



Police Reform and Social Responsibility Act 2011

2011 CHAPTER 13

PART 3

PARLIAMENT SQUARE [^{F1}ETC]

Controls on activities in Parliament Square [^{F1}etc]

143 Prohibited activities in controlled area of Parliament Square [^{F1} or in Palace of Westminster controlled area]

- (1) A constable or authorised officer who has reasonable grounds for believing that a person is doing, or is about to do, a prohibited activity may direct the person—
 - (a) to cease doing that activity, or
 - (b) (as the case may be) not to start doing that activity.
- (2) For the purposes of this Part, a “prohibited activity” is any of the following—
 - (a) operating any amplified noise equipment in the controlled area of Parliament Square [^{F2} or in the Palace of Westminster controlled area];
 - (b) erecting or keeping erected in the controlled area of Parliament Square—
 - (i) any tent, or
 - (ii) any other structure that is designed, or adapted, (solely or mainly) for the purpose of facilitating sleeping or staying in a place for any period;
 - (c) using any tent or other such structure in the controlled area of Parliament Square for the purpose of sleeping or staying in that area;
 - (d) placing or keeping in place in the controlled area of Parliament Square any sleeping equipment with a view to its use (whether or not by the person placing it or keeping it in place) for the purpose of sleeping overnight in that area;
 - (e) using any sleeping equipment in the controlled area of Parliament Square for the purpose of sleeping overnight in that area.

Changes to legislation: There are currently no known outstanding effects for the Police Reform and Social Responsibility Act 2011, Section 143. (See end of Document for details)

- [^{F3}(f) obstructing, by the use of any item or otherwise, the passage of a vehicle of any description into or out of an entrance into or exit from the Parliamentary Estate, where that entrance or exit is within, or adjoins, the Palace of Westminster controlled area.]
- (3) But an activity is not to be treated as a “prohibited activity” within subsection (2) if it is done—
- (a) for police, fire and rescue authority or ambulance purposes,
 - (b) by or on behalf of a [^{F4}relevant person], or
 - (c) by a person so far as authorised under section 147 to do it (authorisation for operation of amplified noise equipment).
- (4) In subsection (2)(a) “amplified noise equipment” means any device that is designed or adapted for amplifying sound, including (but not limited to)—
- (a) loudspeakers, and
 - (b) loudhailers.
- [^{F5}(4A) In subsection (2)(f) the reference to obstructing the passage of a vehicle includes making the passage of a vehicle more difficult.]
- (5) In subsection (3)(b) [^{F6}“relevant person”] means any of the following—
- (a) a Minister of the Crown or a government department,
 - (b) the Greater London Authority, ^{F7}...
 - (c) Westminster City Council.
- [^{F8}(d) a relevant member of the House of Lords staff, or
- (e) a relevant member of the House of Commons staff]
- [^{F9}(5A) In subsection (5)—
- “relevant member of the House of Lords staff” has the meaning given by section 194(6) of the Employment Rights Act 1996;
- “relevant member of the House of Commons staff” has the meaning given by section 195(5) of that Act.]
- (6) It is immaterial for the purposes of a prohibited activity—
- (a) in the case of an activity within subsection (2)(b) or (c) of keeping a tent or similar structure erected or using a tent or similar structure, whether the tent or structure was first erected before or after the coming into force of this section;
 - (b) in the case of an activity within subsection (2)(d) or (e) of keeping in place any sleeping equipment or using any such equipment, whether the sleeping equipment was first placed before or after the coming into force of this section.
- (7) In this section “sleeping equipment” means any sleeping bag, mattress or other similar item designed, or adapted, (solely or mainly) for the purpose of facilitating sleeping in a place.
- (8) A person who fails without reasonable excuse to comply with a direction under subsection (1) commits an offence and is liable on summary conviction to a fine not exceeding level 5 on the standard scale.

Textual Amendments

- F1** Words in s. 143 heading inserted (13.5.2014) by [Anti-social Behaviour, Crime and Policing Act 2014](#) (c. 12), [ss. 153\(3\)\(a\)](#), [185\(1\)](#) (with [ss. 21, 33, 42, 58, 75, 93](#)); [S.I. 2014/949](#), [art. 3](#), [Sch. para. 16](#)

Changes to legislation: There are currently no known outstanding effects for the Police Reform and Social Responsibility Act 2011, Section 143. (See end of Document for details)

- F2** Words in s. 143(2)(a) inserted (13.5.2014) by Anti-social Behaviour, Crime and Policing Act 2014 (c. 12), **ss. 153(3)(b)**, 185(1) (with ss. 21, 33, 42, 58, 75, 93); S.I. 2014/949, art. 3, Sch. para. 16
- F3** S. 143(2)(f) inserted (28.6.2022) by Police, Crime, Sentencing and Courts Act 2022 (c. 32), **ss. 76(3)(a)**, 208(1); S.I. 2022/520, reg. 5(j)
- F4** Words in s. 143(3)(b) substituted (28.6.2022) by Police, Crime, Sentencing and Courts Act 2022 (c. 32), **ss. 76(3)(b)**, 208(1); S.I. 2022/520, reg. 5(j)
- F5** S. 143(4A) inserted (28.6.2022) by Police, Crime, Sentencing and Courts Act 2022 (c. 32), **ss. 76(3)(c)**, 208(1); S.I. 2022/520, reg. 5(j)
- F6** Words in s. 143(5) substituted (28.6.2022) by Police, Crime, Sentencing and Courts Act 2022 (c. 32), **ss. 76(3)(d)(i)**, 208(1); S.I. 2022/520, reg. 5(j)
- F7** Word in s. 143(5)(b) omitted (28.6.2022) by virtue of Police, Crime, Sentencing and Courts Act 2022 (c. 32), **ss. 76(3)(d)(ii)**, 208(1); S.I. 2022/520, reg. 5(j)
- F8** S. 143(5)(d)(e) inserted (28.6.2022) by Police, Crime, Sentencing and Courts Act 2022 (c. 32), **ss. 76(3)(d)(iii)**, 208(1); S.I. 2022/520, reg. 5(j)
- F9** S. 143(5A) inserted (28.6.2022) by Police, Crime, Sentencing and Courts Act 2022 (c. 32), **ss. 76(3)(e)**, 208(1); S.I. 2022/520, reg. 5(j)

Commencement Information

- I1** S. 143 in force at 19.12.2011 by S.I. 2011/2834, **art. 2(c)**

Changes to legislation:

There are currently no known outstanding effects for the Police Reform and Social Responsibility Act 2011, Section 143.