Changes to legislation: Prison Act 1952 is up to date with all changes known to be in force on or before 30 August 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)



# Prison Act 1952

### **CHAPTER 52**

## PRISON ACT 1952

#### Central administration

- General control over prisons. 2 3 Officers and servants of Prison Commissioners. General duties of Prison Commissioners. 5 Annual report of Prison Commissioners. Appointment and functions of Her Majesty's Chief Inspector of Prisons. 5A Visiting committees and boards of visitors Visiting committees and boards of visitors. Prison officers Prison officers. Powers of prison officers. 8A Powers of search by authorised employees. Exercise of office of chaplain.
  - Confinement and treatment of prisoners

Ejectment of prison officers and their families refusing to quit.

Place of confinement of prisoners.

Appointment of prison ministers.

- 13 Legal custody of prisoner.
- 14 Cells.

10

- 15
- 16 Photographing and measuring of prisoners.
- 16A Testing prisoners for drugs.

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16B 17	Power to test prisoners for alcohol. Painful tests.
18 19 20	Right of justice to visit prison.
21 22 23	Expenses of conveyance to prison. Removal of prisoners for judicial and other purposes. Power of constable etc. to act outside his jurisdiction.
	Length of sentence, release on licence and temporary discharge
24 25	Calculation of term of sentence.  †Remission for good conduct and release on licence of persons sentenced to terms of imprisonment.
26, 27 28	Power of Secretary of State to discharge prisoners temporarily on account of ill health.
	Discharged prisoners
29 30	Payments for discharged prisoners.
	Provision, maintenance and closing of prisons
33 34	Power to provide prisons, etc. Jurisdiction of sheriff, etc.
35 36 37	Prison property. Acquisition of land for prisons. Closing of prisons.
38	
	Offences
39 40 41 42	Assisting prisoner to escape. Unlawful conveyance of spirits or tobacco into prison, etc. Unlawful introduction of other articles. Display of notice of penalties.
	Remand centres, detention centres and Borstal institutions
43 44—46	Remand centres, detention centres and youth custody centres.
	Rules for the management of prisons and other institutions
47	Rules for the management of prisons, remand centres, detention centres and Borstal institutions.
	Miscellaneous
48	
49 50	Persons unlawfully at large. Application of certain provisions to remand homes and attendance centres.

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## Supplemental

- 51 Payment of expenses out of moneys provided by Parliament.
- 52 Exercise of power to make orders, rules and regulations.
- 53 Interpretation.
- 54 Consequential amendments, repeals and savings.
- 55 Short title, commencement and extent.

FIRST AND SECOND — SCHEDULES	SCHEDULES
THIRD SCHEDULE — CONSEQ	UENTIAL AMENDMENTS
FOURTH SCHEDULE —	

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