

# Terrorist Offenders (Restriction of Early Release) Act 2020

## **2020 CHAPTER 3**

Restriction of early release in Scotland

### 3 Eligibility for release on licence of terrorist prisoners: Scotland

- (1) The Prisoners and Criminal Proceedings (Scotland) Act 1993 is amended as follows.
- (2) After section 1AA insert—

### "1AB Restricted eligibility for release on licence of terrorist prisoners

- (1) This section applies to a person other than a life prisoner (a "terrorist prisoner") who—
  - (a) is serving a sentence of imprisonment imposed (whether before or after this section comes into force) in respect of an offence within subsection (2), and
  - (b) has not been released on licence.
- (2) An offence is within this subsection (whether it was committed before or after this section comes into force) if—
  - (a) it is specified in Part 1 of Schedule 1A (offences under counterterrorism legislation),
  - (b) it is specified in Part 2 of that Schedule and was determined by the court to have had a terrorist connection under section 31 or (in the case of a person sentenced in England and Wales or Northern Ireland and now subject to the provisions of this Part relating to early release) section 30 of the Counter-Terrorism Act 2008 (sentences for certain offences with a terrorist connection), or
  - (c) it is a service offence as respects which the corresponding civil offence is an offence specified in Part 2 of that Schedule and was determined by the service court to have had a terrorist connection

under section 32 of that Act (sentences for certain offences with a terrorist connection: armed forces).

- (3) The Scottish Ministers must refer the case of a terrorist prisoner to the Parole Board—
  - (a) as soon as the prisoner has served two-thirds of the prisoner's sentence, and
  - (b) where there has been a previous reference of the prisoner's case to the Parole Board under this subsection and the Parole Board did not recommend the prisoner's release, no later than the second anniversary of the disposal of that reference.
- (4) As soon as the Parole Board has recommended the release of a terrorist prisoner under this section in pursuance of a referral under subsection (3), the Scottish Ministers must release the prisoner on licence.
- (5) The Parole Board must not make a recommendation under subsection (4) unless it is satisfied that it is no longer necessary for the protection of the public that the terrorist prisoner should be confined.
- (6) For the purposes of this section, "service offence", "corresponding civil offence" and "service court" have the same meanings as in the Counter-Terrorism Act 2008 (see section 95 of that Act).
- (7) This section is subject to section 8 of the Terrorist Offenders (Restriction of Early Release) Act 2020 (transitional provision for terrorist prisoners subject to supervised release orders)."
- (3) After Schedule 1 insert, as Schedule 1A, the Schedule set out in Schedule 2 to this Act.

#### Changes to legislation:

There are currently no known outstanding effects for the Terrorist Offenders (Restriction of Early Release) Act 2020, Section 3.