



# Computer Misuse Act 1990

## 1990 CHAPTER 18

### *Computer misuse offences*

#### **1 Unauthorised access to computer material**

- (1) A person is guilty of an offence if—
  - (a) he causes a computer to perform any function with intent to secure access to any program or data held in any computer;
  - (b) the access he intends to secure is unauthorised; and
  - (c) he knows at the time when he causes the computer to perform the function that that is the case.
- (2) The intent a person has to have to commit an offence under this section need not be directed at—
  - (a) any particular program or data;
  - (b) a program or data of any particular kind; or
  - (c) a program or data held in any particular computer.
- (3) A person guilty of an offence under this section shall be liable on summary conviction to imprisonment for a term not exceeding six months or to a fine not exceeding level 5 on the standard scale or to both.