



# Telecommunications Act 1984

## 1984 CHAPTER 12

### PART II

#### PROVISION OF TELECOMMUNICATION SERVICES

##### *Offences*

###### **43 Improper use of public telecommunication system.**

[<sup>F1</sup>(1) A person who—

- (a) sends, by means of a public telecommunication system, a message or other matter that is grossly offensive or of an indecent, obscene or menacing character; or
- (b) sends by those means, for the purpose of causing annoyance, inconvenience or needless anxiety to another, a message that he knows to be false or persistently makes use for that purpose of a public telecommunication system,

shall be guilty of an offence and liable on summary conviction to [<sup>F2</sup>imprisonment for a term not exceeding six months or a fine not exceeding level 5 on the standard scale or both].

- (2) Subsection (1) above does not apply to anything done in the course of providing a [<sup>F3</sup>programme service (within the meaning of the Broadcasting Act 1990)].]

#### Textual Amendments

**F1** S. 43 repealed (25.7.2003 for specified purposes, 29.12.2003 otherwise) by [Communications Act 2003](#) (c. 21), ss. 406, 408, 411, **Sch. 19(1)** (with Sch. 18, Sch. 19(1) Note 1); [S.I. 2003/1900](#), arts. 1(2), **2(1)**, 3(1), Sch. 1 (with art. 3(2) (as amended (8.12.2003) by [S.I. 2003/3142](#), art. 1(3))); [S.I. 2003/3142](#), **art. 3, Sch. 1** (with art. 11)

**F2** Words in s. 43(1) substituted (3.2.1995) by [1994 c. 33, s. 92\(1\)\(2\)](#); [S.I. 1995/127](#), art. 2(1), **Sch. 1**

**F3** Words substituted by [Broadcasting Act 1990](#) (c. 42, SIF 96), s. 203(1), **Sch. 20 para. 38(4)**

**Changes to legislation:**

There are currently no known outstanding effects for the Telecommunications Act 1984, Section 43.