



Police and Fire Reform (Scotland) Act 2012

2012 asp 8

PART 1

POLICE REFORM

CHAPTER 2

THE POLICE SERVICE OF SCOTLAND

Functions of constables

20 Constables: general duties

- (1) It is the duty of a constable—
- (a) to prevent and detect crime,
 - (b) to maintain order,
 - (c) to protect life and property,
 - (d) to take such lawful measures, and make such reports to the appropriate prosecutor, as may be needed to bring offenders with all due speed to justice,
 - (e) where required, to serve and execute a warrant, citation or deliverance issued, or process duly endorsed, by a Lord Commissioner of Justiciary, [^{F1}sheriff, summary sheriff or justice of the peace] in relation to criminal proceedings, and
 - (f) to attend court to give evidence.

^{F2}(2)

^{F2}(3)

Changes to legislation: Police and Fire Reform (Scotland) Act 2012, Section 20 is up to date with all changes known to be in force on or before 09 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

Textual Amendments

- F1** Words in s. 20(1)(e) substituted (28.11.2016) by [The Courts Reform \(Scotland\) Act 2014 \(Relevant Officer and Consequential Provisions\) Order 2016 \(S.S.I. 2016/387\)](#), art. 1, **sch. 4 para. 3**
- F2** S. 20(2)(3) repealed (25.1.2018) by [Criminal Justice \(Scotland\) Act 2016 \(asp 1\)](#), s. 117(2), **sch. 2 para. 41**; S.S.I. 2017/345, art. 3, sch.
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Commencement Information

- I1** S. 20 in force at 1.4.2013 by [S.S.I. 2013/51](#), **art. 2**

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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):

- Ch. 12A inserted by [2017 asp 4 s. 1\(1\)](#)
- s. 17(2)(h) inserted by [2017 asp 4 s. 2\(a\)\(ii\)](#)
- s. 17(4)(b)(iv) inserted by [2017 asp 4 s. 2\(b\)\(ii\)](#)
- s. 20A inserted by [2017 asp 4 s. 3](#)