**Chapter 1: Family Law Practice and the First Interview**

This chapter confirms that the Jurisdiction and Judgments (Family) (Amendment etc.) (EU Exit) Regulations 2019, SI 2019/519 provides changes further to the end of the Implementation Period following Brexit.

**1.1 Introduction**

Family law is in a state of flux for a number of reasons: public funding was withdrawn from a wide variety of cases in April 2013 with an increase in the numbers of Litigants in Person; a Single Family Court has been implemented; and sweeping changes have been made by the Children and Families Act 2014 (see later chapters for more detail). The Covid-19 pandemic has also impacted family law with several emergency regulations having come into force in order to attempt to deal with it, including the approval of telephone and video hearings as well as hybrid hearings. The Divorce, Dissolution and Separation Act 2020 will introduce the most significant changes within divorce law for around fifty years. Following the UK leaving the EU on 31 January 2020 we have now come to the end of the Implementation Period. The Jurisdiction and Judgments (Family) (Amendment etc) (EU Exit) Regulations 2019, SI 2019/519 provides a number of changes to legislation in order to reflect this. The online resources will contain further details on each of these changes.