



# Legal Aid, Sentencing and Punishment of Offenders Act 2012

## 2012 CHAPTER 10

### PART 3

#### SENTENCING AND PUNISHMENT OF OFFENDERS

#### CHAPTER 1

#### SENTENCING

#### *Fines*

### **85 Removal of limit on certain fines on conviction by magistrates' court**

- (1) Where, on the commencement day, a relevant offence would, apart from this subsection, be punishable on summary conviction by a fine or maximum fine of £5,000 or more (however expressed), the offence is punishable on summary conviction on or after that day by a fine of any amount.
- (2) Where, on the commencement day, a relevant power could, apart from this subsection, be exercised to create an offence punishable on summary conviction by a fine or maximum fine of £5,000 or more (however expressed), the power may be exercised on or after that day to create an offence punishable on summary conviction by a fine of any amount.
- (3) For the purposes of this section—
  - (a) an offence is relevant if, immediately before the commencement day, it is a common law offence or it is contained in an Act or an instrument made under an Act (whether or not the offence is in force at that time), and

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- (b) a power is relevant if, immediately before the commencement day, it is contained in an Act or an instrument made under an Act (whether or not the power is in force at that time).
- (4) Nothing in subsection (1) affects—
- (a) fines for offences committed before the commencement day,
  - (b) the operation of restrictions on fines that may be imposed on a person aged under 18, or
  - (c) fines that may be imposed on a person convicted by a magistrates' court who is to be sentenced as if convicted on indictment,
- and provision made in exercise of a relevant power in reliance on subsection (2) does not affect such fines or the operation of such restrictions.
- (5) The Secretary of State may by regulations make provision disapplying subsection (1) or (2).
- (6) The Secretary of State may by regulations make provision—
- (a) for an offence in relation to which subsection (1) is disappplied to be punishable on summary conviction by a fine or maximum fine of an amount specified or described in the regulations, and
  - (b) for a power in relation to which subsection (2) is disappplied to be exercisable to create an offence punishable on summary conviction by a fine or maximum fine of an amount specified or described in the regulations.
- (7) Subsection (8) applies in relation to—
- (a) a relevant offence that, immediately before the commencement day, is punishable on summary conviction by a fine or maximum fine expressed as a proportion of an amount of £5,000 or more (however that amount is expressed), and
  - (b) a relevant power which, immediately before the commencement day, can be exercised to create an offence punishable on summary conviction by such a fine or maximum fine.
- (8) The Secretary of State may by regulations make provision—
- (a) for the offence to be punishable on summary conviction by a fine or maximum fine of that proportion of an amount specified or described in the regulations, and
  - (b) for the power to be exercisable to create an offence punishable on summary conviction by such a fine or maximum fine.
- (9) Regulations under this section may not include provision affecting—
- (a) fines for offences committed before the regulations come into force,
  - (b) the operation of restrictions on fines that may be imposed on a person aged under 18, or
  - (c) fines that may be imposed on a person convicted by a magistrates' court who is to be sentenced as if convicted on indictment,
- and provision made in exercise of a relevant power in reliance on regulations under this section may not include such provision.
- (10) Regulations under this section—
- (a) may make different provision for different cases or circumstances,

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- (b) may make provision generally or only for specified cases or circumstances, and
  - (c) may make consequential, incidental, supplementary, transitional, transitory or saving provision.
- (11) Regulations under this section, and regulations under section 149 making provision in relation to this section, may amend, repeal, revoke or otherwise modify any provision which, immediately before the commencement day, is contained in an Act or an instrument made under an Act (whether or not the provision is in force at that time).
- (12) Regulations under this section are to be made by statutory instrument.
- (13) A statutory instrument containing regulations under this section may not be made unless a draft of the instrument has been laid before, and approved by a resolution of, each House of Parliament.
- (14) If, immediately before the commencement day, the sum specified as level 5 on the standard scale in section 37(2) of the Criminal Justice Act 1982 (standard scale of fines for summary offences) is greater than £5,000, the references in this section to £5,000 have effect as if they were references to that sum.
- (15) Powers under this section—
- (a) may be exercised from time to time, and
  - (b) are without prejudice to other powers to modify fines for relevant offences or fines that may be specified or described when exercising a relevant power.
- (16) For the purposes of this section, an offence is relevant whether it is a summary offence or an offence triable either way.
- (17) In this section—
- “Act” includes an Act or Measure of the National Assembly for Wales;
  - “the commencement day” means the day on which subsection (1) of this section comes into force;
- and references to an offence, power or provision contained in an Act or instrument include an offence, power or provision applied by, or extending to England and Wales by virtue of, an Act or instrument.

#### **Modifications etc. (not altering text)**

- C1** S. 85 applied (with modifications) (cond.) (30.1.2014) by [Transparency of Lobbying, Non-Party Campaigning and Trade Union Administration Act 2014 \(c. 4\)](#), **ss. 30(10)**, 45(3)(b) (with s. 46(1)(2))
- C2** S. 85 applied (with modifications) (cond.) (30.1.2014) by [Transparency of Lobbying, Non-Party Campaigning and Trade Union Administration Act 2014 \(c. 4\)](#), **ss. 35(10)(a)**, 45(3)(b) (with s. 46(1)(2))
- C3** S. 85 applied (with modifications) (cond.) (30.1.2014) by [Transparency of Lobbying, Non-Party Campaigning and Trade Union Administration Act 2014 \(c. 4\)](#), **ss. 33(9)**, 45(3)(b) (with s. 46(1)(2))
- C4** S. 85 applied (with modifications) (cond.) (13.3.2014) by [Children and Families Act 2014 \(c. 6\)](#), **ss. 137(2)(4)**, 139(1)
- C5** S. 85 applied (with modifications) (cond.) (13.3.2014) by [Children and Families Act 2014 \(c. 6\)](#), **ss. 137(2)(3)**, 139(1)
- C6** S. 85 applied (with modifications) (cond.) (4.4.2014 for specified purposes) by [Local Audit and Accountability Act 2014 \(c. 2\)](#), s. 49(1), Sch. 11 para. 5(2)(a); [S.I. 2014/900](#), art. 2(e)

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- C7** S. 85 applied (with modifications) (cond.) (1.7.2014) by [Transparency of Lobbying, Non-Party Campaigning and Trade Union Administration Act 2014 \(c. 4\)](#), **ss. 36(3)**, 45(1)(b)(iv); S.I. 2014/1236, art. 2(2)(a) (with art. 3)
- C8** S. 85 applied (with modifications) (cond.) (5.9.2014) by [Defence Reform Act 2014 \(c. 20\)](#), s. 50(1), **Sch. 7 para. 12**; S.I. 2014/2370, art. 3
- C9** S. 85 applied (with modifications) (27.5.2015 for E. for specified purposes, 27.5.2015 for specified purposes, 1.10.2015 in so far as not already in force) by [Consumer Rights Act 2015 \(c. 15\)](#), s. 100(5), **Sch. 5 para. 37(3)(a)**; S.I. 2015/965, art. 2(b); S.I. 2015/1333, art. 2(a); S.I. 2015/1630, art. 3(h) (with art. 8)
- C10** S. 85 applied (with modifications) (cond.) (1.4.2015) by [Local Audit and Accountability Act 2014 \(c. 2\)](#), s. 49(1), **Sch. 9 para. 4(9)**; S.I. 2015/841, **art. 3(u)**
- C11** S. 85(1) excluded (with effect in accordance with s. 198(5) of the amending Act) by [Finance Act 2014 \(c. 26\)](#), **ss. 174(5)**, 198(1) (with Sch. 29)
- C12** S. 85(1) excluded (12.3.2015) by [The Legal Aid, Sentencing and Punishment of Offenders Act 2012 \(Fines on Summary Conviction\) Regulations 2015 \(S.I. 2015/664\)](#), regs. 1(1), 2(1), **Schs. 1** (with reg. 5(1))
- C13** S. 85(11) modified (27.5.2015 for E. for specified purposes, 27.5.2015 for specified purposes, 1.10.2015 in so far as not already in force) by [Consumer Rights Act 2015 \(c. 15\)](#), s. 100(5), **Sch. 5 para. 37(3)(a)**; S.I. 2015/965, art. 2(b); S.I. 2015/1333, art. 2(a); S.I. 2015/1630, art. 3(h) (with art. 8)

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#### Commencement Information

- I1** S. 85(1)(2)(4) in force at 12.3.2015 by S.I. 2015/504, **art. 2**
- I2** S. 85(3)(5)-(13)(15)-(17) in force at 28.5.2014 by S.I. 2014/1291, **art. 2(a)**

### Changes to legislation:

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### Changes and effects yet to be applied to :

- s. 85 applied (with modifications) (cond.) by [2014 c. 20 Sch. 5 para. 2\(5\)](#)
- s. 85 applied (with modifications) (cond.) by [2014 c. 20 Sch. 5 para. 6\(4\)](#)
- specified provision(s) amendment to earlier commencing S.I. 2016/286, art. 4(1) by [S.I. 2017/225 art. 2](#)

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

- Act applied (with modifications) by [S.I. 2018/1125 reg. 8](#) (This amendment not applied to legislation.gov.uk. S.I. 2018/1125, reg. 8 omitted (31.12.2020) by virtue of Private International Law (Implementation of Agreements) Act 2020 (c. 24), s. 4(3), Sch. 5 para. 4(4))

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

- s. 9(3)(4) inserted by [2022 c. 36 s. 25\(2\)](#)
- s. 9A inserted by [2023 c. 32 s. 89\(3\)](#)
- s. 9B inserted by [2023 c. 32 s. 90](#)
- s. 10(3A)-(3E) inserted by [2022 c. 36 s. 67](#)
- Sch. 1 Pt. 1 para. 31ZA and cross-heading inserted by [2022 c. 36 s. 25\(1\)](#)
- Sch. 1 Pt. 1 para. 31B and cross-heading inserted by [2022 c. 36 s. 57\(2\)](#)
- Sch. 1 Pt. 1 para. 19(1A)(1B) and heading inserted by [2022 c. 36 s. 66\(2\)\(a\)](#)
- Sch. 1 Pt. 1 para. 19(2A) inserted by [2022 c. 36 s. 66\(2\)\(b\)](#)
- Sch. 1 Pt. 1 para. 19(8A) and heading inserted by [2022 c. 36 s. 66\(2\)\(c\)](#)
- Sch. 1 Pt. 1 para. 25(1A) and heading inserted by [2022 c. 36 s. 66\(3\)\(a\)](#)
- Sch. 1 Pt. 1 para. 26(1A) and heading inserted by [2022 c. 36 s. 66\(3\)\(a\)](#)
- Sch. 1 Pt. 1 para. 27(1A) and heading inserted by [2022 c. 36 s. 66\(3\)\(a\)](#)
- Sch. 1 Pt. 1 para. 27A(1A) and heading inserted by [2022 c. 36 s. 66\(3\)\(a\)](#)
- Sch. 1 Pt. 1 para. 25(3)(4) and heading inserted by [2022 c. 36 s. 66\(3\)\(b\)](#)
- Sch. 1 Pt. 1 para. 26(3)(4) and heading inserted by [2022 c. 36 s. 66\(3\)\(b\)](#)
- Sch. 1 Pt. 1 para. 27(3)(4) and heading inserted by [2022 c. 36 s. 66\(3\)\(b\)](#)
- Sch. 1 Pt. 1 para. 27A(3)(4) and heading inserted by [2022 c. 36 s. 66\(3\)\(b\)](#)
- Sch. 1 Pt. 1 para. 30(1A) and heading inserted by [2022 c. 36 s. 66\(4\)\(a\)](#)
- Sch. 1 Pt. 1 para. 30(2A) inserted by [2022 c. 36 s. 66\(4\)\(b\)](#)
- Sch. 1 Pt. 1 para. 30(3A) and heading inserted by [2022 c. 36 s. 66\(4\)\(c\)](#)
- Sch. 1 Pt. 1 para. 31A(2A) and heading inserted by [2022 c. 36 s. 66\(5\)\(a\)](#)
- Sch. 1 Pt. 1 para. 31A(3A)(3B) and heading inserted by [2022 c. 36 s. 66\(5\)\(b\)](#)
- Sch. 1 Pt. 1 para. 19(6A) inserted by [2023 c. 37 s. 56\(2\)\(a\)](#)
- Sch. 1 Pt. 1 para. 31C inserted by [2023 c. 37 s. 56\(3\)](#)
- Sch. 1 Pt. 1 para. 27A(1) inserted by [S.I. 2017/617 reg. 3\(4\)](#) (This amendment comes into force on the commencement of paragraph 1 of Schedule 10 to the Immigration Act 2016 (c. 19))
- Sch. 1 Pt. 1 para. 11(1A) inserted by [S.I. 2023/150 art. 4\(3\)\(a\)](#)
- Sch. 1 Pt. 1 para. 11(3A) inserted by [S.I. 2023/150 art. 4\(3\)\(b\)](#)
- Sch. 1 Pt. 1 para. 2(1)(b) omitted by [2018 anaw 2 Sch. 1 para. 21\(2\)\(a\)\(ii\)](#)
- Sch. 1 Pt. 1 para. 45(2) omitted by [2023 c. 32 s. 91\(2\)](#)
- Sch. 1 Pt. 1 para. 45(3) substituted by [2023 c. 32 s. 91\(3\)](#)
- Sch. 1 Pt. 1 para. 26(1) substituted by [S.I. 2017/617 reg. 3\(2\)\(b\)](#) (This amendment comes into force on the commencement of paragraph 1 of Schedule 10 to the Immigration Act 2016 (c. 19))

- Sch. 1 Pt. 1 para. 27(1) substituted by [S.I. 2017/617 reg. 3\(3\)\(b\)](#) (This amendment comes into force on the commencement of paragraph 1 of Schedule 10 to the Immigration Act 2016 (c. 19))
- Sch. 1 Pt. 1 para. 19(10) words inserted by [2023 c. 37 s. 56\(2\)\(b\)](#)
- Sch. 1 Pt. 1 para. 31(1)(a) words inserted by [S.I. 2023/147 art. 2\(2\)\(a\)](#)
- Sch. 1 Pt. 1 para. 31(1)(a) words inserted by [S.I. 2023/147 art. 2\(2\)\(b\)](#)
- Sch. 1 Pt. 1 para. 31(1)(a) words omitted by [2016 c. 19 Sch. 11 para. 2\(1\)](#)
- Sch. 1 Pt. 1 para. 45(4) words omitted by [2023 c. 32 s. 91\(4\)](#)
- Sch. 1 Pt. 1 para. 26 heading words substituted by [S.I. 2017/617 reg. 3\(2\)\(a\)](#) (This amendment comes into force on the commencement of paragraph 1 of Schedule 10 to the Immigration Act 2016 (c. 19))
- Sch. 1 Pt. 1 para. 27 heading words substituted by [S.I. 2017/617 reg. 3\(3\)\(a\)](#) (This amendment comes into force on the commencement of paragraph 1 of Schedule 10 to the Immigration Act 2016 (c. 19))
- Sch. 1 Pt. 3 para. 16A inserted by [2023 c. 37 s. 56\(4\)](#)
- Sch. 1 Pt. 3 para. 11(b) and word inserted by [S.I. 2017/617 reg. 3\(6\)\(b\)](#) (This amendment comes into force on the commencement of paragraph 1 of Schedule 10 to the Immigration Act 2016 (c. 19))
- Sch. 1 Pt. 3 para. 8(b) omitted by [S.I. 2017/617 reg. 3\(5\)](#) (This amendment comes into force on the commencement of paragraph 1 of Schedule 10 to the Immigration Act 2016 (c. 19))
- Sch. 1 Pt. 3 para. 11(a) and word omitted by [S.I. 2017/617 reg. 3\(6\)\(a\)](#) (This amendment comes into force on the commencement of paragraph 1 of Schedule 10 to the Immigration Act 2016 (c. 19))
- Sch. 1 Pt. 4 para. 8 inserted by [2022 c. 36 s. 66\(6\)](#)