



Criminal Procedure (Scotland) Act 1975

1975 CHAPTER 21

PART I

SOLEMN PROCEDURE

Jurisdiction

3 Jurisdiction of sheriff.

- (1) Subject to the provisions of this section, the jurisdiction of the sheriffs, within their respective sheriffdoms shall extend to and include all navigable rivers, ports, harbours, creeks, shores and anchoring grounds in or adjoining such sheriffdoms and shall include all criminal maritime causes and proceedings (including such as may apply to persons furth of Scotland) provided the accused shall upon any legal ground of jurisdiction be subject to the jurisdiction of the sheriff before whom such cause or proceeding may be raised.
- (2) It shall not be competent to the sheriff to try any crime committed on the seas which it would not be competent for him to try if the crime had been committed on land.
- (3) Where sheriffdoms are separated by a river, firth or estuary, the sheriffs on either side shall have concurrent jurisdiction over the intervening space occupied by water.
- [^{F1}(4) Where an offence is alleged to have been committed in one district in a sheriffdom, it shall be competent to try that offence in a sheriff court in any other district in that sheriffdom.]

Textual Amendments

- F1** S. 3(4) inserted (30.9.1991) by [Law Reform \(Miscellaneous Provisions\) \(Scotland\) Act 1990 \(c. 40, SIF 39:1\)](#), s.60; S.I. 1991/2151, art. 3, Sch.

Changes to legislation:

Criminal Procedure (Scotland) Act 1975, Section 3 is up to date with all changes known to be in force on or before 18 January 2024. There are changes that may be brought into force at a future date. Changes that have been made appear in the content and are referenced with annotations.

[View outstanding changes](#)

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

- Act certain function transferred. by [1994 c. 39 s. 127\(1\)128](#)

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

- s. 168(c)(ii) amended (prosp.) by [1995 c. 36 s. 105\(4\)Sch. 4 para. 24\(6\)\(b\)](#)
- s. 364(c)(ii) amended (prosp.) by [1995 c. 36 s. 105\(4\)Sch. 4 para. 24\(14\)\(b\)](#)
- s. 413(3) (defn. of "the appropriate local authority") para. (a)(b) amended by [1994 c. 39 Sch. 13 para. 97\(5\)](#)
- s. 413(3) (defns. of "care" and "the 1968 Act") repealed (prosp.) by [1995 c. 36 s. 105\(4\)\(5\)Sch. 4 para. 24\(17\)\(b\)\(i\)Sch. 5](#)
- s. 462 (defns. of "child" "children's hearing" "place of safety" "residential establishment" and "supervision requirement") amended (prosp.) by [1995 c. 36 s. 105\(4\)Sch. 4 para. 24\(18\)](#)
- s. 462 (defns. of "crime" and "prosecutor") applied (prosp.) by [1995 c. 36 s. 53\(7\)](#)