



Public Bodies Act 2011

2011 CHAPTER 24

PART 1

GENERAL ORDER-MAKING POWERS

Restrictions on powers of Ministers and Welsh Ministers

22 Restriction on creation of criminal offences

- (1) An order under the preceding provisions of this Act may not, in relation to any transfer or modification of functions, create a criminal offence that is punishable—
 - (a) on indictment, with imprisonment for a term exceeding two years, or
 - (b) on summary conviction, with—
 - (i) imprisonment for a term exceeding the normal maximum term, or
 - (ii) a fine exceeding level 5 on the standard scale.
- (2) In subsection (1)(b)(i) “the normal maximum term” means—
 - (a) in relation to England and Wales—
 - (i) in the case of a summary offence, 51 weeks, and
 - (ii) in the case of an offence triable either way, twelve months;
 - (b) in relation to Scotland—
 - (i) in the case of an offence triable only summarily, six months, and
 - (ii) in the case of an offence triable either summarily or on indictment, twelve months;
 - (c) in relation to Northern Ireland, six months.
- (3) In Scotland, in the case of an offence which, if committed by an adult, is triable either on indictment or summarily and is not an offence triable on indictment only by virtue of—
 - (a) Part 5 of the Criminal Justice Act 1988, or
 - (b) section 292(6) and (7) of the Criminal Procedure (Scotland) Act 1995,

Changes to legislation: There are currently no known outstanding effects for the Public Bodies Act 2011, Section 22. (See end of Document for details)

the reference in subsection (1)(b)(ii) to a fine exceeding level 5 on the standard scale is to be construed as a reference to the statutory maximum.

(4) In England and Wales—

- (a) in the case of a summary offence committed before the coming into force of section 281(5) of the Criminal Justice Act 2003, the reference in subsection (2)(a)(i) to 51 weeks is to be read as a reference to six months, and
- (b) in the case of an offence triable either way which is committed before [^{F1}2 May 2022], the reference in subsection (2)(a)(ii) to twelve months is to be read as a reference to six months.

(5) Subsection (1) does not prevent an order from repealing and re-enacting a criminal offence.

Textual Amendments

- F1** Words in s. 22(4)(b) 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](#)

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