



Magistrates' Courts Act 1980

1980 CHAPTER 43

PART I

CRIMINAL JURISDICTION AND PROCEDURE

Miscellaneous

41 Restriction on grant of bail in treason.

A person charged with treason shall not be granted bail except by order of a judge of the High Court or the Secretary of State.

^{F1}**42 Restriction on justices sitting after dealing with bail.**

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Textual Amendments

F1 S. 42 repealed (18.6.2012) by [Criminal Justice Act 2003 \(c. 44\)](#), s. 336(3)(4), Sch. 3 para. 14, [Sch. 37 Pt. 4](#); S.I. 2012/1320, art. 3(d)(f)(ii)(ii)

^{F2}**43 Bail on arrest.**

- (1) Where a person has been granted bail under [^{F3}Part IV of] the Police and Criminal Evidence Act 1984 subject to a duty to appear before a magistrates' court, the court before which he is to appear may appoint a later time as the time at which he is to appear and may enlarge the recognizances of any sureties for him at that time.
- (2) The recognizance of any surety for any person granted bail subject to a duty to attend at a police station may be enforced as if it were conditioned for his appearance before a magistrates' court [^{F4}acting in the local justice] area in which the police station named in the recognizance is situated.]

Changes to legislation: Magistrates' Courts Act 1980, Cross Heading: Miscellaneous is up to date with all changes known to be in force on or before 21 April 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

- F2** S. 43 substituted by [Police and Criminal Evidence Act 1984 \(c. 60, SIF 95\)](#), **ss. 47(8)(a)**, 51, 52
- F3** Words in s. 43(1) inserted (10.4.1995) by [1994 c. 33, s. 168\(2\)](#), **Sch. 10 para.43**; [S.I. 1995/721, art. 2](#), [Sch. AppendixA](#)
- F4** Words in s. 43(2) substituted (1.4.2005) by [Courts Act 2003 \(c. 39\)](#), **ss. 109(1), 110**, **Sch. 8 para. 206**; [S.I. 2005/910, art. 3\(y\)](#)

[^{F5}43A Functions of magistrates' court where a person in custody is brought before it with a view to his appearance before the Crown Court.

- (1) Where a person in custody in pursuance of a warrant issued by the Crown Court with a view to his appearance before the Crown Court is brought before a magistrates' court in pursuance of section 81(5) of the [^{F6}Senior Courts Act 1981]—
- (a) the magistrates' court shall commit him in custody or release him on bail until he can be brought or appear before the Crown Court at the time and place appointed by the Crown Court;
 - (b) if the warrant is endorsed for bail, but the person in custody is unable to satisfy the conditions endorsed, the magistrates' court may vary those conditions, if satisfied that it is proper to do so.
- (2) A magistrates' court shall have jurisdiction under subsection (1) whether or not the offence was committed, or the arrest was made, within the court's area.]

Textual Amendments

- F5** S. 43A inserted by [Supreme Court Act 1981 \(c. 54, SIF 37\)](#), **s. 152(1)**, **Sch. 5**
- F6** Words in s. 43A(1) substituted (1.10.2009) by [Constitutional Reform Act 2005 \(c. 4\)](#), **ss. 59, 148**, **Sch. 11 para. 1(2)**; [S.I. 2009/1604, art. 2\(d\)](#)

Modifications etc. (not altering text)

- C1** S. 43A applied (with modifications) (1.12.2020) by [Sentencing Act 2020 \(c. 17\)](#), **s. 416(1)**, **Sch. 7 para. 25(3)(4)** (with [Sch. 27](#)); [S.I. 2020/1236, reg. 2](#)
- C2** S. 43A(1) applied (with modifications) (30.11.2009) by [Criminal Justice and Immigration Act 2008 \(c. 4\)](#), **ss. 2, 153**, **Sch. 2 para. 21(8)**; [S.I. 2009/3074, art. 2](#)

[^{F7}43B Power to grant bail where police bail has been granted.

- (1) Where a custody officer—
- (a) grants bail to any person under Part IV of the Police and Criminal Evidence Act 1984 in criminal proceedings and imposes conditions, or
 - (b) varies, in relation to any person, conditions of bail in criminal proceedings under section 3(8) of the Bail Act 1976,
- a magistrates' court may, on application by or on behalf of that person, grant bail or vary the conditions.
- (2) On an application under subsection (1) the court, if it grants bail and imposes conditions or if it varies the conditions, may impose more onerous conditions.

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- (3) On determining an application under subsection (1) the court shall remand the applicant, in custody or on bail in accordance with the determination, and, where the court withholds bail or grants bail the grant of bail made by the custody officer shall lapse.
- (4) In this section “bail in criminal proceedings” and “vary” have the same meanings as they have in the Bail Act 1976.]

Textual Amendments

F7 S. 43B inserted (10.4.1995) by 1994 c. 33, s. 27(4), **Sch. 3 para.3**; S.I. 1995/721, **art. 2**, Sch.

Modifications etc. (not altering text)

C3 S. 43B excluded (4.4.2005) by Criminal Justice Act 2003 (c. 44), **ss. 88(1)(c)**, 336; S.I. 2005/950, **art. 2**, **Sch. 1 para. 5** (subject to **art. 2(2)** and with **Sch. 2**)

44 Aiders and abettors.

- (1) A person who aids, abets, counsels or procures the commission by another person of a summary offence shall be guilty of the like offence and may be tried (whether or not he is charged as a principal) either by a court having jurisdiction to try that other person or by a court having by virtue of his own offence jurisdiction to try him.
- (2) Any offence consisting in aiding, abetting, counselling or procuring the commission of an offence triable either way (other than an offence listed in Schedule 1 to this Act) shall by virtue of this subsection be triable either way.

45 Incitement.

F8

Textual Amendments

F8 S. 45 repealed (1.10.2008) by Serious Crime Act 2007 (c. 27), **ss. 63(2)**, 92, 94, **Sch. 6 para. 55(2)**, **Sch. 14** (with **Sch. 13 para. 5**); S.I. 2008/2504, **art. 2(a)(i)(ii)(g)**

46 Corporations.

The provisions of Schedule 3 to this Act shall have effect where a corporation is charged with an offence before a magistrates' court.

Modifications etc. (not altering text)

C4 S. 46 applied (1.5.2009) by The Payment Services Regulations 2009 (S.I. 2009/209), **regs. 1(2)(b)** (xiii), **118(4)(a)**

C5 S. 46 applied (12.12.2014) by The Immigration Act 2014 (Bank Accounts) Regulations 2014 (S.I. 2014/3085), **regs. 1**, **23(4)(a)**

C6 S. 46 applied (13.7.2016) by The Financial Services and Markets Act 2000 (Transparency of Securities Financing Transactions and of Reuse) Regulations 2016 (S.I. 2016/715), **regs. 1(2)**, **27(4)(a)**

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C7 S. 46 applied (13.10.2017) by [The Payment Services Regulations 2017 \(S.I. 2017/752\)](#), regs. 1(3)(d), [146\(4\)\(a\)](#) (with [reg. 3](#))

47 Service of summons out of time after failure to prove service by post.

Where any enactment requires, expressly or by implication, that a summons in respect of an offence shall be issued or served within a specified period after the commission of the offence, and service of the summons may under [^{F9}rules of court] be effected by post, then, if under the rules service of the summons is not treated as proved, but it is shown that a letter containing the summons was posted at such time as to enable it to be delivered in the ordinary course of post within that period, a second summons may be issued on the same information; and the enactment shall have effect, in relation to that summons, as if the specified period were a period running from the return day of the original summons.

Textual Amendments
F9 Words in s. 47 substituted (1.9.2004) by [Courts Act 2003 \(c. 39\)](#), ss. 109(1), 110, [Sch. 8 para. 207](#); [S.I. 2004/2066](#), [art. 2\(c\)\(xi\)](#) (subject to [art. 3](#))

48 Return of property taken from accused.

Where a summons or warrant has been issued requiring any person to appear or be brought before a magistrates' court to answer to an information, or where any person has been arrested without a warrant for an offence, and property has been taken from him after the issue of the summons or warrant or, as the case may be, on or after his arrest without a warrant, the police shall report the taking of the property, with particulars of the property, to the magistrates' court which deals with the case; and, if the court, being of opinion that the whole or any part of the property can be returned to the accused consistently with the interests of justice and the safe custody of the accused, so directs, the property, or such part of it as the court directs, shall be returned to the accused or to such other person as he may require.

49 ^{F10}

Textual Amendments
F10 S. 49 repealed by [Police and Criminal Evidence Act 1984 \(c. 64, SIF 95\)](#), s. 119(2), [Sch. 7 Pt. 1](#)

50 Construction of references to complaint in enactments dealing with offences.

In any enactment conferring power on a magistrates' court to deal with an offence, or to issue a summons or warrant against a person suspected of an offence, on the complaint of any person, for references to a complaint there shall be substituted references to an information.

Changes to legislation:

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Changes and effects yet to be applied to the whole Act associated Parts and Chapters:

- Act applied by [2017 anaw 2 Sch. 3 para. 18\(5\)](#)

Whole provisions yet to be inserted into this Act (including any effects on those provisions):

- s. 1(6A) inserted by [2003 c. 44 Sch. 36 para. 8\(5\)](#)
- s. 1(6A) words substituted by [2015 c. 2 Sch. 11 para. 3\(4\)](#) (Effect not applied as (6A) was only inserted prospectively.)
- s. 1(7A) inserted by [2003 c. 44 Sch. 36 para. 8\(6\)](#)
- s. 12(2A) inserted by [2022 c. 35 s. 4\(3\)](#)
- s. 12(5A)-(5F) inserted by [2022 c. 35 s. 4\(6\)](#)
- s. 17A(1A) inserted by [2022 c. 35 Sch. 2 para. 6\(2\)\(b\)](#)
- s. 17B(1A)-(1F) substituted for s. 17B(1) by [2022 c. 35 s. 9\(2\)\(b\)](#)
- s. 17B(5) inserted by [2022 c. 35 s. 9\(2\)\(d\)](#)
- s. 17BA inserted by [2022 c. 35 s. 7](#)
- s. 17ZA-17ZC inserted by [2022 c. 35 s. 6\(2\)](#)
- s. 18(1)-(1B) substituted for s. 18(1) by [2022 c. 35 Sch. 2 para. 6\(7\)\(a\)](#)
- s. 18(4A)(4B) inserted by [2022 c. 35 Sch. 2 para. 6\(7\)\(b\)](#)
- s. 18(6) inserted by [2022 c. 35 Sch. 2 para. 6\(7\)\(c\)](#)
- s. 20(7A)(7B) inserted by [2022 c. 35 Sch. 2 para. 6\(8\)\(c\)](#)
- s. 22(2A)-(2E) inserted by [2022 c. 35 Sch. 2 para. 6\(9\)\(a\)](#)
- s. 22A(1A)-(1E) inserted by [2022 c. 35 s. 6\(3\)\(b\)](#)
- s. 23(1A)-(1G) substituted for s. 23(1) by [2022 c. 35 s. 9\(4\)\(b\)](#)
- s. 23(4A)(4B) inserted by [2022 c. 35 s. 9\(4\)\(d\)](#)
- s. 24A(1A) inserted by [2022 c. 35 Sch. 2 para. 6\(11\)\(b\)](#)
- s. 24BA inserted by [2022 c. 35 s. 9\(5\)](#)
- s. 24ZA24ZB inserted by [2022 c. 35 s. 8](#)
- s. 75A inserted by [2013 c. 22 s. 26\(1\)](#)
- s. 85(5) inserted by [2013 c. 22 s. 26\(4\)](#)
- s. 139A inserted by [2013 c. 22 s. 26\(6\)](#)
- s. 145(1A) inserted by [2010 c. 26 Sch. 3 para. 8\(3\)](#) (This amendment not applied to legislation.gov.uk. Sch. 3 Pt. 2 repealed (4.9.2013) without ever being in force by 2013 c. 22, s. 17(4) ; S.I. 2013/2200 art. 2(a))
- s. 145(1A) repealed by [2010 c. 26 Sch. 4 Pt. 2](#) (This amendment not applied to legislation.gov.uk. Sch. 4 Pt. 2 repealed (4.9.2013) without ever being in force by 2013 c. 22, s. 17(4) ; S.I. 2013/2200 art. 2(a))
- Sch. 6A (entry) by [2000 c. 43 Sch. 7 para. 69](#)