



# Licensing Act 2003

## 2003 CHAPTER 17

### PART 9

#### MISCELLANEOUS AND SUPPLEMENTARY

##### *General provisions about offences*

#### **186 Proceedings for offences**

- (1) In this section “offence” means an offence under this Act.
- (2) Proceedings for an offence may be instituted—
  - (a) [<sup>F1</sup>except in the case of an offence under section 147A,]by a licensing authority,
  - (b) by the Director of Public Prosecutions, or
  - (c) in the case of an offence under section 146 [<sup>F2</sup>, 147 or 147A](sale of alcohol to children), by a local weights and measures authority (within the meaning of section 69 of the Weights and Measures Act 1985 (c. 72)).
- (3) In relation to any offence, section 127(1) of the Magistrates' Courts Act 1980 (information to be laid within six months of offence) is to have effect as if for the reference to six months there were substituted a reference to 12 months.

#### **Textual Amendments**

- F1** Words in s. 186(2)(a) inserted (6.4.2007) by [Violent Crime Reduction Act 2006 \(c. 38\)](#), [ss. 23\(2\)\(a\)](#), [66\(2\)\(3\)](#); S.I. 2007/858, [art. 2\(a\)](#)
- F2** Words in s. 186(2)(c) substituted (6.4.2007) by [Violent Crime Reduction Act 2006 \(c. 38\)](#), [ss. 23\(2\)\(b\)](#), [66\(2\)\(3\)](#); S.I. 2007/858, [art. 2\(a\)](#)

**Changes to legislation:**

Licensing Act 2003, Section 186 is up to date with all changes known to be in force on or before 19 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.

[View outstanding changes](#)

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

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

- Pt. 5A inserted by [2015 c. 20 s. 67\(2\)](#)Sch. 17
- s. 2(1A) inserted by [2015 c. 20 s. 67\(1\)](#)
- s. 10(4)(e) and word inserted by [2011 c. 13 s. 121\(3\)\(b\)](#)
- s. 140(2)(e) inserted by [2015 c. 20 s. 67\(4\)\(b\)](#)
- s. 141(2)(e) inserted by [2015 c. 20 s. 67\(5\)\(b\)](#)
- s. 143(2)(e) inserted by [2015 c. 20 s. 67\(6\)\(b\)](#)
- s. 144(2)(e) inserted by [2015 c. 20 s. 67\(7\)\(b\)](#)
- s. 147A(4)(c) inserted by [2015 c. 20 s. 67\(8\)\(b\)](#)
- s. 153(4)(d) inserted by [2015 c. 20 s. 67\(9\)\(b\)](#)
- s. 197(3)(cza) inserted by [2015 c. 20 s. 67\(12\)\(a\)](#)
- s. 197A197B inserted by [2011 c. 13 s. 121\(2\)](#)