

JURISDICTION IN CIVIL CASES

Before 26 April 1999

COUNTY COURT	HIGH COURT
• Small claims up to £3,000 • Any action less than £25,000 unless transferred to the HC • Personal injury cases under £50,000 • Equity matters up to £30,000 • Probate proceedings less than £30,000	• Any action over £50,000 unless transferred to the CC under High Court and County Courts Jurisdiction Order 1991
Cases in contract and tort between £25-50,000 could be heard in either court depending on the criteria in Article 7(5) of the 1991 Order: • Financial value of the action • Importance of the action • Complexity of the case • Whether transfer of the case will lead to a more speedy trial. Note Practice Direction (1991): some cases not suitable for transfer to the CC: professional negligence; fatal accidents; fraud or undue influence; defamation; malicious prosecution or false imprisonment; and claims against the police	

After 26 April 1999

COUNTY COURT	HIGH COURT
• Small Claims Track cases up to £5,000 • Fast Track cases worth up to £15,000 • Multi-Track cases over £15,000	• Claims more than £15,000 (Multi-Track cases) • Personal injury cases over £50,000 <i>Note Practice Direction 29:</i> Cases less than £50,000 will be transferred to a CC unless: • required by legislation to be tried in the HC; • it falls within a specialist list (CPR Part 49 ie, admiralty proceedings, arbitration proceedings, commercial actions, Patents Court business, Technology and Construction Court business, proceedings under Companies Acts, and contentious probate proceedings); • it falls within para 2.6 (see Practice Direction 1991, above) or Article 7(5) <i>Note Civil Procedure Rules Part 30:</i> HC may transfer a case over £50,000 to the CC