



Police and Criminal Evidence Act 1984

1984 CHAPTER 60

PART III

ARREST

[^{F1}24A Arrest without warrant: other persons

- (1) A person other than a constable may arrest without a warrant—
 - (a) anyone who is in the act of committing an indictable offence;
 - (b) anyone whom he has reasonable grounds for suspecting to be committing an indictable offence.
- (2) Where an indictable offence has been committed, a person other than a constable may arrest without a warrant—
 - (a) anyone who is guilty of the offence;
 - (b) anyone whom he has reasonable grounds for suspecting to be guilty of it.
- (3) But the power of summary arrest conferred by subsection (1) or (2) is exercisable only if—
 - (a) the person making the arrest has reasonable grounds for believing that for any of the reasons mentioned in subsection (4) it is necessary to arrest the person in question; and
 - (b) it appears to the person making the arrest that it is not reasonably practicable for a constable to make it instead.
- (4) The reasons are to prevent the person in question—
 - (a) causing physical injury to himself or any other person;
 - (b) suffering physical injury;
 - (c) causing loss of or damage to property; or
 - (d) making off before a constable can assume responsibility for him.

[This section does not apply in relation to an offence under Part 3 or 3A of the Public
^{F2}(5) Order Act 1986.]]

Changes to legislation: Police and Criminal Evidence Act 1984, Section 24A is up to date with all changes known to be in force on or before 18 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** Ss. 24, 24A substituted for s. 24 (1.1.2006) by [Serious Organised Crime and Police Act 2005 \(c. 15\)](#), [ss. 110, 178](#); [S.I. 2005/3495](#), [art. 2\(m\)](#)
- F2** S. 24A(5) added (1.10.2007) by [Racial and Religious Hatred Act 2006 \(c. 1\)](#), [ss. 2, 3\(2\)](#); [S.I. 2007/2490](#), [art. 2\(1\)](#)

Modifications etc. (not altering text)

- C1** S. 24A restricted (25.7.2012) by [The Police and Crime Commissioner Elections Order 2012 \(S.I. 2012/1917\)](#), arts. 1(2), [17\(4\)](#)
- C2** S. 24A restricted (16.12.2010) by [The National Assembly for Wales Referendum \(Assembly Act Provisions\) \(Referendum Question, Date of Referendum Etc.\) Order 2010 \(S.I. 2010/2837\)](#), art. 26, [Sch. 4 para. 2\(4\)](#)
- C3** S. 24A restricted (1.1.2007) by [Electoral Administration Act 2006 \(c. 22\)](#), [ss. 71, 77](#); [S.I. 2006/3412](#), [art. 3](#), [Sch. 1 para. 9](#) (with [Sch. 2](#))
- S. 24A restricted (1.2.2007) by [The National Assembly for Wales \(Representation of The People\) Order \(S.I. 2007/236\)](#), arts. 1(1), {30(4)}

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. 17(1)(cza) inserted by [2021 c. 17 s. 26\(9\)](#)
- s. 47A(3A) substituted by [2022 c. 35 Sch. 2 para. 7](#)
- s. 61(6BA) inserted by [2008 c. 28 s. 10\(1\)](#) (This amendment not applied to legislation.gov.uk. S. 10 omitted (14.12.2011) by virtue of 2011 c. 23, ss. 29, 31(2), Sch. 7 para. 5(3))
- s. 63(3D) inserted by [2008 c. 28 s. 10\(2\)](#) (This amendment not applied to legislation.gov.uk. S. 10 omitted (14.12.2011) by virtue of 2011 c. 23, ss. 29, 31(2), Sch. 7 para. 5(3))
- s. 64(1AA) inserted by [2008 c. 28 s. 10\(4\)](#) (This amendment not applied to legislation.gov.uk. S. 10 omitted (14.12.2011) by virtue of 2011 c. 23, ss. 29, 31(2), Sch. 7 para. 5(3))
- s. 64A(1B)(cb) inserted by [2022 c. 32 Sch. 11 para. 18\(a\)](#)
- Sch. 1A para. 21A added by 1995 c. 32, s. 8B(1) (as inserted) by [2006 c. 12 Sch. 3 para. 13](#)