enforcing court (as defined in POCA section 35D). Interpretation: Updates definitions so that references to the sum due and the person liable include confiscation orders enforced by the Crown Court. Existing Defaulter: Recognizes default on confiscation orders enforced by the Crown Court as "existing default" for enforcement purposes. Attachment of Earnings and Benefit Deductions: The Crown Court is now included as the "enforcing court" for making attachment of earnings orders and benefit deduction applications for confiscation orders. Other Technical Amendments: Updates references throughout Schedule 5 to ensure the Crown Court can exercise the same enforcement powers as magistrates' courts for these purposes.
Para. 22 — Application of Attachment of Earnings Act 1971 to attachment of earnings orders made by the Crown Court	Not yet in force	Amends sections 6(7), 15D, 17 of the Attachment of Earnings Act 1971.	Paragraph 22 ensures that the Crown Court can make, manage, and consolidate attachment of earnings orders for the enforcement of confiscation orders, aligning its powers with those of magistrates' courts and supporting more effective recovery of criminal assets.	Enables the Crown Court to make and manage attachment of earnings orders for confiscation orders: s.6(7) of the 1971 Act amended to specify that, for an attachment of earnings order made by the Crown Court under Schedule 5 to the Courts Act 2003 (in relation to a confiscation order), the designated officer for the collecting magistrates' court is the collecting officer. s.15D is amended so that, if a lapsed order was made by the Crown Court under Schedule 5 to the Courts Act 2003, the proper authority for finding the debtor's employer includes the Crown Court, a magistrates' court, or the designated officer for a magistrates' court. s.17 is amended to clarify that the Crown Court has the power to make consolidated attachment of earnings orders to secure the discharge of multiple liabilities under confiscation orders.

Para. 23 — Collection orders in respect of confiscation orders	Not yet in force	Amends Schedule 5 to Courts Act 2003 (adds confiscation orders to collection order regime)	Paragraph 23 ensures that the collection order regime (which streamlines and automates enforcement of court-imposed financial penalties) can be used for confiscation orders, improving the efficiency and effectiveness of recovering criminal assets.	Adds a definition of "a sum required to be paid by a confiscation order" to Schedule 5, making clear that sums due under confiscation orders (made under section 6 of the Proceeds of Crime Act 2002) are included. It amends the requirements for the content of collection orders so that, where a collection order is made, it must now also specify the amount required to be paid under a confiscation order, in addition to compensation orders.
Para. 24— Taking control of goods to recover a sum due under a confiscation order	Not yet in force	Amends Schedule 12 to Tribunals, Courts and Enforcement Act 2007	Paragraph 24 ensures that the full range of powers for taking control of goods—including entry and use of force—are available to enforce confiscation orders, and that these powers can be exercised by the enforcing court (Crown Court or magistrates' court) as appropriate.	Facilitates the use of taking control of goods (formerly known as distress or bailiff action) for enforcing confiscation orders: Updates the definition of "the court" so that, for warrants of control issued to recover sums due under a confiscation order, "the court" means the enforcing court as defined in section 35D POCA Use of Reasonable Force: Adds a new paragraph (18ZA) to clarify that enforcement agents executing a warrant of control for a confiscation order may use reasonable force to enter premises, provided certain conditions are met. Powers of Entry: Amends the rules on entry where there is a controlled goods agreement, ensuring the new powers for confiscation orders are included.
Part 9			Restraint Orders	Explanatory Notes HERE Home Office Circular HERE
Para. 25 — Conditions for making of restraint order: risk of dissipation	In force	Amends POCA 2002 sections 40 and 41	Paragraph 25 ensures that restraint orders are only made where there is a real and evidenced risk of dissipation of assets that could satisfy a confiscation order, and requires the court to consider a detailed list of relevant factors before making such an order.	Section 40 POCA is replaced so that a restraint order can only be made if (a) one of the statutory conditions is satisfied, and (b) there is a real risk that relevant realisable property will be dissipated unless the Crown Court acts.

				"Relevant realisable property" defined as property that could be used to satisfy a confiscation order. Court must specifically consider factors such as -the nature of the property, -steps taken to dissipate it, -the holder's circumstances and character, -the nature of the criminal conduct, the suspected benefit, and the stage of proceedings. s.41(1) POCA is amended to clarify that the power to make a restraint order only applies where these new conditions are met.
Para. 26 — Exception to restraint orders for reasonable legal expenses	In force	Amends POCA 2002 section 41; inserts new section 41ZA; amends section 459	Paragraph 26 ensures that exceptions to restraint orders for legal expenses are tightly controlled, with clear limits, conditions, and oversight, to prevent abuse while allowing access to legal representation	Amends POCA to clarify and regulate exceptions to restraint orders for reasonable legal expenses: Section 41 POCA is amended: Subsections (2A) and (2B) are removed, simplifying the structure. As are (5A), (5B), and (10). Subsection (3) is updated to allow restraint orders to be made subject to conditions. Subsection (4) is replaced so that exceptions for reasonable legal expenses must comply with new section 41ZA. s.41ZA inserted, requiring that any exception for legal expenses: - Must be limited to legal expenses reasonably incurred or to be incurred. - Must specify the total amount that may be released for legal expenses. - Must be subject to required conditions, which the Lord Chancellor may set by regulation (e.g., restricting who may receive payments, controlling amounts for specific items, or requiring court assessment of costs). The Lord Chancellor must consult appropriate persons before making such regulations. s.459 POCA amended to remove references to the repealed subsections.
Para. 27 Exception to restraint order	In force	Amends POCA 2002 section 41 (adds new	Paragraph 27 ensures that exceptions to restraint orders for living expenses are carefully assessed, taking into account the	Amended to clarify how courts should handle exceptions to restraint orders for reasonable living expenses:

for reasonable living expenses		ss. 3A and definitions)	person's legitimate needs, means, and the preservation of assets for confiscation	<u>New ss.(3A)</u>: When making an exception to a restraint order for reasonable living expenses, the court must specifically consider: - The period for which the restraint order will be in effect. - The specified person's applicable standard of living (defined as their standard of living immediately before the restraint order, or—if there is reason to believe it was inflated by criminal activity—the standard they would have but for that activity). - The specified person's means. - The value of relevant realisable property held by the specified person, in relation to the amount likely to be required under a confiscation order. - Whether the person's expenditure is necessary or desirable to improve or maintain the value of relevant realisable property. New definitions: Adds definitions for "applicable standard of living" and "relevant realisable property" (the latter as in section 40 POCA).
Para. 28 — Discharge of restraint order etc: proceedings not started within reasonable time	In force	Amends POCA 2002 sections 41 and 42.	This ensures that the decision to discharge a restraint order for delay is based on a thorough and structured assessment of all relevant circumstances.	Amended by inserting new <u>ss. (7CA) in section 41</u> and new <u>ss.(7A) in section 42</u>. New requirements for courts when deciding whether to discharge a restraint order due to criminal proceedings not being started within a reasonable time. Courts must consider several factors when determining if proceedings have been unreasonably delayed. These factors include: 1. The time elapsed since the restraint order was made. 2. Reasons provided by the prosecutor for the delay. 3. The length and complexity of the criminal investigation, both before and after the restraint order. 4. Whether the investigation involves matters arising abroad. 5. The length and complexity of potential proceedings. 6. The nature and scope of the restraint order (such as the extent of property involved). 7. The impact of the restraint order on affected persons.

Para. 29 — Restraint orders: effect of conviction	In force	Inserts section 42A.	This ensures that post-conviction restraint orders reflect both the conviction and any related financial penalties or reparations	New provisions regarding restraint orders after a defendant's conviction. s. 42A requires the Crown Court, when making or varying a restraint order after conviction, to consider: -The fact of the defendant's conviction. Whether any of the following orders has been or is likely to be made against the defendant: -A compensation order -An order for payment of a surcharge -An unlawful profit order -A slavery and trafficking reparation order If a restraint order was made before conviction and the defendant is later convicted, the court must review any exceptions to the order in light of these factors and may vary the order accordingly.
Part 10			Management Receivers	Explanatory Notes HERE
Para. 30 — Management Receivers	In force	Amends POCA 2002 sections 48 , 49 , 63	Amendments expand the circumstances in which a management receiver can be appointed These changes ensure that management receivers can be appointed to manage property subject to either a restraint order or a further detention order, broadening the court's ability to secure assets during criminal investigations	Key Changes : Appointment After Further Detention Orders: The Crown Court can now appoint a management receiver not only when a restraint order is in place, but also when a magistrates' court has made a further detention order regarding property. Applications for such appointments can be made by the prosecutor or an accredited financial investigator. References in the relevant sections are updated so that powers and duties relating to management receivers apply equally to both restraint orders and further detention orders. Definition Added: The term "further detention order" is defined as an order made under section 47M for the further detention of property initially detained under section 47J.

Part 11			Appeals	Explanatory Notes HERE
Para. 31 — Appeals	In force	Inserts new POCA 2002 sections 67E–67L; Amends sections 44A, 46, 68, 69, 85, 89; Omits sections 13B, 31–33, 43–44, 65–66, 67C; Amends Criminal Appeal Act 1968 section 50	Overall, paragraph 31 modernizes and streamlines the appeal process for confiscation proceedings, providing clearer routes and procedures for all parties involved.	Overhauls appeal rights for confiscation proceedings, including appeals by prosecutors, defendants, and affected third parties, and clarifies procedures for appeals to the Court of Appeal and Supreme Court. New Appeals Framework: Introduces new sections (67E to 67L) that set out comprehensive rights of appeal for prosecutors, defendants, and other affected parties regarding confiscation orders, restraint orders, compliance orders, management and enforcement receivers, and determinations about seized property. Appeals can be made to the Court of Appeal and, in some cases, to the Supreme Court. Scope of Appeals: Prosecutors can appeal against the making or refusal of confiscation orders. Defendants retain rights of appeal, including in relation to default terms and variations of orders. Other parties affected by certain orders (such as compliance or restraint orders) may also appeal. Court Powers on Appeal: The appellate courts can confirm, vary, quash, or direct the lower court to reconsider or remake orders. Directions must be followed by the Crown Court if the case is remitted. Supplementary Provisions: The new framework clarifies how previous conduct, property, and assumptions are to be treated on appeal. It also specifies when appeals are not permitted (e.g., if a receiver is to be appointed). Repeals and Consequential Amendments: The paragraph repeals previous appeal provisions (sections 31–33, 43–44, 65–66, and others) to avoid duplication and ensure consistency with the new structure.

Part 12			Consequential and related amendments	
Para. 32 —	In force	Omits paragraph 406 from Schedule 8 of the Courts Act 2003	This is a technical change intended to update the legislation in line with the broader amendments introduced by the Crime and Policing Act 2026 regarding confiscation orders.	Paragraph 32 makes a minor consequential amendment by omitting paragraph 406 from Schedule 8 of the Courts Act 2003.
Para. 33 —	In force	Constitutional Reform Act 2005 omitting paragraph 77(2) and (3) from Schedule 9.	Technical Consequential Amendments / Alignment	Paragraph 33 makes a technical amendment to the Constitutional Reform Act 2005 by omitting paragraph 77(2) and (3) from Schedule 9. A consequential change related to jurisdiction of the Supreme Court, aligning the legislation with the broader updates introduced by the Crime and Policing Act 2026 regarding confiscation orders
Para. 34 —	In force	Amends Serious Crime Act 2007	Technical Consequential Amendments / Alignment	Technical amendments to the Serious Crime Act 2007 by omitting several specific paragraphs from Schedule 8, which dealt with the abolition of the Assets Recovery Agency and its Director. The omitted paragraphs are: Paragraph 4 Paragraphs 16 and 17 Paragraph 19 Paragraph 32
Para. 35 -	In force	Amends Prevention of Social Housing	Technical Consequential Amendments / Alignment	Technical amendments intended to align the Prevention of Social Housing Fraud Act 2013 with the broader reforms to confiscation orders introduced by the Crime and Policing Act 2026. Omits paragraphs 15 and 16, paragraph 17(3), 18(3) and paragraphs 19-21 of the above 2013 Act.

		Fraud Act 2013.		
Para. 36 —	In force	Crime and Courts Act 2013,	Technical Consequential Amendments / Alignment	Omits sections 46 and 47 of the Crime and Courts Act 2013, which relate to restraint orders and legal aid.
Para. 37 —	In force	Amends Serious Crime Act 2015	Technical Consequential Amendments / Alignment	See below
Para. 38 —	In force	Amends Serious Crime Act 2015	Technical Consequential Amendments / Alignment	Omits s 3 of the SCA 2015 Appeals in relation to confiscation orders
Para. 39 —	In force	Amends Serious Crime Act 2015	Technical Consequential Amendments / Alignment	Omits s 6 (4) and (5) of the SCA 2015 Confiscation and victim surcharge orders
Para. 40 —	In force	Amends Serious Crime Act 2015	Technical Consequential Amendments / Alignment	Omits s10(1) of the SCA 2015 Default Sentences
Para. 41 —	In force	Amends Serious Crime Act 2015	Technical Consequential Amendments / Alignment	Omits Schedule 4 paras 21 and 22; 23(3) ; 24(3) and 25 – 30 of the SCA 2015.
Para. 42 —	In force	Amends Modern Slavery Act 2015	Technical Consequential Amendments / Alignment	Streamlining the Legislation
Para. 43 —	In force	Amends Modern Slavery Act 2015 s10	Technical Consequential Amendments / Alignment	Updates reference to the new provisional discharge process for confiscation orders (changing 'section 24' to 'section 24A' and clarifying that the court may provisionally discharge an order).

				Updates reference to new appeal provisions, replacing old section numbers with the new ones introduced by the Crime and Policing Act 2026 (for example, replacing 'section 31' with 'sections 67E(1) or (2) or 67G(1)', and 'section 33' with 'sections 67E(6) or 67G(5)')
Para. 44 —	In force	Amends Modern Slavery Act 2015	Technical Consequential Amendments / Alignment	Omits Schedule 5 paras 16 - 19 of the MSA 2015 Minor and consequential amendments
Para. 45 —	In force	Amends Criminal Finances Act 2017	Technical Consequential Amendments / Alignment	Omits subsections (2) and (3) from section 32 of the Criminal Finances Act 2017, which deals with the reconsideration of discharged confiscation orders.
Para. 46 —	In force	Amends Sentencing Act 2020	Technical Consequential Amendments / Alignment	Streamlining the Legislation
Para. 47 —	In force	Amends Sentencing Act 2020	Technical Consequential Amendments / Alignment	Updates section 42(2)(b) of the SA 2020 by replacing the reference to section 15 with a reference to section 15A of the Proceeds of Crime Act 2002. This change ensures that the court's duty to order payment of a surcharge reflects the new provision (section 15A), which addresses the effect on the court's duty when sentencing occurs before confiscation proceedings.
Para. 48 —	In force	Amends Sentencing Act 2020	Technical Consequential Amendments / Alignment	Amends s46 (1) of the SA 2020 Criminal Courts charge duty
Para. 49 —	In force	Amends Sentencing Act 2020	Technical Consequential Amendments / Alignment	Amends s125 (6)(b) Exercise of court's powers to impose fine and fix amount Substitutes s15A POCA 2002 (where court sentences before confiscation proceedings)

Para. 50 —	In force	Amends Sentencing Act 2020	Technical Consequential Amendments / Alignment	Amends s135 (6)(b) Making a Confiscation order – Substitutes s15A POCA 2002 (where court sentences before confiscation proceedings)
Para. 51 —	In force	Amends Sentencing Act 2020	Technical Consequential Amendments / Alignment	Amends s155 (3)(b) (exercise of power to make a deprivation order) Substitutes s15A POCA 2002 (where court sentences before confiscation proceedings)
Para. 52 —	In force	Amends Sentencing Act 2020	Technical Consequential Amendments / Alignment	Amends s161E(5) Making an income reduction order Substitutes para (b) s15A POCA 2002 (where court sentences before confiscation proceedings)
Para. 53—	In force	Amends Sentencing Act 2020 Schedule 22 by Inserting Part 7A and amending Part 8	These changes ensure that, following the abolition of detention in default for fines, the enforcement of confiscation orders will rely solely on imprisonment as the default sanction for non-payment, and all related legislative references are updated accordingly.	Part 7A -Amendments of Other Acts Consequential on Prospective Abolition of Detention In Default of Payment of Fines Etc Introduces amendments to Schedule 22 of the Sentencing Code and related legislation, specifically addressing changes needed due to the prospective abolition of detention in default of payment of fines and related penalties. Proceeds of Crime Act 2002 : Introduces s 100A POCA which in turn amends Section 35A so that the default term for non-payment of a confiscation order is now only imprisonment, removing references to detention (such as in a young offender institution). Related sections (35J - enforcement by magistrates' court and 35M- warrant of commitment issued by Crown Court) are updated to omit references to detention, ensuring consistency with the new approach. Further Consequential Amendments- Part 8 SA 2017 re s 103 POCA -Section 35A is also amended to remove references to custody for life or detention in a young offender institution, aligning with the change to imprisonment only.

Para. 54—	In force	Amends Sentencing Act 2020 Schedule 24	Technical Consequential Amendments / Alignment	Omits Paras 183 and 184; 185(3) ; 186(3) ; 187-188; 190-192 Consequential Amendments
Part 13			Confiscation Orders made under saved Legislation : Provisional Discharge	
Para. 55 — Provisional Discharge of confiscation orders for Saved Legislation	Not yet in force	New	Modernises the handling of old confiscation orders, allowing for their provisional discharge under a process similar to that now available for orders under the Proceeds of Crime Act 2002	Introduces a new mechanism for the provisional discharge of confiscation orders made under earlier legislation (specifically, the Drug Trafficking Offences Act 1986, the Criminal Justice Act 1988, and the Drug Trafficking Act 1994). Eligibility: Applies where an amount remains unpaid under a confiscation order made under the listed Acts and two years have passed since the order (or its last variation). Court Power: The Crown Court may, on its own initiative or on application by the prosecutor, a designated magistrates' court officer, or a relevant receiver, provisionally discharge the order if it is in the interests of justice. Considerations: The court must consider factors such as amounts already paid, how much of the outstanding sum is interest, enforcement steps taken, further reasonable enforcement steps, and the likely recoverable amount. Further Applications: If an application for provisional discharge is refused, another can only be made after two years (unless the court allows an earlier application). No Appeal: There is no right of appeal against the court's decision to provisionally discharge or not discharge the order. Definition: The relevant two-year period is defined as two years from the making or last variation of the order.
Para. 56 — Effect of Provisional	Not yet in force	See above Para 55	This provision ensures that while a provisional discharge can bring proceedings	Sets out the legal effects of a provisional discharge of a confiscation order under paragraph 55 (for orders made under earlier legislation) and the process for revoking such a discharge

Discharge under para 55			to a close, there remains flexibility to reopen enforcement if circumstances change or new information arises	Effect of Provisional Discharge: The confiscation order is treated as satisfied, and proceedings against the defendant are considered concluded under the relevant legislation, unless further action is taken as described below. Further Applications Allowed: The provisional discharge does not prevent new applications to vary the order under specific statutory provisions (e.g., section 14 of the Drug Trafficking Offences Act 1986, section 74C or 83 of the Criminal Justice Act 1988, or sections 15, 16, or 17 of the Drug Trafficking Act 1994). If the order is varied on such an application, the court may also revoke the provisional discharge. Revocation of Provisional Discharge: The Crown Court may revoke the provisional discharge if it is in the interests of justice, on application by the prosecutor or a relevant receiver. In deciding whether to revoke, the court must consider the same factors as for the original discharge (such as amounts paid, enforcement steps, and likely recoverable sums). If revoked, the order is no longer treated as satisfied, proceedings are reopened, and any unpaid interest from before the discharge becomes payable. No Right of Appeal: There is no right of appeal against a decision to revoke or not revoke the provisional discharge.
Para. 57 — Time for Payment after Revocation	Not yet in force	See above	Ensures flexibility for defendants facing payment difficulties after a provisional discharge is revoked, while maintaining judicial oversight and protecting the prosecutor's interests.	Sets out the rules for payment deadlines when a provisional discharge of a confiscation order (under earlier legislation) is revoked: Court Discretion on Payment Periods: If the defendant cannot pay the full outstanding amount on the day the provisional discharge is revoked, the court may allow payment within a specified period (or periods for specified amounts), each starting from the revocation date and not exceeding three months. Extension of Payment Periods: The defendant can apply for an extension if unable to pay within the specified period, and the court may extend it (for all or part of the amount) up to a maximum of six months from the revocation date. Interest Suspension: If an extension application is pending and within the six-month limit, interest does not accrue on the amount covered by the application.

				Prosecutor's Right to Comment: The court must give the prosecutor an opportunity to make representations before granting any payment period or extension.
Para. 58 — Financial Status Orders	Not yet in force	New + See above	This provision strengthens the court's ability to assess a defendant's financial position before making decisions about the discharge or enforcement of confiscation orders	Introduces the power for courts to make financial status orders in connection with the provisional discharge of confiscation orders made under earlier legislation (such as the Drug Trafficking Offences Act 1986, the Criminal Justice Act 1988, and the Drug Trafficking Act 1994). When Orders Can Be Made: The Crown Court may issue a financial status order when considering provisional discharge on its own initiative, when an application is made under paragraphs 55 or 56, or when a provisional discharge has already been granted and a further application is made under relevant statutory provisions. Requirements on the Defendant: The court can require the defendant to provide information about their assets and financial circumstances, as well as supporting documents or evidence, within a specified period. Purpose: This information is required to assist the court in exercising its functions regarding provisional discharge or related applications, ensuring decisions are based on up-to-date and accurate financial information. Relevant Court: The relevant court is the Crown Court for most cases, but if the application is made after a provisional discharge, it is the court handling that application.

Section 190 Crime and Policing Act 2026: Proceedings for civil recovery: costs and expenses

[\(Click Here for the text of the legislation\)](#)

Provision	Status	Legislative change	Practical significance	Effect
s.190 (1) POCA 2002	In force	Inserts new s.288A in Part 5 of POCA	Substantially restricts the circumstances in which costs orders may be made against enforcement authorities in civil recovery proceedings. Respondents should not assume that a successful challenge to a property freezing order or civil recovery claim will automatically result in a costs order in their favour. Enforcement authorities are accordingly able to pursue civil recovery proceedings with considerably reduced financial risk	s. 190 "Costs orders and expenses orders" Establishes a restrictive costs regime for proceedings under Chapter 2 of Part 5 of POCA 2002, which governs civil recovery of property obtained through unlawful conduct. s.288 (1) POCA the court may not make an order that any costs of proceedings under Chapter 2 of Part 5 are payable by the enforcement authority, unless one of three conditions is satisfied. (In Scotland “expenses”). Exceptions - Where the authority acted unreasonably in taking the proceedings, making or opposing the application to which the proceedings relate, or supporting or opposing the making of the order to which the proceedings relate. (s.288(1)(a)) - Where the authority acted dishonestly or improperly in the course of the proceedings. e.g. failing to give proper disclosure on a without notice application or pursuing proceedings with no adequate evidential foundation. (s.288(1)(b)) - Where it would be just and reasonable to make such an order. For this purpose, it is expressly provided that it is not to be assumed that it is generally just and reasonable for the unsuccessful party to pay. (s.288(1)(c))

				Unreasonable, dishonest or improper conduct for these purposes under s 288A POCA – undefined. Appeals The protection afforded by section 288A extends to any appeal arising out of proceedings under Chapter 2 of Part 5 Transitional Provisions: (s.255(3)(g) of the Crime and Policing Act 2026) Does not apply in relation to costs of proceedings for a recovery order that are started before the day on which section 190 came into force (29th June 2026), or that are incurred in respect of a pre-commencement interim application. (s.288(A(3)). Namely: • a property freezing order, • an interim receiving order, • a prohibitory property order • or an interim administration order, including such an application made in relation to proceedings for a recovery order that are started on or after the commencement day.
--	--	--	--	---



Richard Beynon has a wide experience of criminal litigation in cases of serious and complex crime, business crime and fraud, tax and duty evasion, trading standards, and regulatory crime, including the highest profile proceedings brought by the Environment Agency and the Health and Safety Executive. As well as his work advising and representing defendants to criminal and regulatory proceedings, he is Standing Counsel to the Insolvency Service, A Panel Counsel for the Serious Fraud Office and the Attorney General’s Specialist List of Regulatory Counsel, and is Grade 4 Counsel (the highest) for the Crown Prosecution Service including its specialist Serious Crime, Fraud and POCA panels. He would be delighted to hear from solicitors seeking advice on Proceeds of Crime Act proceedings and he can be emailed on Richard.Beynon@18rlc.co.uk