



Modern Slavery Act 2015

2015 CHAPTER 30

PART 2

PREVENTION ORDERS

Offences and supplementary provision

30 Offences

- (1) A person who, without reasonable excuse, does anything that the person is prohibited from doing by—
- (a) a slavery and trafficking prevention order,
 - (b) an interim slavery and trafficking prevention order,
 - (c) a slavery and trafficking risk order,
 - (d) an interim slavery and trafficking risk order,
 - (e) a slavery and trafficking prevention order under Schedule 3 to the Human Trafficking and Exploitation (Criminal Justice and Support for Victims) Act (Northern Ireland) 2015 (c. 2 (N.I.)),^{F1}...
 - (f) an interim slavery and trafficking prevention order under that Schedule to that Act,
 - [^{F2}(g) a trafficking and exploitation prevention order under section 17 or 18 of the Human Trafficking and Exploitation (Scotland) Act 2015 (asp 12);
 - (h) an interim trafficking and exploitation prevention order under section 24 of that Act;
 - (i) a trafficking and exploitation risk order under section 26 of that Act; or
 - (j) an interim trafficking and exploitation risk order under section 30 of that Act;]
- commits an offence.
- (2) A person commits an offence if, without reasonable excuse, the person fails to comply with a requirement imposed under—
- (a) section 18(4) or 25(4) (requirement to surrender passports), or

Changes to legislation: Modern Slavery Act 2015, Cross Heading: Offences and supplementary provision is up to date with all changes known to be in force on or before 04 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

- (b) section 19(1), 21(6), 26(1) or 28(6) (requirement to provide name and address).
- (3) A person guilty of an offence under this section is liable—
- (a) on conviction on indictment, to imprisonment for a term not exceeding 5 years;
- (b) on summary conviction, to imprisonment for a term not exceeding 6 months or a fine or both.
- (4) Where a person is convicted of an offence under this section, it is not open to the court by or before which the person is convicted to make an order for conditional discharge in respect of the offence.

Textual Amendments

- F1** Word in s. 30(1)(e) omitted (17.12.2016) by virtue of [The Human Trafficking and Exploitation \(Scotland\) Act 2015 \(Consequential Provisions and Modifications\) Order 2016 \(S.I. 2016/1031\)](#), art. 1(1), [Sch. para. 3\(2\)\(a\)](#)
- F2** S. 30(1)(g)-(j) inserted (17.12.2016) by [The Human Trafficking and Exploitation \(Scotland\) Act 2015 \(Consequential Provisions and Modifications\) Order 2016 \(S.I. 2016/1031\)](#), art. 1(1), [Sch. para. 3\(2\)\(b\)](#)

Commencement Information

- I1** S. 30 in force at 31.7.2015 by [S.I. 2015/1476](#), [reg. 2\(b\)](#)

[^{F3}30A Enforcement by Gangmasters and Labour Abuse Authority

- (1) The Secretary of State may make arrangements with the Gangmasters and Labour Abuse Authority for officers of the Authority to act for the purposes of this Part in taking action in circumstances in which it appears that an offence under this Part which is a labour market offence (within the meaning of section 3 of the Immigration Act 2016) has been, is being or may be committed.
- (2) For provision about the powers of such an officer who is acting for the purposes of this Part, see section 114B of the Police and Criminal Evidence Act 1984 (PACE powers for labour abuse prevention officers).]

Textual Amendments

- F3** S. 30A inserted (12.7.2016) by [Immigration Act 2016 \(c. 19\)](#), s. 94(1), [Sch. 2 para. 16](#); [S.I. 2016/603](#), [reg. 3\(t\)](#)

31 Cross-border enforcement

- (1) The Secretary of State may by regulations amend section 30(1) so as to add to or remove from the list of orders in that section any relevant UK order.
- (2) “Relevant UK order” means an order under the law of Scotland or Northern Ireland which appears to the Secretary of State to be equivalent or similar to—
- (a) a slavery and trafficking prevention order,
- (b) an interim slavery and trafficking prevention order,

Changes to legislation: Modern Slavery Act 2015, Cross Heading: Offences and supplementary provision is up to date with all changes known to be in force on or before 04 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

- (c) a slavery and trafficking risk order, or
- (d) an interim slavery and trafficking risk order.

Commencement Information

I2 S. 31 in force at 31.7.2015 by [S.I. 2015/1476, reg. 2\(b\)](#)

32 Rules of court

- (1) Rules of court may provide for a youth court to give permission for an application under section 15 or 23 against a person aged 18 or over to be made to the youth court if—
 - (a) an application to the youth court has been made, or is to be made, under that section against a person aged under 18, and
 - (b) the youth court thinks that it would be in the interests of justice for the applications to be heard together.
- (2) Rules of court may, in relation to a person reaching the age of 18 after proceedings against that person by virtue of this Part have begun—
 - (a) prescribe circumstances in which the proceedings may or must remain in the youth court;
 - (b) make provision for the transfer of the proceedings from the youth court to an adult magistrates' court (including provision applying sections 21 and 28 with modifications).

Commencement Information

I3 S. 32 in force at 31.7.2015 by [S.I. 2015/1476, reg. 2\(b\)](#)

33 Guidance to chief officers of police etc

- (1) The Secretary of State must issue guidance to chief officers of police, immigration officers^{F4}, the Director General of the National Crime Agency and the Gangmasters and Labour Abuse Authority] in relation to the exercise by them of their powers under this Part.
- (2) The Secretary of State may, from time to time, revise the guidance issued under subsection (1).
- (3) The Secretary of State must arrange for any guidance issued or revised under this section to be published in a way the Secretary of State considers appropriate.

Textual Amendments

F4 Words in s. 33(1) substituted (12.7.2016) by [Immigration Act 2016 \(c. 19\), s. 94\(1\), Sch. 2 para. 17; S.I. 2016/603, reg. 3\(t\)](#)

Commencement Information

I4 S. 33 in force at 31.7.2015 by [S.I. 2015/1476, reg. 2\(b\)](#)

Changes to legislation: Modern Slavery Act 2015, Cross Heading: Offences and supplementary provision is up to date with all changes known to be in force on or before 04 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

34 Interpretation of Part 2

(1) In this Part—

“adult magistrates court” means a magistrates' court that is not a youth court;

“cautioned” means cautioned after the person concerned has admitted the offence;

“interim slavery and trafficking prevention order” means an order made under section 21 (except in section 30(1)(f));

“interim slavery and trafficking risk order” means an order made under section 28;

“slavery or human trafficking offence” means an offence listed in Schedule 1;

“slavery and trafficking prevention order” means an order made under section 14 or 15 (except in section 30(1)(e));

“slavery and trafficking risk order” means an order made under section 23.

(2) In this Part “passport” means—

- (a) a United Kingdom passport within the meaning of the Immigration Act 1971;
- (b) a passport issued by or on behalf of the authorities of a country outside the United Kingdom, or by or on behalf of an international organisation;
- (c) a document that can be used (in some or all circumstances) instead of a passport.

(3) In this Part a reference to a conviction includes a conviction for an offence in respect of which an order for conditional discharge is made, despite—

- (a) [^{F5}section 82(2) of the Sentencing Code] (conviction with conditional discharge deemed not to be a conviction);
- (b) article 6(1) of the Criminal Justice (Northern Ireland) Order 1996 (S.I. 1996/3160 (N.I. 24)) (equivalent provision for Northern Ireland).

(4) Subsection (3) applies only to convictions after this Part comes into force.

(5) In this Part a reference to a conviction includes a finding of a court in summary proceedings that the accused did the act charged, where the court makes an order under—

- (a) section 37(3) of the Mental Health Act 1983,
- (b) section 58(3) of the Criminal Procedure (Scotland) Act 1995, or
- (c) article 44(4) of the Mental Health (Northern Ireland) Order 1986 (S.I. 1986/595 (N.I. 4)),

(hospital and guardianship orders).

(6) In relation to an offence under the law of Scotland, a reference in this Part to a person being found not guilty by reason of insanity is to be treated as a reference to a person being acquitted by reason of the special defence in section 51A of the Criminal Procedure (Scotland) Act 1995.

(7) In this Part, a reference to a finding that a person is under a disability and has done the act charged against the person in respect of an offence includes a finding that a person is insane or unfit to be tried and has done the act charged against the person in respect of an offence.

Changes to legislation: *Modern Slavery Act 2015, Cross Heading: Offences and supplementary provision is up to date with all changes known to be in force on or before 04 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*

- (8) Section 127 of the Magistrates' Courts Act 1980 (time limits) does not apply to a complaint under any provision of this Part.
- (9) A person's age is to be treated for the purposes of this Part as being that which it appears to the court to be after considering any available evidence.

Textual Amendments

F5 Words in s. 34(3)(a) substituted (1.12.2020) by [Sentencing Act 2020 \(c. 17\)](#), s. 416(1), [Sch. 24 para. 294](#) (with [Sch. 24 para. 447](#), [Sch. 27](#)); [S.I. 2020/1236](#), reg. 2

Commencement Information

I5 S. 34 in force at 31.7.2015 by [S.I. 2015/1476](#), [reg. 2\(b\)](#)

Changes to legislation:

Modern Slavery Act 2015, Cross Heading: Offences and supplementary provision is up to date with all changes known to be in force on or before 04 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.

[View outstanding changes](#)

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. 50A(5A) inserted by [2023 c. 37 s. 28\(1\)](#)