



Firearms Act 1968

CHAPTER 27

FIREARMS ACT 1968

PART I

PROVISIONS AS TO POSSESSION, HANDLING AND DISTRIBUTION OF WEAPONS AND AMMUNITION ; PREVENTION OF CRIME AND MEASURES TO PROTECT PUBLIC SAFETY

General restrictions on possession and handling of firearms and ammunition

- 1 Requirement of firearm certificate
- 2 Requirement of certificate for possession of shot guns
- 3 Business and other transactions with firearms and ammunition
- 4 Conversion of weapons

Prohibition of certain weapons and control of arms traffic

- 5 Weapons subject to general prohibition
- 6 Power to prohibit movement of arms and ammunition

Special exemptions from sections 1 to 5

- 7 Police permit
- 8 Authorised dealing with firearms
- 9 Carriers, auctioneers, etc.
- 10 Slaughter of animals
- 11 Sports, athletics and other approved activities
- 12 Theatre and cinema
- 13 Equipment for ships and aircraft
- 14 Persons temporarily in Great Britain
- 15 Holder of Northern Irish certificate

Status: This is the original version (as it was originally enacted).

Prevention of crime and preservation of public safety

- 16 Possession of firearm with intent to injure
- 17 Use of firearm to resist arrest
- 18 Carrying firearm with criminal intent
- 19 Carrying firearm in a public place
- 20 Trespassing with firearm
- 21 Possession of firearms by persons previously convicted of crime
- 22 Acquisition and possession of firearms by minors
- 23 Exceptions from s. 22(4) and (5)
- 24 Supplying firearms to minors
- 25 Supplying firearm to person drunk or insane

PART II

FIREARM AND SHOT GUN CERTIFICATES ; REGISTRATION OF FIREARMS DEALERS

Grant, renewal, variation and revocation of firearm and shot gun certificates

- 26 Application for, and grant of, certificates
- 27 Special provisions about firearm certificates
- 28 Special provisions about shot gun certificates
- 29 Variation of firearm certificates
- 30 Revocation of certificates
- 31 Certificate for prohibited weapon
- 32 Fee for certificate and exemption from paying it in certain cases

Registration of firearms dealers

- 33 Police register
- 34 Grounds for refusal of registration
- 35 Fee for registration and renewal thereof
- 36 Conditions of registration
- 37 Registration of new place of business
- 38 Removal from register of dealer's name or place of business
- 39 Offences in connection with registration

Supplementary

- 40 Compulsory register of transactions in firearms
- 41 Exemption from s. 40 in case of trade in shot gun components
- 42 Transactions with persons not registered as firearms dealers
- 43 Power of Secretary of State to alter fees
- 44 Appeals from police decisions under Part II
- 45 Consequences where registered dealer convicted of offence

PART III

LAW ENFORCEMENT AND PUNISHMENT OF OFFENCES

- 46 Power of search with warrant
- 47 Powers of constables to stop and search
- 48 Production of certificates
- 49 Police powers in relation to arms traffic
- 50 Special powers of arrest
- 51 Prosecution and punishment of offences

- 52 Forfeiture and disposal of firearms; cancellation of certificate by convicting court

PART IV

MISCELLANEOUS AND GENERAL

- 53 Rules for implementing this Act
54 Application of Parts I and II to Crown servants
55 Exercise of police functions
56 Service of notices
57 Interpretation
58 Particular savings
59 Repeals and general savings
60 Short title, commencement and extent

SCHEDULES

SCHEDULE 1 — Offences to which section 17(2) applies

- 1 Offences under any of the following provisions of the Malicious...
2 Offences under any of the following provisions of the Offences...
3 Offences under such of the provisions of section 4 of...
4 Offences under any of the following provisions of the Larceny...
5 Offences under section 51(1) of the Police Act 1964 or...
6 Offences under any of the following provisions of the Sexual...
7 Offences under section 217 of the Road Traffic Act 1960...
8 Aiding or abetting the commission of any offence specified in...
9 Attempting to commit any offence so specified, other than an...

SCHEDULE 2 — Offences to which sections 17(2) and 18 apply in Scotland

Common Law Offences

- 1 Abduction.
2 Administration of drugs with intent to enable or assist the...
3 Assault.
4 Housebreaking with intent to steal.
5 Malicious mischief.
6 Mobbing and rioting.
7 Perverting the course of justice.
8 Prison breaking and breaking into prison to rescue prisoners.
9 Rape.
10 Robbery.
11 Theft.
12 Use of threats with intent to extort money or property....
13 Wilful fireraising and culpable and reckless fireraising.

Statutory Offences

- 14 Offences against such of the provisions of section 4 of...
15 Offences against the third and fourth paragraphs of section 7...
16 Offences against sections 2, 3 or 4 of the Explosive...
17 Offences against section 217 of the Road Traffic Act 1960....
18 Offences against section 41 of the Police (Scotland) Act 1967....

Status: This is the original version (as it was originally enacted).

Attempts

19 Attempt to commit any of the offences mentioned in this...

SCHEDULE 3 — Jurisdiction and Procedure on application under section 21(6)

PART I — APPLICATION TO QUARTER SESSIONS (ENGLAND AND WALES)

- 1 The application shall be made to the court of quarter...
- 2 Notice of the application, signed by the applicant or by...
- 3 On receiving notice of the application the clerk of the...
- 4 The applicant may at any time, not less than two...
- 5 The chief officer of police may appear and be heard...
- 6 The court may from time to time adjourn the hearing...
- 7 On the determination of the application, the court may make...

PART II — APPLICATION TO SHERIFF (SCOTLAND)

- 8 The application shall be made to the sheriff within whose...
- 9 Not less than twenty-one days' notice of the application shall...

SCHEDULE 4 — Particulars to be entered by firearms dealer in register of transactions

- 1 The quantities and description of firearms and ammunition manufactured and...
- 2 The quantities and description of firearms and ammunition purchased or...
- 3 The quantities and description of firearms and ammunition accepted for...
- 4 The quantities and description of firearms and ammunition sold and...
- 5 The quantities and description of firearms and ammunition in possession...

SCHEDULE 5 — Provisions as to Appeals under s. 44 of Tins Act

PART I — COURTS WITH JURISDICTION TO ENTERTAIN APPEAL

PART II — PROCEDURAL PROVISIONS FOR APPEAL TO QUARTER SESSIONS

- 1 Notice of an appeal, signed by the appellant or by...
- 2 A notice of appeal shall be given within twenty-one days...
- 3 On receiving notice of an appeal the clerk of the...
- 4 An appellant may at any time, not less than two...
- 5 The chief officer of police may appear and be heard...
- 6 The court may from time to time adjourn the hearing...
- 7 On the hearing of an appeal the court may either...
- 8 On the determination of an appeal the court may make...

SCHEDULE 6 — Prosecution and Punishment of Offences

PART I — TABLE OF PUNISHMENTS

PART II — SUPPLEMENTARY PROVISIONS AS TO TRIAL AND PUNISHMENT OF OFFENCES

- 1 In Scotland, a contravention of section 1(1) or (2) or...
- 2 In the case of an offence against section 6(3) or...
- 3 Where in England or Wales a person who has attained...
- 4 Where a person commits an offence under section 17(1) of...
- 5 If on the trial of a person for an offence...
- 6 The punishment to which a person is liable for an...
- 7 The court by which a person is convicted of an...
- 8 The court by which a person is convicted of an...

9 The court by which a person is convicted of an...

SCHEDULE 7 — Repeals