



Firearms (Amendment) Act 1997

1997 CHAPTER 5

PART I **E+W+S**

PROHIBITION OF WEAPONS AND AMMUNITION AND CONTROL OF SMALL-CALIBRE PISTOLS

Special exemptions from prohibition of small firearms

2 Slaughtering instruments. **E+W+S**

[^{F1}The authority of the Secretary of State or the Scottish Ministers] is not required by virtue of subsection (1)(aba) of section 5 of the 1968 Act—

- (a) for a person to have in his possession, or to purchase or acquire, or to sell or transfer, a slaughtering instrument if he is authorised by a firearm certificate to have the instrument in his possession, or to purchase or acquire it;
- (b) for a person to have a slaughtering instrument in his possession if he is entitled, under section 10 of the 1968 Act, to have it in his possession without a firearm certificate.

Textual Amendments

- F1** Words in s. 2 substituted (14.7.2014) by [Anti-social Behaviour, Crime and Policing Act 2014 \(c. 12\)](#), [ss. 109\(3\)\(a\), 185\(1\)](#) (with [ss. 21, 33, 42, 58, 75, 93](#)); [S.I. 2014/949](#), art. 6(b)

3 Firearms used for humane killing of animals. **E+W+S**

[^{F2}The authority of the Secretary of State or the Scottish Ministers] is not required by virtue of subsection (1)(aba) of section 5 of the 1968 Act for a person to have in his possession, or to purchase or acquire, or to sell or transfer, a firearm if he is authorised by a firearm certificate to have the firearm in his possession, or to purchase or acquire it, subject to a condition that it is only for use in connection with the humane killing of animals.

Changes to legislation: There are currently no known outstanding effects for the Firearms (Amendment) Act 1997, Cross Heading: Special exemptions from prohibition of small firearms. (See end of Document for details)

Textual Amendments

- F2** Words in s. 3 substituted (14.7.2014) by [Anti-social Behaviour, Crime and Policing Act 2014 \(c. 12\)](#), [ss. 109\(3\)\(a\)](#), [185\(1\)](#) (with [ss. 21, 33, 42, 58, 75, 93](#)); S.I. 2014/949, art. 6(b)

4 Shot pistols used for shooting vermin. **E+W+S**

- (1) [^{F3}The authority of the Secretary of State or the Scottish Ministers] is not required by virtue of subsection (1)(aba) of section 5 of the 1968 Act for a person to have in his possession, or to purchase or acquire, or to sell or transfer, a shot pistol if he is authorised by a firearm certificate to have the shot pistol in his possession, or to purchase or acquire it, subject to a condition that it is only for use in connection with the shooting of vermin.
- (2) For the purposes of this section, “shot pistol” means a smooth-bored gun which is chambered for .410 cartridges or 9mm rim-fire cartridges.

Textual Amendments

- F3** Words in s. 4 substituted (14.7.2014) by [Anti-social Behaviour, Crime and Policing Act 2014 \(c. 12\)](#), [ss. 109\(3\)\(a\)](#), [185\(1\)](#) (with [ss. 21, 33, 42, 58, 75, 93](#)); S.I. 2014/949, art. 6(b)

5 Races at athletic meetings. **E+W+S**

- [^{F4}The authority of the Secretary of State or the Scottish Ministers] is not required by virtue of subsection (1)(aba) of section 5 of the 1968 Act—
- (a) for a person to have a firearm in his possession at an athletic meeting for the purpose of starting races at that meeting; or
 - (b) for a person to have in his possession, or to purchase or acquire, or to sell or transfer, a firearm if he is authorised by a firearm certificate to have the firearm in his possession, or to purchase or acquire it, subject to a condition that it is only for use in connection with starting races at athletic meetings.

Textual Amendments

- F4** Words in s. 5 substituted (14.7.2014) by [Anti-social Behaviour, Crime and Policing Act 2014 \(c. 12\)](#), [ss. 109\(3\)\(a\)](#), [185\(1\)](#) (with [ss. 21, 33, 42, 58, 75, 93](#)); S.I. 2014/949, art. 6(b)

6 Trophies of war. **E+W+S**

- [^{F5}The authority of the Secretary of State or the Scottish Ministers] is not required by virtue of subsection (1)(aba) of section 5 of the 1968 Act for a person to have in his possession a firearm which was acquired as a trophy of war before 1st January 1946 if he is authorised by a firearm certificate to have it in his possession.

Textual Amendments

- F5** Words in s. 6 substituted (14.7.2014) by [Anti-social Behaviour, Crime and Policing Act 2014 \(c. 12\)](#), [ss. 109\(3\)\(a\)](#), [185\(1\)](#) (with [ss. 21, 33, 42, 58, 75, 93](#)); S.I. 2014/949, art. 6(b)

Changes to legislation: There are currently no known outstanding effects for the Firearms (Amendment) Act 1997, Cross Heading: Special exemptions from prohibition of small firearms. (See end of Document for details)

7 Firearms of historic interest. **E+W+S**

- (1) [^{F6}The authority of the Secretary of State or the Scottish Ministers] is not required by virtue of subsection (1)(aba) of section 5 of the 1968 Act for a person to have in his possession, or to purchase or acquire, or to sell or transfer, a firearm which—
- (a) was manufactured before 1st January 1919; and
 - (b) is of a description specified under subsection (2) below,
- if he is authorised by a firearm certificate to have the firearm in his possession, or to purchase or acquire it, subject to a condition that he does so only for the purpose of its being kept or exhibited as part of a collection.
- (2) The Secretary of State may by order made by statutory instrument specify a description of firearm for the purposes of subsection (1) above if it appears to him that—
- (a) firearms of that description were manufactured before 1st January 1919; and
 - (b) ammunition for firearms of that type is not readily available.
- (3) The authority of the Secretary of State [^{F7}or the Scottish Ministers] is not required by virtue of subsection (1)(aba) of section 5 of the 1968 Act for a person to have in his possession, or to purchase or acquire, or to sell or transfer, a firearm which—
- (a) is of particular rarity, aesthetic quality or technical interest, or
 - (b) is of historical importance,
- if he is authorised by a firearm certificate to have the firearm in his possession subject to a condition requiring it to be kept and used only at a place designated for the purposes of this subsection by the Secretary of State [^{F8}or the Scottish Ministers (by virtue of provision made under section 63 of the Scotland Act 1998)].
- (4) This section has effect without prejudice to section 58(2) of the 1968 Act (antique firearms).

Textual Amendments

- F6** Words in s. 7(1) substituted (14.7.2014) by [Anti-social Behaviour, Crime and Policing Act 2014 \(c. 12\), ss. 109\(3\)\(a\), 185\(1\)](#) (with ss. 21, 33, 42, 58, 75, 93); S.I. 2014/949, art. 6(b)
- F7** Words in s. 7(3) substituted (14.7.2014) by [Anti-social Behaviour, Crime and Policing Act 2014 \(c. 12\), ss. 109\(3\)\(b\), 185\(1\)](#) (with ss. 21, 33, 42, 58, 75, 93); S.I. 2014/949, art. 6(b)
- F8** Words in s. 7(1)(3) inserted (1.7.1999) by S.I. 1999/1750, arts. 1(1), 6(1), [Sch. 5 para. 18\(7\)](#) (with art. 7); S.I. 1998/3178, [art. 3](#)

Modifications etc. (not altering text)

- C1** S. 7(3) restricted (*tempto* 1.7.1997) by S.I. 1997/1538, [reg. 2](#)
- S. 7(3): Transfer of functions (1.7.1999) by S.I. 1999/1750, arts. 1(1), 2, [Sch. 1](#) (with art. 7); S.I. 1998/3178, [art. 3](#)

Changes to legislation:

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