



# Crime (Sentences) Act 1997

## 1997 CHAPTER 43

### PART II

#### EFFECT OF CUSTODIAL SENTENCES

#### CHAPTER II

#### LIFE SENTENCES

#### *Licences and recall*

#### **[<sup>F1</sup>32ZA Offence of remaining unlawfully at large after recall**

- (1) A person recalled to prison under section 32 commits an offence if the person—
  - (a) has been notified of the recall orally or in writing, and
  - (b) while unlawfully at large fails, without reasonable excuse, to take all necessary steps to return to prison as soon as possible.
- (2) A person is to be treated for the purposes of subsection (1)(a) as having been notified of the recall if—
  - (a) written notice of the recall has been delivered to an appropriate address, and
  - (b) a period specified in the notice has elapsed.
- (3) In subsection (2) “an appropriate address” means—
  - (a) an address at which, under the person's licence, the person is permitted to reside or stay, or
  - (b) an address nominated, in accordance with the person's licence, for the purposes of this section.
- (4) A person is also to be treated for the purposes of subsection (1)(a) as having been notified of the recall if—

**Changes to legislation:** Crime (Sentences) Act 1997, Section 32ZA is up to date with all changes known to be in force on or before 03 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

- (a) the person's licence requires the person to keep in touch in accordance with any instructions given by an officer of a provider of probation services,
  - (b) the person has failed to comply with such an instruction, and
  - (c) the person has not complied with such an instruction for at least 6 months.
- (5) A person who is guilty of an offence under this section is liable—
- (a) on conviction on indictment to imprisonment for a term not exceeding 2 years or a fine (or both);
  - (b) on summary conviction to imprisonment for a term not exceeding [<sup>F2</sup>the general limit in a magistrates' court] or a fine (or both).
- (6) In relation to an offence committed before [<sup>F3</sup>2 May 2022], the reference in subsection (5)(b) to [<sup>F4</sup>the general limit in a magistrates' court] is to be read as a reference to 6 months.
- (7) In relation to an offence committed before section 85 of the Legal Aid, Sentencing and Punishment of Offenders Act 2012 comes into force, the reference in subsection (5) (b) to a fine is to be read as a reference to a fine not exceeding the statutory maximum.]

#### Textual Amendments

- F1** S. 32ZA inserted (13.4.2015) by Criminal Justice and Courts Act 2015 (c. 2), ss. 12(1), 95(1) (with s. 12(3)); S.I. 2015/778, art. 3, Sch. 1 para. 8
- F2** Words in s. 32ZA(5)(b) substituted (7.2.2023 at 12.00 p.m.) by The Judicial Review and Courts Act 2022 (Magistrates' Court Sentencing Powers) Regulations 2023 (S.I. 2023/149), regs. 1(2), 2(1), **Sch. Pt. 1** table
- F3** Words in s. 32ZA(6) substituted (28.4.2022) by The Criminal Justice Act 2003 (Commencement No. 33) and Sentencing Act 2020 (Commencement No. 2) Regulations 2022 (S.I. 2022/500), regs. 1(2), 5(1), **Sch. Pt. 1**
- F4** Words in s. 32ZA(6) substituted (7.2.2023 at 12.00 p.m.) by The Judicial Review and Courts Act 2022 (Magistrates' Court Sentencing Powers) Regulations 2023 (S.I. 2023/149), regs. 1(2), 2(1), **Sch. Pt. 1** table

**Changes to legislation:**

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**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. 35(5)(c)s. 35(8)(a) by [2000 c. 43 Sch. 7 para. 139\(b\)](#)
- s. 8(5) by [2000 c. 43 Sch. 7 para. 143](#)