



Prisons (Scotland) Act 1989

1989 CHAPTER 45

An Act to consolidate certain enactments relating to prisons and other institutions for offenders in Scotland and connected matters. [16th November 1989]

Be it enacted by the Queen's most Excellent Majesty, by and with the advice and consent of the Lords Spiritual and Temporal, and Commons, in this present Parliament assembled, and by the authority of the same, as follows:—

Modifications etc. (not altering text)

- C1** Act applied (3.2.1995) by 1994 c. 33, s. 106(2)(a)(ii); S.I. 1995/127, art. 2(1), **Sch. 1**
Act applied (3.2.1995) by 1994 c. 33, s. 107(2); S.I. 1995/127, art. 2(1), **Sch. 1**
Act extended (3.2.1995) by 1994 c. 33, s. 113(3)(a); S.I. 1995/127, art. 2(1), **Sch. 1**
Act applied (1.4.1996) by 1995 c. 46, ss. 206(3), 309(2) (with s. 24(2))
Act amended (1.10.1997 with application as mentioned in Sch. 1 para. 17(3) of the amending Act) by 1997 c. 43, s. 41, **Sch. 1 para. 17(2)**; S.I. 1997/2200, art. 2(1)(g)

Central administration

1 General control over prisons in Scotland.

All powers and jurisdiction in relation to prisons and prisoners which before the commencement of the ^{M1}Prisons (Scotland) Act 1877 were exercisable by any other authority shall, subject to the provisions of this Act, continue to be exercisable by the Secretary of State.

Marginal Citations

- M1** 1877 c. 53.

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Changes to legislation: Prisons (Scotland) Act 1989 is up to date with all changes known to be in force on or before 29 June 2023. 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. (See end of Document for details)

2 Appointment of officers and servants for the purposes of this Act.

- (1) There shall be employed for the purposes of this Act such inspectors and other officers and servants as the Secretary of State, with the sanction of the Treasury as to number, may appoint.
- (2) There shall be paid out of moneys provided by Parliament to the inspectors and officers and servants appointed in pursuance of the foregoing subsection such salaries as the Secretary of State may, with the consent of the Treasury determine.

3 General superintendence of prisons.

- (1) The general superintendence of prisons shall be vested in the Secretary of State, who shall appoint the governors and other officers of prisons including medical officers, being medical practitioners duly registered under the Medical Acts.
- (2) The Secretary of State shall appoint to each prison a chaplain being a minister or a licentiate of the Church of Scotland.
- (3) The Secretary of State shall make contracts and do all other acts necessary for the maintenance of the prisons and prisoners therein.
- (4) There shall be provided such office accommodation in connection with the general superintendence of prisons as the Secretary of State, with the consent of the Treasury, may determine.

Modifications etc. (not altering text)

C2 S. 3 modified (3.2.1995) by 1994 c. 33, s. 110(2); S.I. 1995/127, art. 2(1), Sch. 1

VALID FROM 01/01/1998

[^{F13A} Medical services in prisons.

- (1) Without prejudice to section 11(2) of this Act, the Secretary of State shall secure the provision of appropriate medical services within prisons.
- (2) The Secretary of State may perform the duty imposed by subsection (1) above by—
 - (a) appointing for a prison one or more medical officers, each of whom shall be a registered medical practitioner;
 - (b) entering into an arrangement with any person for the provision of appropriate medical services in relation to any prison or prisons; or
 - (c) both making any such appointment as is mentioned in paragraph (a) above and by entering such an arrangement as is mentioned in paragraph (b) above.
- (3) In this section “appropriate medical services” means such services in relation to—
 - (a) routine and emergency health care for prisoners; and
 - (b) the provision of advice to the governor on matters related to the medical treatment and health of prisoners generally,
 as the Secretary of State considers appropriate for the prison in which they are to be provided; and such services shall be provided by or under the supervision of a registered medical practitioner.

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- (4) Any medical officer appointed under subsection (2)(a) above shall, for the purposes of this Act, be an officer of the prison.
- (5) A registered medical practitioner providing, or supervising the provision of, appropriate medical services in accordance with an arrangement made under subsection (2)(b) above shall be deemed to be a medical officer for the prison for the purposes of—
 - (a) section 27(5) of this Act (so far as that section continues to have effect by virtue of Schedule 6 to the ^{M2}Prisoners and Criminal Proceedings (Scotland) Act 1993 (existing provisions which continue to have effect in relation to prisoners sentenced before 1st October 1993)); and
 - (b) any rules or directions made or issued under section 39 of this Act; unless such rules or directions otherwise provide or the context otherwise requires.
- (6) Subject to subsection (7) below, rules under section 39 of this Act may make provision for the governor to authorise the carrying out by officers of the prison of a search of any person who is in or is seeking to enter the prison for the purpose of providing appropriate medical services in accordance with an arrangement made under subsection (2)(b) above.
- (7) Nothing contained in rules made by virtue of subsection (6) above shall permit the governor to authorise an officer of a prison to require a person to remove any of his clothing other than an outer coat, jacket, headgear, gloves and footwear.]

Textual Amendments

- F1** S. 3A inserted (1.1.1998 with application as mentioned in s. 33(1)-(8) of the amending Act) by 1997 c. 48, s. 43(2); S.I. 1997/2323, art. 4, Sch. 2

Modifications etc. (not altering text)

- C3** S. 3A modified (18.9.1998) by S.I. 1998/2251, art. 16(2)

Marginal Citations

- M2** 1993 c.9.

4 General duties in relation to prisons.

- (1) Subject to any directions of the Secretary of State officers duly authorised by him shall visit and inspect all prisons and examine the state of the buildings, the conduct of officers, the treatment and conduct of the prisoners and all other matters concerning the management of prisons.
- (2) The Secretary of State may, by himself or by any authorised officer, exercise in relation to any prison and the prisoners therein all powers and jurisdiction exercisable by the prison authority of a prison by virtue of any Act of Parliament or by any rules duly made thereunder.

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5 Report to Parliament.

- (1) The Secretary of State shall, at such time or times as he may think fit, cause a report to be prepared of the condition of the prisons and prisoners, and shall lay such report before Parliament.
- (2) A report prepared under subsection (1) above shall state the various manufacturing processes carried on in each prison with such particulars as to the kinds and quantities of, and the commercial value of the labour on, the manufactures, and as to the number of prisoners employed and otherwise as may in the opinion of the Secretary of State be best calculated to afford information to Parliament.

6 Annual return of punishments.

The Secretary of State shall make a yearly return to Parliament of all punishments inflicted within each prison and the offences for which they were inflicted.

7 Appointment and functions of Her Majesty's Chief Inspector of Prisons for Scotland.

- (1) Her Majesty may appoint a person to be Chief Inspector of Prisons for Scotland.
- (2) It shall be the duty of the Chief Inspector^{F2}—(a)]to inspect or arrange for the inspection of prisons in Scotland and to report to the Secretary of State on them ^{F3}; and.
^{F3}(b) to inspect the conditions in which prisoners are transported or held in pursuance of prisoner escort arrangements (within the meaning of section 102 of the ^{M3}Criminal Justice and Public Order Act 1994) and to report to the Secretary of State on them.]
- (3) The Chief Inspector shall in particular report to the Secretary of State on the treatment of prisoners and conditions in prisons.
- (4) The Secretary of State may refer specific matters connected with prisons in Scotland and prisoners in them to the Chief Inspector and direct him to report on them.
- (5) The Chief Inspector shall in each year submit to the Secretary of State a report in such form as the Secretary of State may direct, and the Secretary of State shall lay a copy of that report before Parliament.
- (6) The Chief Inspector shall be paid such salary and allowances as the Secretary of State may with the consent of the Treasury determine.
- (7) In this section, references to prisons include legalised police cells within the meaning of section 14(1) of this Act.

Textual Amendments

F2 Word “-(a)” in s. 7(2) inserted (3.2.1995) by 1994 c. 33, s. 103(2)(a); S.I. 1995/127, art. 2, Sch. 1

F3 S. 7(2)(b) and the preceding “and” inserted (3.2.1995) by 1994 c. 33, s. 103(2)(b); S.I. 1995/127, art. 2, Sch. 1

Modifications etc. (not altering text)

C4 S. 7 excluded (18.9.1998) by S.I. 1998/2251, art. 16(1)

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Marginal Citations

M3 1994 c. 33.

8 Visiting committees.

- (1) Rules made under section 39 of this Act shall provide for the constitution, for prisons, of visiting committees appointed, at such times, in such manner, for such periods and by such regional, island and district councils as may be prescribed by the rules.
- (2) Rules made under section 39 of this Act shall prescribe the functions of visiting committees, and shall among other things require the members to pay frequent visits to the prison and hear any complaints which may be made by the prisoners and report to the Secretary of State any matter which they consider it expedient to report; and any member of a visiting committee may at any time enter the prison and shall have free access to every part thereof and to every prisoner.
- (3) The Secretary of State may pay—
 - (a) to the members of any visiting committee appointed under or in pursuance of this section such allowances in respect of loss of earnings or travelling or subsistence or other expenses necessarily suffered or incurred in the performance of their duties, and
 - (b) to the officers of any such committee such remuneration (whether by way of salary or fees) and such allowances in respect of travelling or subsistence expenses,as the Secretary of State may with the consent of the Treasury determine.

9 Appointment of prison ministers.

- (1) Where in any prison the number of prisoners who belong to a religious denomination other than the Church of Scotland is such as in the opinion of the Secretary of State to require the appointment of a minister of that denomination, the Secretary of State may appoint such a minister to that prison.
- (2) The Secretary of State may pay a minister appointed under the foregoing subsection such remuneration as he thinks reasonable.
- (3) The Secretary of State may allow a minister of any denomination other than the Church of Scotland to visit prisoners of his denomination in a prison to which no minister of that denomination has been appointed under this section.
- (4) No prisoner shall be visited against his will by such a minister as is mentioned in the last foregoing subsection; but every prisoner not belonging to the Church of Scotland shall be allowed, in accordance with the arrangements in force in the prison in which he is confined, to attend chapel or to be visited by the chaplain.
- (5) The governor of a prison shall on the reception of each prisoner record the religious denomination to which the prisoner declares himself to belong, and shall give to any minister who under this section is appointed to the prison or permitted to visit prisoners therein a list of the prisoners who have declared themselves to belong to his denomination; and the minister shall not be permitted to visit any other prisoners.

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Modifications etc. (not altering text)

- C5** S. 9 excluded (18.9.1998) by S.I. 1998/2251, art. 16(1)
C6 S. 9(5) modified (3.2.1995) by 1994 c. 33, s. 110(3); S.I. 1995/127, art. 2(1), Sch. 1

Confinement and treatment of prisoners

[^{F4}10 Place of confinement of prisoners.

- (1) A prisoner may be lawfully confined in any prison.
- (2) Prisoners shall be committed to such prisons as the Secretary of State may from time to time direct, and may be moved by the Secretary of State from any prison to any other prison.
- (3) The foregoing provisions of this section are without prejudice to section 11 of this Act and section 241 of the [^{F4}1975 Act] (transfer of prisoner in connection with hearing of appeal).]

Textual Amendments

- F4** S. 10 substituted (1.10.1993) by 1993 c. 9, s.22 (with ss. 5(1), 6(1), 10, 27 and 47(2), Sch. 6 paras. 1, 2, 6 and 7); S.I. 1993/2050, art. 3(4).
By 1995 c. 40, ss. 5, 7(2), Sch. 4 para. 86(2) it is provided (1.4.1996) that for the words “1975 Act” where they occur in 1993 c. 9 there shall be substituted “1995 Act”

Modifications etc. (not altering text)

- C7** S. 10 excluded (18.9.1998) by S.I. 1998/2251, art. 16(5)

11 Removal of prisoners for judicial and other purposes.

- (1) Rules under section 39 of this Act may provide in what manner an appellant within the meaning of section 279 of the 1975 Act, when in custody, is to be taken to, kept in custody at, and brought back from, any place at which he is entitled to be present for the purposes of that Act, or any place to which the High Court of Justiciary or any judge thereof, may order him to be taken for the purposes of any proceedings of that court.
- (2) The Secretary of State may, if he is satisfied that a person detained in Scotland in a prison requires medical or surgical treatment of any description, direct him to be taken to a hospital or other suitable place for the purpose of the treatment.
- (3) Where any person is directed under the last foregoing subsection to be taken to any place he shall, unless the Secretary of State otherwise directs, be kept in custody while being so taken, while at that place, and while being taken back to the prison in which he is required in accordance with law to be detained.
- (4) The governor or any officer of a prison may execute any warrant issued by the High Court of Justiciary for the removal of a prisoner in that prison to any other prison for the purpose of trial before that court.

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- (5) The Secretary of State may make regulations as to the mode in which and the officers by whom warrants issued under the last foregoing subsection shall be executed.

Modifications etc. (not altering text)

- C8** S. 11(4) modified (3.2.1995) by 1994 c. 33, s. 110(3)(4); S.I. 1995/127, art. 2(1), **Sch. 1**
S. 11(4) modified (3.2.1995) by 1994 c. 33, s. 112(3)(4)(a)(6); S.I. 1995/127, art. 2(1), **Sch. 1**

12 Photographing and measuring of prisoners.

[^{F5}Rules under section 39 of this Act may provide for] the measuring and photographing of prisoners and ^{F6}. . . may prescribe the time or times at which, and the manner and dress in which prisoners shall be measured and photographed, and the number of copies of the measurements and photographs of each prisoner which shall be made and the persons to whom they shall be sent.

Textual Amendments

- F5** Words in s. 12 substituted (18.8.1993) by 1993 c. 9, s. 47(1), **Sch. 5 para. 6(2)(a)** (with s. 47(2), **Sch. 6 paras. 1, 2**); S.I. 1993/2050, art. 3(2), **Sch.1**.
F6 Words in s. 12 repealed (18.8.1993) by 1993 c. 9, s. 47(1)(3), **Sch. 5 para. 6(2)(b)**, **Sch. 7 Pt.I** (with s. 47(2), **Sch. 6 paras. 1, 2**); S.I. 1993/2050, art. 3(2), **Sch.1**.

13 Legal custody of prisoner.

A person shall be deemed to be in legal custody—

- (a) while he is confined in or being taken to or from any prison in which he may be lawfully confined; or
- (b) while he is working or is, for any other reason, outside the prison in the custody or under the control of an officer of the prison; or
- (c) while he is being taken to any place to which he is required or authorised by or under this Act to be taken; or
- (d) while he is kept in custody in pursuance of such requirement or authorisation.

Modifications etc. (not altering text)

- C9** S. 13(b) modified (3.2.1995) by 1994 c. 33, s. 110(4); S.I. 1995/127, art. 2(1), **Sch. 1**
S. 13(b) modified (3.2.1995) by 1994 c. 33, s. 112(3)(4)(b)(6); S.I. 1995/127, art. 2(1), **Sch. 1**

14 Legalised police cells.

- (1) The Secretary of State, on the application of a police authority, may from time to time by rules under [^{F7}section 39 of] this Act declare that any police cells or other premises in the possession of the police authority shall be a legal prison for the detention of prisoners before, during or after trial for any period not exceeding 30 days. Any such police cells or other premises are hereinafter referred to as legalised police cells.
- (2) Any person charged with or convicted of any crime or offence committed within any region or islands area who might have been lawfully confined in a prison situated

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therein may be lawfully confined in any legalised police cells situated in that region or islands area for such period as aforesaid.

- (3) The maintenance of prisoners confined in any legalised police cells shall be deemed to be the maintenance of prisoners under this Act:
Provided that the police authority shall not be entitled to any payment for the use of the legalised police cells or for services rendered by any of their officers in connection with the detention or removal of the prisoners so confined.
- (4) The police authority, notwithstanding anything in this section, shall at all times have a prior claim to the uninterrupted use of any legalised police cells in their area.
- (5) For the purposes of this section the police authority of any region or islands area in which there are any legalised police cells and all persons in their employment shall be subject to the provisions of this Act and any rules made thereunder.
- (6) It shall be the duty of the Secretary of State to make any arrangements required for the removal of any prisoners confined in legalised police cells in the islands area of Orkney or of Shetland.
- (7) In this section the expression “police authority” means the council of a region or islands area, except that where there is an amalgamation scheme in force under the ^{M4}Police (Scotland) Act 1967 it means a joint police committee.
- (8) For the purposes of sections 8 and 39 of this Act, legalised police cells shall be deemed to be prisons.

Textual Amendments

F7 Words in s. 14(1) inserted (18.8.1993) by 1993 c. 9, s. 47(1), **Sch. 5 para. 6(3)** (with s. 47(2), Sch. 6 paras. 1, 2); S.I. 1993/2050, art. 3(2), **Sch.1**.

Marginal Citations

M4 1967 c. 77.

15 Right of sheriff or justice to visit prison.

- (1) A sheriff or justice of the peace may visit any prison within his jurisdiction or in which a prisoner is confined for any offence committed within his jurisdiction, and may examine the condition of the prison and of the prisoners therein and enter in the visitors book to be kept by the governor of the prison any observations on the condition of the prison or on any abuses therein.
- (2) Nothing in the foregoing subsection shall authorise a sheriff or justice of the peace to communicate with any prisoner except on the subject of his treatment in the prison nor to visit any prisoner under sentence of death.
- (3) It shall be the duty of the governor of a prison to draw the attention of the visiting committee at their next visit to any entry in the visitors book made in pursuance of this section.

Modifications etc. (not altering text)

C10 S. 15(1) modified (3.2.1995) by 1994 c. 33, s. 110(3); S.I. 1995/127, art. 2(1), **Sch. 1**

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C11 S. 15(3) modified (3.2.1995) by 1994 c. 33, s. 110(3); S.I. 1995/127, art. 2(1), Sch. 1

Discharge of prisoners

16 Discharge of prisoners.

^{F8}(1)

- (2) A prisoner discharged from a prison situated outside the district or islands area in which he was convicted shall be entitled to be taken back to that district or islands area at the expense of the Secretary of State.

Textual Amendments

F8 S. 16(1) repealed (1.10.1993) by 1993 c. 9, s. 47(3), Sch. 7 Pt.I (with s. 47(2), Sch. 6 paras. 1, 2); S.I. 1993/2050, art. 3(4).

17 Allowances to prisoner on discharge.

- (1) When a prisoner is discharged from prison the Secretary of State may provide him with the means of returning to his home by causing his fare to be paid or in any other convenient manner.
- (2) The Secretary of State may make such payments to or in respect of persons released or about to be released from prisons as he may, with the consent of the Treasury, determine.

^{F9}**18**

Textual Amendments

F9 S. 18 repealed (1.10.1993) by 1993 c. 9, s. 47(3), Sch. 7 Pt.I (with s. 47(2), Sch. 6 paras. 1, 2); S.I. 1993/2050, art. 3(4) (and extended (1.10.1997) by 1997 c. 43, ss. 41, 56(1), Sch. 1 Pt. II para. 10(2), Sch. 5 paras. 11(2)(a), 12(2)(a)(c); S.I. 1997/2200, art. 2(1)(g)(n))

Modifications etc. (not altering text)

C12 S. 18: certain functions made exercisable in Scotland (30.6.1999) by S.I. 1999/1749, art. 4(2), Sch. 3 Pts. II, III paras. 5-8,9

Detention and transfer of young offenders

19 Remand centres and young offenders institutions.

- (1) The Secretary of State may provide—
- (a) remand centres, that is to say places for the detention of persons not less than 14 but under 21 years of age who are remanded or committed in custody for trial or sentence; and

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- (b) young offenders institutions, that is to say, places in which offenders sentenced to detention in a young offenders institution may be kept.
- (2) The Secretary of State shall provide in remand centres facilities for the observation and examination of any person detained therein on whose physical or mental condition a medical report may be desirable for the assistance of the court in determining the most suitable method of dealing with his case.
- (3) The Secretary of State shall appoint for every remand centre and young offenders institution a visiting committee of which not less than two members shall be justices of the peace and not less than such number of members as may be prescribed by ^{F10}rules under section 39 of this Act] shall be women.
- (4) The following provisions, that is to say—
- (a) sections 8(2) and (3), 11(2) and (3), 12 and 38 of this Act, and
- (b) subject as hereinafter provided, sections 1 to 7, 9, 10, 11(1), (4) and (5), 13 to 17, ^{F11}. . . [^{F12}33A] to 37 [^{F13}41, 41A and 41B] of this Act,
- shall apply to remand centres and young offenders institutions, to persons detained therein and to visiting committees appointed therefor under subsection (3) above in like manner as the said provisions apply to prisons, prisoners and visiting committees appointed for prisons under section 8(1) of this Act:
- Provided that—
- (i) section 11(4) and (5) of this Act shall not apply to young offenders institutions;
- ^{F14}(ii)
- (iii) the provisions specified in paragraph (b) of this subsection, other than those mentioned in [^{F15}paragraph (i)] of this proviso, shall apply as aforesaid subject to such adaptations and modifications as may be made by rules [^{F15}under section 39 of this Act].

Textual Amendments

- F10** Words in s. 19(3) substituted (18.8.1993) by 1993 c. 9, s. 47(1), **Sch. 5 para. 6(4)(a)** (with s. 47(2), Sch. 6 paras. 1, 2); S.I. 1993/2050, art. 3(2), **Sch. 1**.
- F11** Word in s. 19(4)(b) repealed (1.10.1993) by 1993 c. 9, s. 47(3), **Sch. 7 Pt. I** (with s. 47(2), Sch. 6 paras. 1, 2); S.I. 1993/2050, **art. 3(4)**.
- F12** Word in s. 19(4)(b) substituted (3.2.1995) by 1994 c. 33, **s. 116(1)**; S.I. 1995/127, art. 2(1), **Sch. 1**
- F13** Words in s. 19(4)(b) substituted (9.1.1995 for certain purposes otherwise 3.2.1995) by 1994 c. 33, s. 168(2), **Sch. 10 para. 64**; S.I. 1994/3192, art. 2, **Sch.**; S.I. 1995/127, art. 2(1), **Sch. 1**
- F14** S. 19(4) sub-para. (ii) of the proviso repealed (1.10.1993) by 1993 c. 9, s. 47(3), **Sch. 7 Pt. I** (with s. 47(2), Sch. 6 paras. 1, 2); S.I. 1993/2050, **art. 3(4)**.
- F15** Words in s. 19(4) sub-para. (iii) of the proviso substituted (18.8.1993) by 1993 c. 9, s. 47(1), **Sch. 5 para. 6(4)(b)(i)(ii)** (with s. 47(2), Sch. 6 paras. 1, 2); S.I. 1993/2050, art. 3(2), **Sch. 1**.

Modifications etc. (not altering text)

- C13** S. 19(4) amended (1.10.1997) by 1997 c. 43, ss. 41, 56(1), Sch. 1 Pt. II paras. 10(2), 11(2), Sch. 5 paras. 11(2)(a), **12(2)(a)(c)**; S.I. 1997/2200, **art. 2(1)(g)(n)** (with art. 5)

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20 Temporary detention of persons liable to detention in young offenders institution or remand centre.

A person who is required to be taken to a young offenders institution or remand centre may, until arrangements can be made for taking him there, be temporarily detained elsewhere.

[^{F16}20A Transfer of young offenders to prison or remand centre.

- (1) Subject to section 21 of this Act, an offender sentenced to detention in a young offenders institution shall be detained in such an institution unless a direction under subsection (2) below is in force in relation to him.
- (2) The Secretary of State may from time to time direct that an offender sentenced to detention in a young offenders institution shall be detained in a prison or remand centre instead of in a young offenders institution, but if the offender is under 18 years of age at the time of the direction, only for a temporary purpose.
- (3) Where an offender is detained in a prison or remand centre by virtue of subsection (2) above, any rules under section 39 of this Act which apply in relation to persons detained in that place shall apply to that offender; but subject to the foregoing and to subsection (4) below, the provisions of the [^{F16}1975 Act], the Prisoners and Criminal Proceedings (Scotland) Act 1993 and this Act relating to the treatment and supervision of persons sentenced to detention in a young offenders institution shall continue to apply to the offender.
- (4) Where an offender referred to in subsection (3) above attains the age of 21 years, subsection (3) of section 21 of this Act shall apply to him as if he had been transferred to prison under that section.]

Textual Amendments

F16 S. 20A inserted (1.10.1993) by 1993 c. 9, s.23 (with ss. 5(1), 6(1), 10, 27 and 47(2), Sch. 6 paras. 1, 2, 6 and 7); S.I. 1993/2050, art. 3(4).
By 1995 c. 40, ss. 5, 7(2), Sch. 4 para. 86(2) it is provided (1.4.1996) that for the words “1975 Act” where they occur in 1993 c. 9 there shall be substituted “1995 Act”;

21 Transfer to prison of persons over 21, and maximum age for detention in young offenders institution.

- (1) Subject to the provisions of this section [^{F17}but without prejudice to section 20A(2) of this Act], where a person serving a sentence of detention in a young offenders institution has attained the age of 21 years, the Secretary of State shall have power to transfer him to prison.
- (2) No person shall be detained in a young offenders institution after he has attained the age of 23 years, and accordingly any person so detained shall, not later than the day immediately preceding his twenty-third birthday, be transferred to prison.
- (3) Where a person has been transferred to prison under this section, he shall be treated for the purpose of his serving the unexpired part of his sentence and of his supervision on release as if the sentence of detention passed upon him were a sentence of imprisonment for a like term, and the provisions of the 1975 Act, [^{F18}the Prisoners and

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Criminal Proceedings (Scotland) Act 1993] and this Act relating to the treatment and supervision of prisoners shall apply to him accordingly:

F19

Textual Amendments

- F17** Words in s. 21(1) inserted (1.10.1993) by 1993 c. 9, s. 47(1), **Sch. 5 para. 6(5)(a)** (with s. 47(2), Sch. 6 paras. 1, 2); S.I. 1993/2050, **art. 3(4)**.
- F18** Words in s. 21(3) inserted (1.10.1993) by 1993 c. 9, s. 47(1), **Sch. 5 para. 6(5)(b)** (with s. 47(2), Sch. 6 paras. 1, 2); S.I. 1993/2050, **art. 3(4)**.
- F19** Proviso in s. 21(3) repealed (1.10.1993) by 1993 c. 9, s. 47(3), **Sch. 7 Pt.I** (with s. 47(2), Sch. 6 paras. 1, 2); S.I. 1993/2050, **art. 3(4)**.

Release on licence, etc.

F20 **22**

Textual Amendments

- F20** S. 22 repealed (1.10.1993) by 1993 c. 9, s. 47(3), **Sch. 7 Pt.I** (with s. 47(2), Sch. 6 paras. 1, 2); S.I. 1993/2050, **art. 3(4)** (and modified (1.4.1995) by S.I. 1995/910, **art. 3**; extended (1.10.1997) by 1997 c. 43, ss. 41, 56(1), Sch. 1 Pt. II paras. 10(2), 11(2), Sch. 5 paras. 11(2)(a), **12(2)(a)(c)**; S.I. 1997/2200, **art. 2(1)(g)(n)** (with art. 5))

Modifications etc. (not altering text)

- C14** Ss. 18, 19(4), 22, 24, 26, 28, 29, 30, 32, 39, 43, Sch. 1: certain functions made exercisable in Scotland (30.6.1999) by S.I. 1999/1748, art. 4(2), Sch. 3 Pts. II, **III** paras. 5-9

F21 **23**

Textual Amendments

- F21** S. 23 repealed (1.10.1993) by 1993 c. 9, s. 47(3), **Sch. 7 Pt.I** (with s. 47(2), Sch. 6 paras. 1, 2); S.I. 1993/2050, **art. 3(4)**.

F22 **24**

Textual Amendments

- F22** S. 24 repealed (1.10.1993) by 1993 c. 9, s. 47(3), **Sch. 7 Pt.I** (with s. 47(2), Sch. 6 paras. 1, 2); S.I. 1993/2050, **art. 3(4)** (and amended (1.10.1997) by 1997 c. 43, ss. 41, 56(1), Sch. 1 Pt. II paras. 10(2), 11(2), Sch. 5 paras. 11(2)(a), **12(2)(a)(c)**; S.I. 1997/2200, **art. 2(1)(g)(n)** (with art. 5))

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Modifications etc. (not altering text)

C15 Ss. 18, 19(4), 22, 24, 26, 28, 29, 30, 32, 39, 43, Sch. 1: certain functions made exercisable in Scotland (30.6.1999) by S.I. 1999/1748, art. 4(2), Sch. 3 Pts. II, III paras. 5-9

F²³ 25

Textual Amendments

F23 S. 25 repealed (1.10.1993) by 1993 c. 9, s. 47(3), Sch. 7 Pt.I (with s. 47(2), Sch. 6 paras. 1, 2); S.I. 1993/2050, art. 3(4).

F²⁴ 26

Textual Amendments

F24 S. 26 repealed (1.10.1993) by 1993 c. 9, s. 47(3), Sch. 7 Pt.I (with s. 47(2), Sch. 6 paras. 1, 2); S.I. 1993/2050, art. 3(4) (and amended (1.10.1997) by 1997 c. 43, ss. 41, 56(1), Sch. 1 Pt. II paras. 10(2)(5), 11(2)(4), Sch. 5 paras. 11(1)(c)(d)(2)(a)(3), 12(1)(c)(2)(a)(c); S.I. 1997/2200, art. 2(1)(g)(n) (with art. 5))

Modifications etc. (not altering text)

C16 Ss. 18, 19(4), 22, 24, 26, 28, 29, 30, 32, 39, 43, Sch. 1: certain functions made exercisable in Scotland (30.6.1999) by S.I. 1999/1748, art. 4(2), Sch. 3 Pts. II, III paras. 5-9

F²⁵ 27

Textual Amendments

F25 S. 27 repealed (1.10.1993) by 1993 c. 9, s. 47(3), Sch. 7 Pt.I (with s. 47(2), Sch. 6 paras. 1, 2); S.I. 1993/2050, art. 3(4) (and amended (1.1.1998) by 1994 c. 33, s. 4A(b) (as inserted (1.1.1998 with effect as mentioned in s. 33(1)-(8) of the amending Act) by 1997 c. 48, s. 43(5); S.I. 1997/2323, art. 4, Sch. 2); and amended (1.1.1998 with application as mentioned in s. 33(1)-(8) of the amending Act) by 1997 c. 48, s. 62(1), Sch. 1 para. 13(4); S.I. 1997/2323, art. 4, Sch. 2)

F²⁶ 28

Textual Amendments

F26 S. 28 repealed (1.10.1993) by 1993 c. 9, s. 47(3), Sch. 7 Pt.I (with s. 47(2), Sch. 6 paras. 1, 2); S.I. 1993/2050, art. 3(4) (and modified (1.4.1995) by S.I. 1995/910, art. 3; extended (1.10.1997) by 1997 c. 43, ss. 41, 56(1), Sch. 1 Pt. II paras. 10(2)(5), 11(2)(4), Sch. 5 paras. 11(1)(c)(d)(2)(a)(3), 12(1)(c)(2)(a)(c); S.I. 1997/2200, art. 2(1)(g)(n) (with art. 5))

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Modifications etc. (not altering text)

C17 Ss. 18, 19(4), 22, 24, 26, 28, 29, 30, 32, 39, 43, Sch. 1: certain functions made exercisable in Scotland (30.6.1999) by S.I. 1999/1748, art. 4(2), Sch. 3 Pts. II, III paras. 5-9

F27 **29**

Textual Amendments

F27 S. 29 repealed (1.10.1993) by 1993 c. 9, s. 47(3), **Sch. 7 Pt.I** (with s. 47(2), Sch. 6 paras. 1, 2); S.I. 1993/2050, **art. 3(4)** (and extended (1.10.1997) by 1997 c. 43, ss. 41, 56(1), Sch. 1 Pt. II paras. 10(2), 11(2), Sch. 5 paras. 11(2)(a), **12(2)(a)(c)**; S.I. 1997/2200, **art. 2(1)(g)(n)** (with art. 5))

Modifications etc. (not altering text)

C18 Ss. 18, 19(4), 22, 24, 26, 28, 29, 30, 32, 39, 43, Sch. 1: certain functions made exercisable in Scotland (30.6.1999) by S.I. 1999/1748, art. 4(2), Sch. 3 Pts. II, III paras. 5-9

Supervision after release

F28 **30**

Textual Amendments

F28 S. 30 repealed (1.10.1993) by 1993 c. 9, s. 47(3), **Sch. 7 Pt.I** (with s. 47(2), Sch. 6 paras. 1, 2); S.I. 1993/2050, **art. 3(4)** (and extended (1.10.1997) by 1997 c. 43, ss. 41, 56(1), Sch. 1 Pt. II paras. 10(2) (5), 11(2)(4), Sch. 5 paras. 11(2)(a)(b), **12(2)(a)(b)(c)**; S.I. 1997/2200, **art. 2(1)(g)(n)** (with art. 5))

Modifications etc. (not altering text)

C19 Ss. 18, 19(4), 22, 24, 26, 28, 29, 30, 32, 39, 43, Sch. 1: certain functions made exercisable in Scotland (30.6.1999) by S.I. 1999/1748, art. 4(2), Sch. 3 Pts. II, III paras. 5-9

F29 **31**

Textual Amendments

F29 S. 31 repealed (1.10.1993) by 1993 c. 9, s. 47(3), **Sch. 7 Pt.I** (with s. 47(2), Sch. 6 paras. 1, 2); S.I. 1993/2050, **art. 3(4)**.

F30 **32**

Textual Amendments

F30 S. 32 repealed (1.10.1993) by 1993 c. 9, s. 47(3), **Sch. 7 Pt.I** (with s. 47(2), Sch. 6 paras. 1, 2); S.I. 1993/2050, **art. 3(4)** (and extended (1.10.1997) by 1997 c. 43, ss. 41, 56(1), Sch. 1 Pt. II paras. 10(2) (5), 11(2)(4), Sch. 5 paras. 11(2)(a)(b), **12(2)(a)(b)(c)**; S.I. 1997/2200, **art. 2(1)(g)(n)** (with art. 5))

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Modifications etc. (not altering text)

C20 Ss. 18, 19(4), 22, 24, 26, 28, 29, 30, 32, 39, 43, Sch. 1: certain functions made exercisable in Scotland (30.6.1999) by S.I. 1999/1748, art. 4(2), Sch. 3 Pts. II, III paras. 5-9

Miscellaneous

^{F31}**33**

Textual Amendments

F31 S. 33 repealed (3.2.1995) by 1994 c. 33, s. 168(3), Sch. 11; S.I. 1995/127, art. 2(1), Sch. 1 Appendix C

[^{F32}**33A Power of governor to delegate functions.**

Rules made under section 39 of this Act may permit the governor of a prison to authorise an officer of the prison, or a class of such officers, to exercise on his behalf such of the governor's functions as the rules may specify.]

Textual Amendments

F32 S. 33A inserted (3.2.1995) by 1994 c. 33, s. 116(3); S.I. 1995/127, art. 2(1), Sch. 1

Modifications etc. (not altering text)

C21 S. 33A modified (3.2.1995) by 1994 c. 33, ss. 110(3)(4), 112(3)(4)(c)(6); S.I. 1995/127, art. 2(1), Sch. 1

34 Notification of and inquiry into death of prisoner.

The governor of a prison shall, in the event of the death of a prisoner, give immediate notice thereof to the procurator fiscal within whose area the prison is situated, and to the visiting committee, and, where practicable, to the nearest relative of the prisoner.

Modifications etc. (not altering text)

C22 S. 34 modified (3.2.1995) by 1994 c. 33, s. 110(3); S.I. 1995/127, art. 2(1), Sch. 1
S. 34 modified (18.9.1998) by S.I. 1998/2251, art. 16(3)

35 Return of warrants for or sentences of imprisonment.

Where a warrant for imprisonment is granted or a sentence of imprisonment is pronounced by any court, a return thereof shall be made by the clerk of the court to the Secretary of State at such time and in such form as he may determine.

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36 Legal estate in prison.

The legal estate in every prison and in all heritable or moveable property belonging to a prison shall be vested in the Secretary of State and may be disposed of in such manner as the Secretary of State, with the consent of the Treasury, may determine.

Modifications etc. (not altering text)

- C23** S. 36 modified (3.2.1995) by 1994 c. 33, s. 110(5); S.I. 1995/127, art. 2(1), Sch. 1
S. 36 excluded (3.2.1995) by 1994 c. 33, s. 113(4); S.I. 1995/127, art. 2(1), Sch. 1
S. 36 excluded (18.9.1998) by S.I. 1998/2251, art. 16(1)

37 Discontinuance of prison.

- (1) The Secretary of State may by order discontinue any prison, and any prison so discontinued shall be sold or otherwise disposed of as the Secretary of State, with the consent of the Treasury, may direct.
- (2) For the purposes of this section a prison shall not be deemed to be discontinued by reason only of its appropriation for use as a remand centre or young offenders institution.

Modifications etc. (not altering text)

- C24** S. 37 modified (3.2.1995) by 1994 c. 33, s. 110(6); S.I. 1995/127, art. 2(1), Sch. 1
S. 37 excluded (18.9.1998) by S.I. 1998/2251, art. 16(1)

38 Acquisition of land for prisons.

- (1) The Secretary of State may purchase by agreement, or compulsorily, any land required for the alteration, enlargement or rebuilding of a prison or for building or establishing a new prison or for any other purpose connected with the management of a prison (including the provision of accommodation for officers or servants employed therein).
- (2) For the purpose of the compulsory purchase of land by the Secretary of State under the foregoing subsection, the ^{M5}Acquisition of Land (Authorisation Procedure) (Scotland) Act 1947 shall apply as if section 1(1)(d) (which refers to the compulsory purchase of land by the Secretary of State under the ^{M6}National Health Service (Scotland) Act 1972) included a reference to the foregoing subsection.
- (3) In relation to the purchase of land by agreement under this section, the Lands Clauses Acts (except the provisions relating to the purchase of land otherwise than by agreement and the provisions relating to access to the special Act, and except sections 120 to 125 (sale of superfluous lands) of the ^{M7}Lands Clauses Consolidation (Scotland) Act 1845) shall be incorporated with this section, and in construing those Acts as so incorporated this section shall be deemed to be the special Act and references to the promoters of the undertaking shall be construed as references to the Secretary of State.

Modifications etc. (not altering text)

- C25** S. 38 excluded (18.9.1998) by S.I. 1998/2251, art. 16(1)

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Marginal Citations

- M5 1947 c. 42.
- M6 1972 c. 58.
- M7 1845 c. 19.

39 Rules for the management of prisons and other institutions.

- (1) The Secretary of State may make rules for the regulation and management of prisons, remand centres and young offenders institutions respectively, ^{F33} . . . for the classification, treatment, employment, discipline and control of persons required to be detained therein [^{F34}and for any other matter as respects which it is provided in this Act [^{F35}or any other enactment][that rules may be made under this section].
- (2) Rules made under this section shall make provision for ensuring that a person who is charged with any offence under the rules shall be given a proper opportunity of presenting his case.
- (3) Rules made under this section may provide for the training of particular classes of persons and their allocation for that purpose to any prison or other institution in which they may lawfully be detained.
- ^{F36}(4)
- (5) Rules made under this section shall provide for the special treatment of the following persons whilst required to be detained in a prison, that is to say—
 - (a) any appellant within the meaning of section 279 of the 1975 Act pending the determination of his appeal;
 - (b) any other person detained in a prison, not being a person serving a sentence imposed on conviction of an offence.
- (6) Rules made under this section may provide for the temporary release of persons serving a sentence of imprisonment or detention.
- ^{F37}(7) Rules made under this section may provide for the award of additional days, not exceeding in aggregate one-sixth of the prisoner's sentence—
 - (a) to a short-term or long-term prisoner within the meaning of Part I of the Prisoners and Criminal Proceedings (Scotland) Act 1993; or
 - (b) conditionally on his eventually becoming such a prisoner, to a person remanded in custody,
where he is guilty, under such rules, of a breach of discipline [^{F38}; and the foregoing provisions of this subsection (except paragraph (b)) shall apply in respect of a person sentenced to be detained under section 206 of the 1975 Act, the detention not being without limit of time, as those provisions apply in respect of any such short-term or long-term prisoner.]
- ^{F39}(8) Without prejudice to any power to make standing orders or to issue directions or any other kind of instruction, rules made under this section may authorise the Secretary of State to supplement the rules by making provision by directions for any purpose specified in the rules; and rules so made or directions made by virtue of this subsection may authorise the governor, or any other officer, of a prison, or some other person or class of persons specified in the rules or directions, to exercise a discretion in relation to [^{F40}any purpose specified in the rules].

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- (9) Rules made under this section may permit directions made by virtue of subsection (8) above to derogate (but only to such extent, or in such manner, as may be specified in the rules) from provisions of rules so made and so specified.
- (10) Any reference, however expressed, in any enactment other than this section to rules made under this section shall be construed as including a reference to directions made by virtue of subsection (8) above.
- (11) Directions made by virtue of subsection (8) above shall be published by the Secretary of State in such manner as he considers appropriate.]
- [^{F41}(12) Rules made under this section may (without prejudice to the generality of subsection (1) above) confer functions on a governor.]

Textual Amendments

- F33** Word in s. 39(1) repealed (18.8.1993) by 1993 c. 9, s. 47(1)(3), Sch. 5 para. 6(6)(a), **Sch. 7 Pt. I** (with s. 47(2), Sch. 6 paras. 1, 2); S.I. 1993/2050, art. 3(2), **Sch. 1**.
- F34** Words in s. 39(1) added (18.8.1993) by 1993 c. 9, s. 47(1), **Sch. 5 para. 6(6)(b)** (with s. 47(2), Sch. 6 paras. 1, 2); S.I. 1993/2050, art. 3(2), **Sch. 1**.
- F35** Words in s. 39(1) inserted (3.2.1995) by 1994 c. 33, s. 116(4)(a); S.I. 1995/127, art. 2(1), **Sch. 1**
- F36** S. 39(4) repealed (1.10.1993) by 1993 c. 9, s. 47(3), **Sch. 7 Pt. I** (with s. 47(2), Sch. 6 paras. 1, 2); S.I. 1993/2050, art. 3(4).
- F37** S. 39(7) added (18.8.1993) by 1993 c. 9, s. 24 (with ss. 5(1), 6(1), 10, 27 and 47(2), Sch. 6 paras. 1, 2, 6 and 7); S.I. 1993/2050, art. 3(2), **Sch. 1**.
- F38** Words in s. 39(7) inserted (3.2.1995) by 1994 c. 33, s. 130(4); S.I. 1995/127, art. 2(1), **Sch. 1**
- F39** S. 39(8)-(11) added (18.8.1993) by 1993 c. 9, s. 25 (with ss. 5(1), 6(1), 10, 27 and 47(2), Sch. 6 paras. 1, 2, 6 and 7); S.I. 1993/2050, art. 3(2), **Sch. 1**.
- F40** Words in s. 39(8) substituted (3.2.1995) by 1994 c. 33, s. 116(4)(b); S.I. 1995/127, art. 2(1), **Sch. 1**
- F41** S. 39(12) inserted (3.2.1995) by 1994 c. 33, s. 116(4)(c); S.I. 1995/127, art. 2(1), **Sch. 1**

Modifications etc. (not altering text)

- C26** S. 39(8) modified (3.2.1995) by 1994 c. 33, ss. 110(3)(7), 112(3)(4)(d)(6); S.I. 1995/127, art. 2(1), **Sch. 1**

40 Persons unlawfully at large.

- (1) Any person who, having been sentenced to imprisonment or to detention in a young offenders institution, or having been committed to a prison or remand centre, is unlawfully at large may be arrested by a constable or prison officer without warrant and taken to the place in which he is required in accordance with law to be detained.
- (2) Where any person sentenced to imprisonment or to detention in a young offenders institution [^{F42}or committed to a prison or remand centre] is, at any time during the period for which he is liable to be detained in pursuance of the sentence, [^{F42}or committal], absent, otherwise than with lawful authority, from the prison [^{F43}, young offenders institution or remand centre], as the case may be, then, unless the Secretary of State otherwise directs, no account shall be taken, in calculating the period for which he is liable to be so detained [^{F42}or the date on or by which a term or period of imprisonment or detention elapses or has been served,] of any time during which he is so absent:

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Provided that this subsection shall not apply to any period during which any such person as aforesaid is detained in pursuance of an order of any court in the United Kingdom in a prison, young offenders institution or remand centre.

- (3) Without prejudice to section 69(2) of the^{M8}Criminal Justice Act 1967, in subsection (2) above references to a prison shall be construed as including references to a place which is the subject of a direction of the Secretary of State under section 206 of the 1975 Act (detention of children convicted on indictment).
- (4) For the purposes of this section, a person who, after being temporarily released in pursuance of rules made under section 39(6) of this Act, is at large at any time during the period for which he is liable to be detained in pursuance of his sentence shall be deemed to be unlawfully at large if the period for which he was temporarily released has expired or if an order recalling him has been made by the Secretary of State in pursuance of the rules.

Textual Amendments

- F42** Words in s. 40(2) inserted (1.10.1993) by 1993 c. 9, s. 47(1), **Sch. 5 para. 6(7)(a)(b)(d)** (with s. 47(2), Sch. 6 paras. 1, 2); S.I. 1993/2050, **art. 3(4)**.
- F43** Words in s. 40(2) substituted (1.10.1993) by 1993 c. 9, s. 47(1), **Sch. 5 para. 6(7)(c)** (with s. 47(2), Sch. 6 paras. 1, 2); S.I. 1993/2050, **art. 3(4)**.

Modifications etc. (not altering text)

- C27** S. 40(1) modified (3.2.1995) by 1994 c. 33, **ss. 110(4), 112(3)(4)(e)(6)**; S.I. 1995/127, **art. 2(1), Sch. 1**
- C28** S. 40(2) amended (1.10.1993) by 1993 c. 9, **s. 4(3)** (with ss. 5(1), 6(1), 10, 27 and 47(2), Sch. 6 paras. 1, 2, 6 and 7) (which substituted ss. 74 and 75 of 1984 C. 36); S.I. 1993/2050, **art. 3(4)**.

Marginal Citations

- M8** 1967 c. 80.

VALID FROM 01/04/1996

[^{F44}40A Warrants for arrest of escaped prisoners.

- (1) On an application being made to a justice alleging that any person is an offender unlawfully at large from a prison or other institution to which this Act or, as the case may be, the Prison Act 1952 or the Prison Act (Northern Ireland) 1953 applies in which he is required to be detained after being convicted of an offence, the justice may issue a warrant to arrest him and bring him before any sheriff.
- (2) Where a person is brought before a sheriff in pursuance of a warrant for his arrest under this section, the sheriff shall, if satisfied that he is the person named in the warrant and if satisfied that he is an offender unlawfully at large as mentioned in subsection (1) above, order him to be returned to the prison or other institution where he is required or liable to be detained.]

Textual Amendments

- F44** S. 40A inserted (1.4.1996) by 1995 c. 40, **ss. 5, 7(2), Sch. 4 para. 75(6)**

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Modifications etc. (not altering text)

C29 S. 40A excluded (18.9.1998) by [S.I. 1998/2251](#), [art. 16\(1\)](#)

41 Unlawful introduction of tobacco, etc., into prison.

[^{F45}(1) Any person who without reasonable excuse brings or introduces, or attempts by any means to bring or introduce, into a prison -

- (a) any drug;
- (b) any firearm or ammunition;
- (c) any offensive weapon;
- (d) any article to which section 1 of the ^{M9}Carrying of Knives etc. (Scotland) Act 1993 applies; or
- (e) without prejudice to paragraphs (a) to (d) above, any article which is a prohibited article within the meaning of rules under section 39 of this Act,

shall be guilty] of an offence and shall be liable on conviction by a court of summary jurisdiction to a fine not exceeding level 3 on the standard scale or to imprisonment for any period not exceeding 30 days.

(2) For the purposes of the foregoing subsection a person shall be deemed to introduce an article into a prison if he conveys it to a prisoner outside the prison or places it anywhere outside the prison with intent that it shall come into the possession of a prisoner.

[^{F46}(2A) Where an officer of a prison has reasonable grounds for suspecting that a person who is in or is seeking to enter a prison has in his possession any article mentioned in paragraphs (a) to (e) of subsection (1) above he shall, without prejudice to any other power of search under this Act, have power to search that person and any article in his possession and to seize and detain any article mentioned in those paragraphs found in the course of the search.

(2B) The power conferred by subsection (2A) above—

- (a) shall be exercised in accordance with rules under section 39 of this Act;
- (b) shall not be construed as authorising the physical examination of a person's body orifices;
- (c) so far as relating to any article mentioned in paragraph (c), (d) or (e) of subsection (1) above (and not falling within paragraph (a) or (b) of that subsection), shall not be construed as authorising an officer of a prison to require a person to remove any of his clothing other than an outer coat, jacket, headgear, gloves and footwear; and
- (d) shall include power to use reasonable force where necessary.]

[^{F47}(3) Where an officer of a prison has reasonable grounds for suspecting that any person has committed or is committing an offence under subsection (1) above he may, for the purpose of facilitating investigation by a constable into the offence, detain that person in any place in the prison in question and may, where necessary, use reasonable force in doing so.

(4) Detention under subsection (3) above shall be terminated not more than six hours after it begins or (if earlier)—

- (a) when the person is detained in pursuance of any other enactment or subordinate instrument;

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Changes to legislation: Prisons (Scotland) Act 1989 is up to date with all changes known to be in force on or before 29 June 2023. 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. (See end of Document for details)

- (b) when the person is arrested by a constable; or
 - (c) where the governor of the prison or a constable investigating the offence concludes that there are no such grounds as are mentioned in subsection (3) above or the officer of the prison concludes that there are no longer such grounds,and the person detained shall be informed immediately upon the termination of his detention that his detention has been terminated.
- (5) Where a person has been released at the termination of a period of detention under subsection (3) above he shall not thereafter be detained under that subsection on the same grounds or on any grounds arising out of the same circumstances.
- (6) At the time when an officer of a prison detains a person under subsection (3) above he shall inform the person of his suspicion, of the suspected offence and of the reason for the detention; and there shall be recorded—
 - (a) the place where and the time when the detention begins;
 - (b) the suspected offence;
 - (c) the time when a constable or an officer of the police authority is informed of the suspected offence and the detention;
 - (d) the time when the person is informed of his rights in terms of subsection (7) below and the identity of the officer of the prison so informing him;
 - (e) where the person requests such intimation as is specified in subsection (7) below to be sent, the time when such request is—
 - (i) made; and
 - (ii) complied with; and
 - (f) the time when, in accordance with subsection (4) above, the person's detention terminates.
- (7) A person who is being detained under subsection (3) above, other than a person in respect of whose detention subsection (8) below applies, shall be entitled to have intimation of his detention and of the place where he is being detained sent without delay to a solicitor and to one other person reasonably named by him and shall be informed of that entitlement when his detention begins.
- (8) Where a person who is being detained under subsection (3) above appears to the officer of the prison to be under 16 years of age, the officer of the prison shall send without delay to the person's parent, if known, intimation of the person's detention and of the place where he is being detained; and the parent—
 - (a) in a case where there is reasonable cause to suspect that he has been involved in the alleged offence in respect of which the person has been detained, may; and
 - (b) in any other case, shall,be permitted access to the person.
- (9) The nature and extent of any access permitted under subsection (8) above shall be subject to any restriction essential for the furtherance of the investigation or the well-being of the person.
- (10) In this section—
 - “drug” means any drug which is a controlled drug for the purposes of the ^{M10}Misuse of Drugs Act 1971;

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“firearm” and “ammunition” have the same meanings as in the ^{M11}Firearms Act 1968;

“offensive weapon” has the same meaning as in the ^{M12}Prevention of Crime Act 1953; and

“parent” includes a guardian and any person who has actual custody of a person under 16 years of age.]

Textual Amendments

- F45** Words in s. 41(1) and the preceding “(1)” inserted (3.2.1995) by 1994 c. 33, s. 153(1)(2); S.I. 1995/127, art. 2(1), **Sch. 1**
- F46** S. 41(2A)(2B) inserted (3.2.1995) by 1994 c. 33, s. 153(1)(3); S.I. 1995/127, art. 2(1), **Sch. 1**
- F47** S. 41(3)-(10) substituted for s. 41(3) (3.2.1995) by 1994 c. 33, s. 153(1)(4); S.I. 1995/127, art. 2(1), **Sch. 1**

Modifications etc. (not altering text)

- C30** S. 41 excluded (18.9.1998) by S.I. 1998/2251, art. 16(1)
- C31** S. 41(2A) modified (3.2.1995) by 1994 c. 33, ss. 110(6), 112(5); S.I. 1995/127, art. 2(1), **Sch. 1**
- C32** S. 41(2B) modified (3.2.1995) by 1994 c. 33, ss. 110(6), 112(5); S.I. 1995/127, art. 2(1), **Sch. 1**
- C33** S. 41(3) modified (3.2.1995) by 1994 c. 33, ss. 110(4), 112(3)(4)(f)(6); S.I. 1995/127, art. 2(1), **Sch. 1**
- C34** S. 41(4) modified (3.2.1995) by 1994 c. 33, ss. 110(3)(4), 112(3)(4)(f)(6); S.I. 1995/127, art. 2(1), **Sch. 1**
- C35** S. 41(6) modified (3.2.1995) by 1994 c. 33, ss. 110(4), 112(3)(4)(f)(6); S.I. 1995/127, art. 2(1), **Sch. 1**
- C36** S. 41(8) modified (3.2.1995) by 1994 c. 33, ss. 110(4), 112(3)(4)(f)(6); S.I. 1995/127, art. 2(1), **Sch. 1**

Marginal Citations

- M9** 1993 c. 13.
- M10** 1971 c. 38.
- M11** 1968 c. 27.
- M12** 1953 c. 14.

[^{F48} 41A Powers of search by authorised employees.

- (1) An authorised employee at a prison shall have the power to search any prisoner for the purpose of ascertaining whether he has any unauthorised property on his person.
- (2) An authorised employee searching a prisoner by virtue of this section—
 - (a) shall not be entitled to require a prisoner to remove any of his clothing other than an outer coat, jacket, headgear, gloves and footwear;
 - (b) may use reasonable force where necessary; and
 - (c) may seize and detain any unauthorised property found on the prisoner in the course of the search.
- (3) In this section “authorised employee” means an employee of a description for the time being authorised by the governor to exercise the powers conferred by this section.
- (4) The governor of a prison shall take such steps as he considers appropriate to notify to prisoners the descriptions of employees who are for the time being authorised employees.

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(5) In this section—

“employee” means an employee (not being an officer of a prison) appointed under section 2(1) of this Act; and

“unauthorised property”, in relation to a prisoner, means property which the prisoner is not authorised by rules under section 39 of this Act or by the governor to have in his possession or, as the case may be, in his possession in a particular part of the prison.]

Textual Amendments

F48 S. 41A inserted (3.2.1995) by 1994 c. 33, s. 152(2); S.I. 1995/127, art. 2(1), Sch. 1

Modifications etc. (not altering text)

C37 S. 41A modified (3.2.1995) by 1994 c. 33, s. 110(6); S.I. 1995/127, art. 2(1), Sch. 1
S. 41A excluded (18.9.1998) by S.I. 1998/2251, art. 16(1)

[^{F49} 41B Testing prisoners for drugs.

(1) If an authorisation is in force for the prison, any officer of the prison may, at the prison, in accordance with rules under section 39 of this Act, require any prisoner who is confined in the prison to provide a sample of urine for the purpose of ascertaining whether he has any drug in his body.

(2) If the authorisation so provides, the power conferred by subsection (1) above shall include power to require a prisoner to provide a sample of any other description specified in the authorisation, not being an intimate sample, whether instead of or in addition to a sample of urine.

(3) In this section—

“authorisation” means an authorisation by the governor;

“drug” means any drug which is a controlled drug for the purposes of the ^{M13}Misuse of Drugs Act 1971; and

“intimate sample” means a sample of blood, semen or any other tissue fluid, saliva or pubic hair, or a swab taken from a person’s body orifice.]

Textual Amendments

F49 S. 41B inserted (9.1.1995) by 1994 c. 33, s. 151(2); S.I. 1994/3192, art. 2, Sch.

Modifications etc. (not altering text)

C38 S. 41B(1) modified (3.2.1995) by 1994 c. 33, s. 110(4); S.I. 1995/127, art. 2(1), Sch. 1
C39 S. 41B(3) modified (3.2.1995) by 1994 c. 33, s. 110(3); S.I. 1995/127, art. 2(1), Sch. 1

Marginal Citations

M13 1971 c. 38.

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VALID FROM 01/01/1998

[^{F50}41C Testing of prisoners for alcohol.]

- (1) If an authorisation is in force for the prison, any officer of the prison may, at the prison, in accordance with rules under section 39 of this Act, require any prisoner who is confined in the prison, and whom he reasonably believes to have taken alcohol, to provide a sample of breath for the purpose of ascertaining whether he has any alcohol in his body.
- (2) If the authorisation so provides, the power conferred by subsection (1) above shall include the power to require a prisoner to provide a sample of any other description specified in the authorisation, not being an intimate sample, whether instead of or in addition to a sample of breath.
- (3) In this section—
 - “authorisation” means an authorisation by the governor; and
 - “intimate sample” means a sample of blood, semen or other tissue fluid, saliva or pubic hair, or a swab taken from a person’s body orifice.]

Textual Amendments

- F50** S. 41C inserted after s. 41B (1.1.1998 with application as mentioned in s. 33(1)-(8) of the amending Act) by 1997 c. 48, s. 42; S.I. 1997/2323, art. 4, Sch. 2

VALID FROM 01/01/1998

[^{F51}41D Unlawful disclosure of information by medical officer.]

- (1) This section applies to—
 - (a) a registered medical practitioner appointed under paragraph (a) of section 107(6) of the^{M14}Criminal Justice and Public Order Act 1994 (medical services in contracted out prisons);
 - (b) a registered medical practitioner providing appropriate medical services under an arrangement entered into under section 3A(2)(b) of this Act or paragraph (b) of the said section 107(6); and
 - (c) any person acting under the supervision of such a practitioner.
- (2) Any person to whom this section applies who discloses, otherwise than in the course of his duty or as authorised by the Secretary of State, any information relating to a particular prisoner which he has acquired in the course of carrying out his duties shall be guilty of an offence.
- (3) A person guilty of an offence under subsection (2) above shall be liable—
 - (a) on conviction on indictment, to imprisonment for a term not exceeding two years or a fine or both;
 - (b) on summary conviction, to imprisonment for a term not exceeding six months or a fine not exceeding the statutory maximum or both.]

Status: Point in time view as at 03/02/1995. This version of this Act contains provisions that are not valid for this point in time.
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Textual Amendments

F51 S. 41D inserted after s. 41B (1.1.1998 with application as mentioned in s. 33(1)-(8) of the amending Act) by 1997 c. 48, s. 44(1); S.I. 1997/2323, art. 4, Sch. 2

Marginal Citations

M14 1994 c.33.

42 Exercise of power to make rules, etc.

- (1) Any power of the Secretary of State to make rules or regulations under this Act, and the power of the Secretary of State to make an order under section ^{F52} . . . 37(1) of this Act, shall be exercisable by statutory instrument.
- (2) Any statutory instrument containing [^{F53}an order made under section 37(1) or rules made under section 39 of this Act shall be subject to annulment in pursuance of a resolution of either House of Parliament].

^{F54}(3)

^{F54}(4)

Textual Amendments

F52 Words in s. 42(1) repealed (1.10.1993) by 1993 c. 9, s. 47(3), Sch. 7 Pt.I (with s. 47(2), Sch. 6 paras. 1, 2); S.I. 1993/2050, art. 3(4).

F53 Words in s. 42(2) substituted (18.8.1993) by 1993 c. 9, s. 47(1), Sch. 5 para. 6(8) (with s. 47(2), Sch. 6 paras. 1, 2); S.I. 1993/2050, art. 3(2), Sch. 1.

F54 S. 42(3)(4) repealed (1.10.1993) by 1993 c. 9, s. 47(3), Sch. 7 Pt.I (with s. 47(2), Sch. 6 paras. 1, 2); S.I. 1993/2050, art. 3(4).

43 Interpretation.

- (1) In this Act, unless the context otherwise requires, the following expressions have the meanings hereby respectively assigned to them—

“the 1975 Act” means the Criminal Procedure (Scotland) Act 1975;

“court” does not include a court-martial;

“criminal prisoner” means a person committed to prison in respect of a charge or conviction of a criminal offence and “civil prisoner” includes any other prisoner;

^{F55}

^{F55}

“prison” includes any prison other than a naval, military or air force prison;

“prisoner” means a person committed for trial, safe custody, punishment or otherwise; and

^{F56}

- (2) For the purposes of any reference, however expressed, in this Act ^{F57} . . . to the term of imprisonment or other detention to which a person has been sentenced or which, or

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part of which, he has served, consecutive terms and terms which are wholly or partly concurrent shall be treated as a single term.

- (3) Any reference in this Act, however expressed, to a previous conviction or sentence shall be construed as a reference to a previous conviction by a court in any part of Great Britain and to a previous sentence passed by any such court.
- (4) Any reference in this Act to an offence punishable with imprisonment shall be construed, in relation to any offender, without regard to any prohibition or restriction imposed by or under any enactment on the imprisonment of offenders of his age.
- (5) References, however expressed, in this Act ^{F58} . . . to imprisonment shall, so far as those provisions apply to institutions provided under section 19 of this Act, be construed as including detention in those institutions.
- (6) For the purpose of this Act the maintenance of a prisoner shall include all necessary expenses incurred in respect of the prisoner for food, clothing, custody and removal from one place to another from the period from the date of the order for his committal to prison until his death or discharge from prison.
- (7) Where the age of any person at any time is material for the purposes of any provision of this Act regulating the powers of a court, his age at the material time shall be deemed to be or to have been that which appears to the court, after considering any available evidence, to be or to have been his age at that time.

Textual Amendments

- F55** Definitions in s. 43(1) repealed (1.10.1993) by 1993 c. 9, s. 47(3), **Sch. 7 Pt.I** (with s. 47(2), **Sch. 6** paras. 1, 2); S.I. 1993/2050, **art. 3(4)**.
- F56** Definition in s. 43(1) repealed (1.10.1993) by 1993 c. 9, s. 47(1)(3), **Sch. 5** para. 6(9)(a), **Sch. 7 Pt.I** (with s. 47(2), **Sch. 6** paras. 1, 2); S.I. 1993/2050, **art. 3(4)**.
- F57** Words in s. 43(2) repealed (1.10.1993) by 1993 c. 9, s. 47(1)(3), **Sch. 5** para. 6(9)(b), **Sch. 7 Pt.I** (with s. 47(2), **Sch. 6** paras. 1, 2); S.I. 1993/2050, **art. 3(4)**.
- F58** Words in s. 43(5) repealed (1.10.1993) by 1993 c. 9, s. 47(3), **Sch. 7 Pt.I** (with s. 47(2), **Sch. 6** paras. 1, 2); S.I. 1993/2050, **art. 3(4)**.

Modifications etc. (not altering text)

- C40** S. 43 extended (1.10.1997) by 1997 c. 43, ss. 41, 56(1), **Sch. 1 Pt. II** paras. 10(2)(5), 11(2)(4), **Sch. 5** paras. 11(2)(a)(b), **12(2)(a)(b)(c)**; S.I. 1997/2200, **art. 2(1)(g)(n)** (with art. 5))

44 Expenses.

All expenses incurred in the maintenance of prisons and prisoners and all other expenses of the Secretary of State under this Act shall be defrayed out of moneys provided by Parliament.

45 Amendments and repeals.

- (1) The enactments mentioned in Schedule 2 to this Act shall have effect subject to the amendments specified therein, being amendments consequential on the provisions of this Act.
- (2) The enactments mentioned in Schedule 3 to this Act are hereby repealed to the extent specified in the third column of that Schedule.

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46 Short title, commencement and extent.

- (1) This Act may be cited as the Prisons (Scotland) Act 1989.
- (2) This Act shall come into force at the end of the period of three months beginning with the date on which it is passed.
- (3) This Act shall extend to Scotland only.

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SCHEDULES

^{F59}SCHEDULE 1

Textual Amendments

F59 Sch. 1 repealed (1.10.1993) by 1993 c. 9, s. 47(3), **Sch. 7 Pt.I** (with s. 47(2), Sch. 6 paras. 1, 2); S.I. 1993/2050, **art. 3(4)**(and extended (1.10.1997) by 1997 c. 43, ss. 41, 56(1), Sch. 1 Pt. II paras. 10(2), 11(2), Sch. 5 paras. 11(2)(a), **12(2)(a)(c)**; S.I. 1997/2200, **art. 2(1)(g)(n)** (with art. 5))

Modifications etc. (not altering text)

C41 Ss. 18, 19(4), 22, 24, 26, 28, 29, 30, 32, 39, 43, Sch. 1: certain functions made exercisable in Scotland (30.6.1999) by S.I. 1999/1748, art. 4(2), Sch. 3 Pts. II, III paras. 5-9

SCHEDULE 2

Section 45(1).

AMENDMENT OF ENACTMENTS

Children and Young Persons (Scotland) Act 1937

^{F60}₁

Textual Amendments

F60 Sch. 2 para. 1 repealed (1.10.1993) by 1993 c. 9, s. 47(3), **Sch. 7 Pt.I** (with s. 47(2), Sch. 6 paras. 1, 2); S.I. 1993/2050, **art. 3(4)**.

2 In section 87(1) and (3) of that Act, after the words “Act 1975” there shall be inserted the words “and of the Prisons (Scotland) Act 1989”.

Army Act 1955

^{F61}₃

Textual Amendments

F61 Sch. 2 para. 3 repealed (1.10.1993) by 1993 c. 9, s. 47(3), **Sch. 7 Pt.I** (with s. 47(2), Sch. 6 paras. 1, 2); S.I. 1993/2050, **art. 3(4)**.

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Air Force Act 1955

F62₄

Textual Amendments

F62 Sch. 2 para. 4 repealed (1.10.1993) by 1993 c. 9, s. 47(3), Sch. 7 Pt.I (with s. 47(2), Sch. 6 paras. 1, 2); S.I. 1993/2050, art. 3(4).

Naval Discipline Act 1957

F63₅

Textual Amendments

F63 Sch. 2 para. 5 repealed (1.10.1993) by 1993 c. 9, s. 47(3), Sch. 7 Pt.I (with s. 47(2), Sch. 6 paras. 1, 2); S.I. 1993/2050, art. 3(4).

6 In section 88 of that Act, in subsection (3)(c), for the words from “thirty-five” to “1952” there shall be substituted the words “39 of the Prisons (Scotland) Act 1989”, and, in subsection (4), for the words “37 of the Prisons (Scotland) Act 1952” there shall be substituted the words “40 of the Prisons (Scotland) Act 1989”.

Criminal Justice Act 1961

7 In section 30(1)(b) of the ^{M15}Criminal Justice Act 1961, for the words “37 of the Prisons (Scotland) Act 1952” there shall be substituted the words “40 of the Prisons (Scotland) Act 1989”.

Marginal Citations

M15 1961 c. 39.

Criminal Justice (Scotland) Act 1963

F64₈

Textual Amendments

F64 Sch. 2 para. 8 repealed (1.10.1993) by 1993 c. 9, s. 47(3), Sch. 7 Pt.I (with s. 47(2), Sch. 6 paras. 1, 2); S.I. 1993/2050, art. 3(4).

Criminal Justice Act 1967

9 In section 69(2) of the ^{M16}Criminal Justice Act 1967, for the words “37 of the Prisons (Scotland) Act 1952” there shall be substituted the words “40 of the Prisons (Scotland) Act 1989”.

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Marginal Citations
M16 1967 c. 80.

Courts-Martial (Appeals) Act 1968

10 In section 52 of the ^{M17}Courts-Martial (Appeals) Act 1968, for paragraph (e) there shall be substituted the following paragraph—
“(e) section 39 of the Prisons (Scotland) Act 1989; or”.

Marginal Citations
M17 1968 c. 20.

Criminal Procedure (Scotland) Act 1975

11 In section 205A(1) of the ^{M18}Criminal Procedure (Scotland) Act 1975, for the words “61 of the Criminal Justice Act 1967” there shall be substituted the words “26 of the Prisons (Scotland) Act 1989”.

Marginal Citations
M18 1975 c. 21.

12 For section 206(1) of that Act, there shall be substituted the following section—

“206 Detention of children convicted on indictment.

Subject to section 205 of this Act, where a child is convicted and the court is of the opinion that no other method of dealing with him is appropriate, it may sentence him to be detained for a period which it shall specify in the sentence; and the child shall during that period be liable to be detained in such place and on such conditions as the Secretary of State may direct.”

F65¹³

Textual Amendments
F65 Sch. 2 para. 13 repealed (1.10.1993) by 1993 c. 9, s. 47(3), Sch. 7 Pt.I (with s. 47(2), Sch. 6 paras. 1, 2); S.I. 1993/2050, art. 3(4).

F66¹⁴

Textual Amendments
F66 Sch. 2 para. 14 repealed (1.10.1993) by 1993 c. 9, s. 47(3), Sch. 7 Pt.I (with s. 47(2), Sch. 6 paras. 1, 2); S.I. 1993/2050, art. 3(4).

F67¹⁵

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Textual Amendments

F67 Sch. 2 para. 15 repealed (1.10.1993) by 1993 c. 9, s. 47(3), **Sch. 7 Pt.I** (with s. 47(2), Sch. 6 paras. 1, 2); S.I. 1993/2050, **art. 3(4)**.

16 In section 462(1) of that Act, for the words “Prisons (Scotland) Act 1952”, wherever these words occur, there shall be substituted the words “Prisons (Scotland) Act 1989”.

Law Reform (Miscellaneous Provisions) (Scotland) Act 1980

F68 17

Textual Amendments

F68 Sch. 2 para. 17 repealed (1.10.1993) by 1993 c. 9, s. 47(3), **Sch. 7 Pt.I** (with s. 47(2), Sch. 6 paras. 1, 2); S.I. 1993/2050, **art. 3(4)**.

Contempt of Court Act 1981

F69 18

Textual Amendments

F69 Sch. 2 para. 18 repealed (1.10.1993) by 1993 c. 9, s. 47(3), **Sch. 7 Pt.I** (with s. 47(2), Sch. 6 paras. 1, 2); S.I. 1993/2050, **art. 3(4)**.

Mental Health (Scotland) Act 1984

19 In section 74(8) of the ^{M19}Mental Health (Scotland) Act 1984, for the words “37 of the Prisons (Scotland) Act 1952” there shall be substituted the words “40 of the Prisons (Scotland) Act 1989”.

Marginal Citations

M19 1984 c. 36.

SCHEDULE 3

Section 45(2).

REPEALS

Chapter	Short title	Extent of repeal
Edw. 8 & 1 Geo. 6. c. 37.	Children and Young Persons (Scotland) Act 1937.	In section 62(b), the words “subsection (2) of”.
15 & 16 Geo. 6 & 1 Eliz. 2. c. 61.	Prisons (Scotland) Act 1952.	The whole Act.

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9 & 10 Eliz. 2 c. 39.	Criminal Justice Act 1961.	Section 30(4).
1963 c. 39.	Criminal Justice (Scotland) Act 1963.	Section 10. Section 12. Section 14. Section 50. Section 51. Section 54. In Schedule 1, paragraphs 1 to 3 and, in paragraph 14, the words “Part I of this Schedule or”. In Schedule 5, the entry relating to the Prisons (Scotland) Act 1952.
1967 c. 80.	Criminal Justice Act 1967.	Sections 59 to 62. Section 64. Section 100(2A). Schedule 2.
1972 c. 71.	Criminal Justice Act 1972.	Section 35.
1975 c. 21.	Criminal Procedure (Scotland) Act 1975.	In section 206, subsections (2) to (7). Section 206A. Section 213. Section 422. In Schedule 9, paragraphs 16, 31 to 35 and 41.
1977 c. 45.	Criminal Law Act 1977.	In Schedule 12, paragraph 7(4) to (6) of the entry relating to the Criminal Justice Act 1967.
1980 c. 62.	Criminal Justice (Scotland) Act 1980.	Section 44. Section 45(2). Schedule 5. In Schedule 7, paragraphs 1 to 6, 14, 15 and 17 to 20.
1982 c. 48.	Criminal Justice Act 1982.	Section 33(a) and (b). Section 57(2).

Status: Point in time view as at 03/02/1995. This version of this Act contains provisions that are not valid for this point in time.

Changes to legislation: Prisons (Scotland) Act 1989 is up to date with all changes known to be in force on or before 29 June 2023. 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. (See end of Document for details)

		In Schedule 14, paragraphs 18 to 21.
1985 c. 73.	Law Reform (Miscellaneous Provisions) (Scotland) Act 1985.	Section 42.
		Section 44.
		Section 45.
1988 c. 33.	Criminal Justice Act 1988.	In Schedule 9, paragraph 1.
		In Schedule 15, paragraph 18.

Status:

Point in time view as at 03/02/1995. This version of this Act contains provisions that are not valid for this point in time.

Changes to legislation:

Prisons (Scotland) Act 1989 is up to date with all changes known to be in force on or before 29 June 2023. 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.