



Environmental Protection Act 1990

1990 CHAPTER 43

PART II

WASTE ON LAND

Prohibition on unauthorised or harmful depositing, treatment or disposal of waste

[^{F1}33ZA Fixed penalty notices for contravention of section 33(1)(a): England

- (1) Where an authorised officer of an English waste collection authority has reason to believe that a person has committed a waste deposit offence in the area of the authority, the officer may give the person a notice under this section in respect of the offence.
- (2) In subsection (1), “waste deposit offence” means an offence under section 33 in respect of a contravention of subsection (1)(a) of that section.
- (3) A notice under this section is a notice offering the opportunity of discharging any liability to conviction for the offence to which it relates by payment of a fixed penalty.
- (4) Where a person is given a notice under this section in respect of an offence—
 - (a) no proceedings may be instituted for the offence before the end of the period of 14 days following the date of the notice; and
 - (b) the person may not be convicted of the offence if the person pays the fixed penalty before the end of that period.
- (5) A notice under this section must give such particulars of the circumstances alleged to constitute the offence as are necessary for giving reasonable information about the offence and must state—
 - (a) the period during which, by virtue of subsection (4)(a), proceedings will not be taken for the offence;
 - (b) the amount of the fixed penalty; and
 - (c) the person to whom and the address at which the fixed penalty may be paid.

Changes to legislation: Environmental Protection Act 1990, Section 33ZA is up to date with all changes known to be in force on or before 22 April 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. (See end of Document for details) View outstanding changes

- (6) If an authorised officer proposes to give a person a notice under this section, the officer may require the person to give the person's name and address.
- (7) It is an offence to—
- (a) fail to give a name or address when required to do so under subsection (6), or
 - (b) give a false or inaccurate name or address in response to a requirement under that subsection.
- (8) A person guilty of an offence under subsection (7) is liable on summary conviction to a fine not exceeding level 3 on the standard scale.
- (9) The fixed penalty payable in pursuance of a notice under this section—
- (a) is an amount not less than £150 and not more than [^{F2}£1000], as specified by the English waste collection authority whose authorised officer gave the notice, or
 - (b) if no amount is specified by that authority, is £200.
- (10) An English waste collection authority to whom a fixed penalty is payable pursuant to a notice under this section may make provision for treating the fixed penalty as having been paid if a lesser amount of not less than £120 is paid before the end of [^{F3}a period specified by the authority.]
- [The Secretary of State may by regulations substitute different amounts for the amounts ^{F4}(10A) for the time being specified in subsections (9) and (10).]
- (11) In any proceedings a certificate which—
- (a) purports to be signed by or on behalf of the chief finance officer of an English waste collection authority to whom a fixed penalty is payable pursuant to a notice under this section, and
 - (b) states that the payment of a fixed penalty was or was not received by a date specified in the certificate,
- is evidence of the facts stated.
- (12) In this section—
- “authorised officer”, in relation to an English waste collection authority, means—
- (a) an employee of the authority who is authorised in writing by the authority for the purposes of giving notices under this section;
 - (b) a person who, in pursuance of arrangements made with the authority, has the function of giving such notices and is authorised in writing by the authority to perform that function;
 - (c) an employee of such a person who is authorised in writing by the authority for the purpose of giving such notices;
- “chief finance officer”, in relation to an English waste collection authority, means the person having responsibility for the financial affairs of the authority;
- “English waste collection authority” means a waste collection authority whose area is in England.]

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Textual Amendments

- F1** S. 33ZA inserted (9.5.2016) by [The Unauthorised Deposit of Waste \(Fixed Penalties\) Regulations 2016 \(S.I. 2016/334\)](#), regs. 1(1), **2(2)**
- F2** Sum in s. 33ZA(9)(a) substituted (31.7.2023) by [The Environmental Offences \(Fixed Penalties\) \(Amendment\) \(England\) Regulations 2023 \(S.I. 2023/770\)](#), regs. 1(1), **3(2)**
- F3** Words in s. 33ZA(10) substituted (1.4.2023) by [Environment Act 2021 \(c. 30\)](#), **ss. 69(2)(a)**, 147(3)(4) (with s. 144); S.I. 2023/381, reg. 2(b)
- F4** S. 33ZA(10A) inserted (1.4.2023) by [Environment Act 2021 \(c. 30\)](#), **ss. 69(2)(b)**, 147(3)(4) (with s. 144); S.I. 2023/381, reg. 2(b)

Changes to legislation:

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Changes and effects yet to be applied to :

- s. 33ZA(12) words omitted by [2021 c. 30 s. 57\(3\)](#)

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

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

- s. 30(4A) inserted by [2021 c. 30 s. 57\(2\)](#)
- s. 33ZB(10A) inserted by [2021 c. 30 s. 69\(3\)\(b\)](#)
- s. 34ZB(8A) inserted by [2021 c. 30 s. 69\(5\)\(b\)](#)
- s. 45A-45AZG substituted for s. 45A by [2021 c. 30 s. 57\(4\)](#)
- s. 46(2)(a)(b) substituted for words by [2021 c. 30 s. 57\(5\)](#)
- s. 106A inserted by [2023 c. 6 s. 41\(2\)](#)
- s. 161(2AA)(2AB) inserted by [2016 anaw 3 s. 69\(4\)](#)