



# Psychoactive Substances Act 2016

## 2016 CHAPTER 2

### *Powers of entry, search and seizure*

#### **48 Offences in relation to enforcement officers**

- (1) A person commits an offence if, without reasonable excuse, the person intentionally obstructs a relevant enforcement officer in the performance of any of the officer's functions under sections 36 to 45.
- (2) A person commits an offence if—
  - (a) the person fails without reasonable excuse to comply with a requirement reasonably made, or a direction reasonably given, by a relevant enforcement officer in the exercise of any power conferred by sections 37 to 45, or
  - (b) the person prevents any other person from complying with any such requirement or direction.
- (3) In this section any reference to a relevant enforcement officer includes a reference to a person authorised under section 40(5) to accompany a relevant enforcement officer.
- (4) A person who is guilty of an offence under this section is liable—
  - (a) on summary conviction in England and Wales, to either or both of the following—
    - (i) imprisonment for a term not exceeding 51 weeks (or 6 months, if the offence was committed before the commencement of section 281(5) of the Criminal Justice Act 2003);
    - (ii) a fine;
  - (b) on summary conviction in Scotland, to either or both of the following—
    - (i) imprisonment for a term not exceeding 12 months;
    - (ii) a fine not exceeding level 5 on the standard scale;
  - (c) on summary conviction in Northern Ireland, to either or both of the following—
    - (i) imprisonment for a term not exceeding 6 months;
    - (ii) a fine not exceeding level 5 on the standard scale.