
STATUTORY INSTRUMENTS

2014 No. 1610

The Criminal Procedure Rules 2014

PART 19

BAIL AND CUSTODY TIME LIMITS

SECTION 3: CUSTODY TIME LIMITS

Application to extend a custody time limit

19.16.—(1) This rule applies where the prosecutor gives notice of application to extend a custody time limit.

(2) The court officer must arrange for the court to hear that application as soon as practicable after the expiry of—

- (a) 5 days from the giving of notice, in the Crown Court; or
- (b) 2 days from the giving of notice, in a magistrates' court.

(3) The court may shorten a time limit under this rule.

[Note. See regulation 7 of the Prosecution of Offences (Custody Time Limits) Regulations 1987(1).

Under regulations 4 and 5 of the 1987 Regulations(2), unless the court extends the time limit the maximum period during which the defendant may be in pre-trial custody is—

- (a) *in a case which can be tried only in a magistrates' court, 56 days pending the beginning of the trial;*
- (b) *in a magistrates' court, in a case which can be tried either in that court or in the Crown Court—*
 - (i) *70 days, pending the beginning of a trial in the magistrates' court, or*
 - (ii) *56 days, pending the beginning of a trial in the magistrates' court, if the court decides on such a trial during that period;*
- (c) *in the Crown Court, pending the beginning of the trial, 182 days from the sending of the defendant for trial, less any period or periods during which the defendant was in custody in the magistrates' court.*

Under section 22(3) of the Prosecution of Offences Act 1985(3), the court cannot extend a custody time limit which has expired, and must not extend such a time limit unless satisfied—

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- (1) *S.I. 1987/299; regulation 7 was amended by S.I. 1989/767.*
 - (2) *S.I. 1987/299; regulation 4 was amended by section 71 of the Criminal Procedure and Investigations Act 1996 (c. 25) and S.I. 1989/767, 1991/1515, 1999/2744. Regulation 5 was amended by sections 71 and 80 of, and paragraph 8 of Schedule 5 to, the Criminal Procedure and Investigations Act 1996 (c. 25) and S.I. 1989/767, 1991/1515, 2000/3284, 2012/1344.*
 - (3) *1985 c. 23; section 22 was amended by paragraph 104 of Schedule 15 to the Criminal Justice Act 1988 (c. 33), section 43 of the Crime and Disorder Act 1998 (c. 37), paragraph 36 of Schedule 11 to the Criminal Justice Act 1991 (c. 53), paragraph 27 of Schedule 9 to the Criminal Justice and Public Order Act 1994 (c. 33), section 71 of the Criminal Procedure and Investigations Act 1996 (c. 25), section 67(3) of the Access to Justice Act 1999 (c. 22), section 70 of, and paragraph 57 of Schedule 3 and paragraphs 49 and 51 of Schedule 36 to, the Criminal Justice Act 2003 (c. 44), section 59 of, and*

- (a) that the need for the extension is due to—
 - (i) *the illness or absence of the accused, a necessary witness, a judge or a magistrate,*
 - (ii) *a postponement which is occasioned by the ordering by the court of separate trials in the case of two or more defendants or two or more offences, or*
 - (iii) *some other good and sufficient cause; and*
- (b) *that the prosecution has acted with all due diligence and expedition.]*

Appeal against custody time limit decision

- 19.17.**—(1) This rule applies where—
- (a) a defendant wants to appeal to the Crown Court against a decision by a magistrates’ court to extend a custody time limit;
 - (b) a prosecutor wants to appeal to the Crown Court against a decision by a magistrates’ court to refuse to extend a custody time limit.
- (2) The appellant must serve an appeal notice—
- (a) on—
 - (i) the other party to the decision,
 - (ii) the Crown Court officer, and
 - (iii) the magistrates’ court officer;
 - (b) in a defendant’s appeal, as soon as practicable after the decision under appeal;
 - (c) in a prosecutor’s appeal—
 - (i) as soon as practicable after the decision under appeal, and
 - (ii) before the relevant custody time limit expires.
- (3) The appeal notice must specify—
- (a) each offence with which the defendant is charged;
 - (b) the decision under appeal;
 - (c) the date on which the relevant custody time limit will expire;
 - (d) on a defendant’s appeal, the date on which the relevant custody time limit would have expired but for the decision under appeal; and
 - (e) the grounds of appeal.
- (4) The Crown Court officer must arrange for the Crown Court to hear the appeal as soon as practicable and in any event no later than the second business day after the appeal notice was served.
- (5) The appellant—
- (a) may abandon an appeal without the Crown Court’s permission, by serving a notice of abandonment, signed by or on behalf of the appellant, on—
 - (i) the other party,
 - (ii) the Crown Court officer, and
 - (iii) the magistrates’ court officer
 before the hearing of the appeal begins; but
 - (b) after the hearing of the appeal begins, may only abandon the appeal with the Crown Court’s permission.

[Note. See section 22(7), (8), (9) of the Prosecution of Offences Act 1985(4).]

Summary of the general entitlement to bail and of the exceptions

The court must consider bail whenever it can order the defendant's detention pending trial or sentencing, or in an extradition case, and whether an application is made or not. Under section 4 of the Bail Act 1976(5), the general rule, subject to exceptions, is that a defendant must be granted bail. Under Part IIA of Schedule 1 to the Act(6), if the court decides not to grant the defendant bail then at each subsequent hearing the court must consider whether to grant bail.

Section 3 of the Bail Act 1976(7) allows the court, before granting bail, to require a surety or security to secure the defendant's surrender to custody; and allows the court, on granting bail, to impose such requirements as appear to the court to be necessary—

- (a) to secure that the defendant surrenders to custody;
- (b) to secure that the defendant does not commit an offence while on bail;
- (c) to secure that the defendant does not interfere with witnesses or otherwise obstruct the course of justice whether in relation to the defendant or any other person;
- (d) for the defendant's own protection or, if a child or young person, for the defendant's welfare or in the defendant's own interests;
- (e) to secure the defendant's availability for the purpose of enabling enquiries or a report to be made to assist the court in dealing with the defendant for the offence;
- (f) to secure that before the time appointed for surrender to custody the defendant attends an interview with a legal representative.

Under section 3 of the Bail Act 1976, a person granted bail in criminal proceedings is under a duty to surrender to custody as required by that bail. Under section 6 of the Act, such a person who fails without reasonable cause so to surrender commits an offence and, under section 7, may be arrested.

Exceptions to the general right to bail are listed in Schedule 1 to the Bail Act 1976(8). They differ according to the category of offence concerned. Under section 4(2B) of the 1976 Act(9), in an

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- (4) 1985 c. 23; section 22(7) and (8) was amended by section 43 of the Crime and Disorder Act 1998 (c. 37).
 - (5) 1976 c. 63; section 4 was amended by section 154 of, and paragraph 145 of Schedule 7 to, the Magistrates' Courts Act 1980 (c. 43), section 168 of, and paragraphs 32 and 33 of Schedule 10 to, the Criminal Justice and Public Order Act 1994 (c. 33), section 58 of the Criminal Justice and Court Services Act 2000 (c. 43), sections 198 and 220 of, and Schedule 4 to, the Extradition Act 2003 (c. 41), section 304 of, and paragraphs 20 and 22 of Schedule 32 to, the Criminal Justice Act 2003 (c. 44), section 42 of, and paragraph 34 of Schedule 13 to, the Police and Justice Act 2006 (c. 48), sections 6 and 148 of, and paragraphs 23 and 102 of Schedule 4 and Part 1 of Schedule 28 to, the Criminal Justice and Immigration Act 2008 (c. 4) and paragraph 19 of Schedule 7, and Schedule 8, to the Policing and Crime Act 2009 (c. 26).
 - (6) 1976 c. 63; Schedule 1, Part IIA was added by section 154 of the Criminal Justice Act 1988 (c. 33).
 - (7) 1976 c. 63; section 3 was amended by section 65 of, and Schedule 12 to, the Criminal Law Act 1977 (c. 45), section 34 of the Mental Health (Amendment) Act 1982 (c. 51), paragraph 46 of Schedule 4 to the Mental Health Act 1983 (c. 20), section 15 of, and paragraph 9 of Schedule 2 to, the Criminal Justice Act 1987 (c. 38), section 131 of the Criminal Justice Act 1988 (c. 33), sections 27 and 168 of, and paragraph 12 of Schedule 9 and Schedule 11 to, the Criminal Justice and Public Order Act 1994 (c. 33), sections 54 and 120 of, and paragraph 37 of Schedule 8 and Schedule 10 to, the Crime and Disorder Act 1998 (c. 37), paragraph 51 of Schedule 9 to the Powers of Criminal Courts (Sentencing) Act 2000 (c. 6), section 131 of the Criminal Justice and Police Act 2001 (c. 16), sections 13 and 19 of, and paragraph 48 of Schedule 3 and Schedule 37 to, the Criminal Justice Act 2003 (c. 44), paragraphs 33 and 34 of Schedule 21 to the Legal Services Act 2007 (c. 29) and paragraphs 1 and 2 of Schedule 11, paragraphs 1 and 2 of Schedule 12, to the Criminal Justice and Immigration Act 2008 (c. 4) and paragraphs 1 to 4 of Schedule 11, and paragraphs 14 and 15 of Schedule 12, to the Legal Aid, Sentencing and Punishment of Offenders Act 2012 (c. 10).
 - (8) 1976 c. 63; Schedule 1 was amended by section 34 of the Mental Health (Amendment) Act 1982 (c. 51), sections 153, 154 and 155 of the Criminal Justice Act 1988 (c. 33), paragraph 22 of Schedule 11 to the Criminal Justice Act 1991 (c. 53), section 26 of the Criminal Justice and Public Order Act 1994 (c. 33), paragraph 38 of Schedule 8 to the Crime and Disorder Act 1998 (c. 37), paragraph 54 of Schedule 9 to the Powers of Criminal Courts (Sentencing) Act 2000 (c. 6), sections 129 and 137 of, and Schedule 7 to, the Criminal Justice and Police Act 2001 (c. 16), section 198 of the Extradition Act 2003 (c. 41), sections 13, 14, 15, 19 and 20 of, and paragraphs 20 and 23 of Schedule 32 and paragraphs 1 and 3 of Schedule 36 to, the Criminal Justice Act 2003 (c. 44), paragraph 40 of the Schedule to S.I. 2005/886, paragraph 78 of Schedule 16, and Schedule 17, to the Armed Forces Act 2006 (c. 52), paragraphs 1, 4, 5 and 6 of Schedule 12 to the Criminal Justice

extradition case there is no general right to bail where the defendant is alleged to have been convicted in the territory requesting extradition.

Under Part I of Schedule 1 to the 1976 Act, where the offence is punishable with imprisonment, and is not one that can be tried only in a magistrates' court, or in an extradition case—

- (a) *the defendant need not be granted bail if the court is satisfied that—*
 - (i) *there are substantial grounds for believing that, if released on bail (with or without conditions), the defendant would fail to surrender to custody, would commit an offence, or would interfere with witnesses or otherwise obstruct the course of justice,*
 - (ii) *there are substantial grounds for believing that, if released on bail (with or without conditions), the defendant would commit an offence by engaging in conduct that would, or would be likely to, cause physical or mental injury to an associated person (within the meaning of section 33 of the Family Law Act 1996), or cause that person to fear injury,*
 - (iii) *the defendant should be kept in custody for his or her own protection or welfare, or*
 - (iv) *it has not been practicable, for want of time since the institution of the proceedings, to obtain sufficient information for the court to take the decisions required;*
- (b) *the defendant need not be granted bail if it appears to the court that the defendant was on bail at the time of the offence (this exception does not apply in an extradition case);*
- (c) *the defendant need not be granted bail if, having been released on bail in the case on a previous occasion, the defendant since has been arrested for breach of bail;*
- (d) *the defendant need not be granted bail if in custody pursuant to a sentence;*
- (e) *the defendant need not be granted bail if it appears to the court that it would be impracticable to complete enquiries or a report for which the case is to be adjourned without keeping the defendant in custody;*
- (f) *the defendant may not be granted bail if charged with murder, unless the court is of the opinion that there is no significant risk of the defendant committing an offence while on bail that would, or would be likely to, cause physical or mental injury to some other person;*
- (g) *the defendant in an extradition case need not be granted bail if he or she was on bail on the date of the alleged offence and that offence is not one that could be tried only in a magistrates' court if it were committed in England or Wales.*

Exceptions (a)(i), (b) and (c) do not apply where—

- (a) *the defendant is 18 or over;*
- (b) *the defendant has not been convicted of an offence in those proceedings; and*
- (c) *it appears to the court that there is no real prospect that the defendant will be sentenced to a custodial sentence in those proceedings.*

In deciding whether an exception to the right to bail applies the court must have regard to any relevant consideration, including—

- (a) *the nature and seriousness of the offence, and the probable method of dealing with the defendant for it;*
- (b) *the character, antecedents, associations and community ties of the defendant;*
- (c) *the defendant's record of fulfilling obligations imposed under previous grants of bail; and*

and Immigration Act 2008 (c. 4), section 114 of the Coroners and Justice Act 2009 (c. 25) and paragraphs 10 to 31 of Schedule 11, and paragraphs 14 and 17 of Schedule 12, to the Legal Aid, Sentencing and Punishment of Offenders Act 2012 (c. 10).

(9) 1976 c. 63; section 4(2B) was inserted by section 198 of the Extradition Act 2003 (c. 41) and amended by paragraph 34 of Schedule 13 to the Police and Justice Act 2006 (c. 48).

- (d) *except where the case is adjourned for enquires or a report, the strength of the evidence of the defendant having committed the offence.*

Under Part IA of Schedule 1 to the 1976 Act, where the offence is punishable with imprisonment, and is one that can be tried only in a magistrates' court—

- (a) *the defendant need not be granted bail if it appears to the court that—*
- (i) *having previously been granted bail in criminal proceedings, the defendant has failed to surrender as required and, in view of that failure, the court believes that, if released on bail (with or without conditions), the defendant would fail to surrender to custody, or*
 - (ii) *the defendant was on bail on the date of the offence and the court is satisfied that there are substantial grounds for believing that, if released on bail (with or without conditions), the defendant would commit an offence while on bail;*
- (b) *the defendant need not be granted bail if the court is satisfied that—*
- (i) *there are substantial grounds for believing that, if released on bail (with or without conditions), the defendant would commit an offence while on bail by engaging in conduct that would, or would be likely to, cause physical or mental injury to some other person, or cause some other person to fear such injury,*
 - (ii) *the defendant should be kept in custody for his or her own protection or welfare, or*
 - (iii) *it has not been practicable, for want of time since the institution of the proceedings, to obtain sufficient information for the court to take the decisions required;*
- (c) *the defendant need not be granted bail if in custody pursuant to a sentence;*
- (d) *the defendant need not be granted bail if, having been released on bail in the case on a previous occasion, the defendant since has been arrested for breach of bail, and the court is satisfied that there are substantial grounds for believing that, if released on bail (with or without conditions), the defendant would fail to surrender to custody, would commit an offence, or would interfere with witnesses or otherwise obstruct the course of justice.*

Exceptions (a) and (d) do not apply where—

- (a) *the defendant is 18 or over;*
- (b) *the defendant has not been convicted of an offence in those proceedings; and*
- (c) *it appears to the court that there is no real prospect that the defendant will be sentenced to a custodial sentence in those proceedings.*

Under Part II of Schedule 1 to the 1976 Act, where the offence is not punishable with imprisonment—

- (a) *the defendant need not be granted bail if it appears to the court that having previously been granted bail in criminal proceedings, the defendant has failed to surrender as required and, in view of that failure, the court believes that, if released on bail (with or without conditions), the defendant would fail to surrender to custody;*
- (b) *the defendant need not be granted bail if the court is satisfied that the defendant should be kept in custody for his or her own protection or welfare;*
- (c) *the defendant need not be granted bail if in custody pursuant to a sentence;*
- (d) *the defendant need not be granted bail if, having been released on bail in the case on a previous occasion, the defendant since has been arrested for breach of bail, and the court is satisfied that there are substantial grounds for believing that, if released on bail (with or without conditions), the defendant would fail to surrender to custody, would commit an offence, or would interfere with witnesses or otherwise obstruct the course of justice;*

- (e) *the defendant need not be granted bail if, having been released on bail in the case on a previous occasion, the defendant since has been arrested for breach of bail, and the court is satisfied that there are substantial grounds for believing that, if released on bail (with or without conditions), the defendant would commit an offence while on bail by engaging in conduct that would, or would be likely to, cause physical or mental injury to an associated person (within the meaning of section 33 of the Family Law Act 1996), or to cause that person to fear such injury.*

Exceptions (a) and (d) apply only where—

- (a) *the defendant is under 18; and*
(b) *the defendant has been convicted in those proceedings.*

Further exceptions to the general right to bail are set out in section 25 of the Criminal Justice and Public Order Act 1994(10), under which a defendant charged with murder, attempted murder, manslaughter, rape or another sexual offence specified in that section, and who has been previously convicted of such an offence, may be granted bail only if there are exceptional circumstances which justify it.

(10) 1994 c. 33; section 25 was amended by section 56 of the Crime and Disorder Act 1998 (c. 37), paragraph 160 of Schedule 9 to the Powers of Criminal Courts (Sentencing) Act 2000 (c. 6), paragraph 32 of Schedule 6 to the Sexual Offences Act 2003 (c. 42), paragraph 67 of Schedule 32 and Schedule 37 to the Criminal Justice Act 2003 (c. 44), article 16 of S.I. 2008/1779, paragraph 3 of Schedule 17, and Schedule 23, to the Coroners and Justice Act 2009 (c. 25) and paragraph 33 of Schedule 11 to the Legal Aid, Sentencing and Punishment of Offenders Act 2012 (c. 10).