



Finance Act 1993

1993 CHAPTER 34

PART I

CUSTOMS AND EXCISE AND VALUE ADDED TAX

CHAPTER II

LOTTERY DUTY

The duty

24 Lottery duty.

- (1) Subject to subsections (3) and (4) below, a duty of excise called “lottery duty” is chargeable—
 - (a) on the taking in the United Kingdom of a ticket or chance in a lottery, and
 - (b) in such cases as may be determined by regulations, on the taking outside the United Kingdom of a ticket or chance in a lottery promoted in the United Kingdom.
- (2) Regulations may make provision for determining when and where the taking of a ticket or chance in a lottery is to be treated as occurring for the purposes of this Chapter.
- (3) Lottery duty is not chargeable in respect of a lottery that constitutes a game of bingo (or any version of bingo, by whatever name called).
- (4) Lottery duty is not chargeable in respect—
 - (a) of a lottery promoted as an incident of an exempt entertainment within the meaning of the ^{M1}Lotteries and Amusements Act 1976 or the ^{M2}Betting, Gaming, Lotteries and Amusements (Northern Ireland) Order 1985;
 - (b) of a private lottery within the meaning of that Act or Order;

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- (c) of a society's lottery within the meaning of that Act or Order in respect of which the conditions set out in section 5(3) of that Act or Article 135(1) of that Order are satisfied;
 - (d) of a local lottery within the meaning of that Act in respect of which the conditions set out in section 6(2) of that Act are satisfied;
 - (e) of a lottery promoted in accordance with the ^{M3}Art Unions Act 1846.
- (5) The Treasury may by order amend subsection (4) above so as to add to the descriptions of lottery for the time being mentioned in that subsection, so as to omit any of them or so as to substitute a different description of lottery for any of them.

Commencement Information

II S. 24 wholly in force; s. 24 not in force at Royal Assent, s. 24(1)(b)-(5) in force at 1.12.1993, s. 24 in force at 1.2.1994 insofar as not already in force by [S.I. 1993/2842](#), [art. 3](#).

Marginal Citations

M1 1976 c. 32.
M2 [S.I. 1985/1204 \(N.I. 11\)](#).
M3 1846 c. 48.

25 Amount of duty.

- (1) The amount of the lottery duty chargeable on the taking of a ticket or chance in a lottery is equal to 12 per cent. of the value of the consideration given for the ticket or chance.
- (2) Subject to subsection (3) below, the aggregate of everything paid or given by (or debited to the account of) the person taking the ticket or chance for, on account of, or in connection with, the ticket or chance shall be taken to be the consideration given for it.
- (3) If a price is shown on a lottery ticket or any other document providing evidence of the taking of a ticket or chance in a lottery and—
 - (a) the consideration given for the ticket or chance is of lesser value than the price shown (or is of no value), or
 - (b) no consideration is given for the ticket or chance,
 consideration to the value of the price shown shall be taken to be given for the ticket or chance.

26 Time for payment.

- (1) The lottery duty chargeable on the taking of a ticket or chance in a lottery becomes due and (subject to any regulations under subsection (2) below) payable at the time the ticket or chance is taken.
- (2) Regulations may provide for the payment of any lottery duty due in respect of a lottery of a description specified in the regulations to be deferred, subject to any conditions or requirements that may be imposed by or under the regulations.
- (3) Regulations may require payments (of amounts determined by or under the regulations) to be made on account of any lottery duty that may become due in respect of a lottery of a description specified in the regulations that is being or is to be promoted.

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27 Persons liable for duty.

- (1) Any lottery duty or payment on account of lottery duty that under section 26 above or regulations under that section is payable in respect of a lottery shall be paid (subject to any regulations under subsection (2) below) by the promoter of the lottery.
- (2) Regulations may require any lottery duty or payment on account of lottery duty that is payable in respect of a lottery of a description specified in the regulations to be paid by a person specified in the regulations (being a person who occupies or has occupied a position of responsibility in relation to the lottery) instead of by the promoter.
- (3) Any lottery duty that is payable in respect of a lottery may be recovered jointly and severally from—
 - (a) the promoter of the lottery,
 - (b) any other person who occupies or has occupied a position of responsibility in relation to the lottery or who has or has had any degree of control over any of its proceeds, and
 - (c) where the promoter or a person within paragraph (b) above is a body corporate, any director of that body corporate.
- (4) A person who does not make a payment that he is required to make by subsection (1) above or regulations under subsection (2) above at the time the payment becomes payable is guilty of an offence and liable on summary conviction to a penalty of level 5 on the standard scale or, if greater, treble the amount of the unpaid duty or payment on account of duty.

Administration and enforcement

28 General.

- (1) Lottery duty shall be under the care and management of the Commissioners.
- (2) Regulations may provide for any matter for which provision appears to the Commissioners to be necessary or expedient for the administration or enforcement of lottery duty or for the protection of the revenue derived from lottery duty.
- (3) A person who contravenes or does not comply with any regulations under subsection (2) above is guilty of an offence and liable on summary conviction to a penalty of level 5 on the standard scale.

29 Registration of promoters etc.

- (1) A lottery in respect of which lottery duty is chargeable (or, on the taking of a ticket or chance, will be chargeable) shall not be promoted in the United Kingdom unless the chargeable person is registered with the Commissioners under this section.
- (2) In this section “the chargeable person”, in relation to a lottery, means—
 - (a) subject to paragraph (b) below, the promoter of the lottery;
 - (b) in the case of a lottery of a description specified in regulations under section 27(2) above, the other person referred to in that subsection.
- (3) Regulations may make provision—

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- (a) as to the time at which an application for registration is to be made, as to the form and manner of such an application and as to the information to be contained in or provided with it,
 - (b) as to the requirements that must be satisfied as a condition of a person's registration or continued registration, and
 - (c) as to other requirements that must be observed by a person while he remains registered.
- (4) The requirements imposed by virtue of subsection (3)(b) above may include requirements as to the giving of security or further security (by means of a deposit or otherwise) for any lottery duty that may become due.
- (5) Subject to regulations under subsection (3)(a) and (b) above, the Commissioners—
- (a) shall register any person applying to them for registration who satisfies them that he will be the chargeable person in relation to a lottery that is to be promoted, and
 - (b) shall not remove any person from the register unless it appears to them that no lottery is being or is to be promoted in relation to which he is or will be the chargeable person.
- (6) Where—
- (a) the Commissioners determine that a person should be removed from the register because any requirement imposed by regulations under subsection (3)(b) above is not (or is no longer) satisfied in relation to him, and
 - (b) a lottery in relation to which he is the chargeable person is being promoted at the time they make that determination,
- they shall not remove him from the register until the promotion of that lottery has come to an end.
- (7) If subsection (1) above is contravened in relation to a lottery at any time during its promotion, the chargeable person is guilty of an offence and liable—
- (a) on summary conviction, to a penalty of the statutory maximum or to imprisonment for a term not exceeding six months, or to both, or
 - (b) on conviction on indictment, to a penalty of any amount or to imprisonment for a term not exceeding two years, or to both.
- (8) A person who contravenes or fails to comply with any requirements imposed by regulations under subsection (3)(c) above is guilty of an offence and liable on summary conviction to a penalty of level 5 on the standard scale.

Commencement Information

I2 S. 29 wholly in force; s. 29 not in force at Royal Assent, s. 29(2)-(8) in force at 1.12.1993, s. 29 in force at 1.2.1994 insofar as not already in force by S.I. 1993/2842, art. 3.

30 Application of revenue trade provisions of CEMA 1979.

- (1) Section 1(1) of the ^{M4}Customs and Excise Management Act 1979 (interpretation) shall be amended in accordance with subsections (2) and (3) below.
- (2) In the definition of “the revenue trade provisions of the customs and excise Acts”—
 - (a) the word “and” at the end of paragraph (b) shall be omitted, and

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- (b) at the end there shall be added “; and
(d) the provisions of Chapter II of Part I of the Finance Act 1993;”.
- (3) In paragraph (a) of the definition of “revenue trader”—
(a) the word “or” at the end of sub-paragraph (i) shall be omitted,
(b) after sub-paragraph (i) there shall be inserted—
 “(i) the buying, selling, importation, exportation, dealing in or handling of tickets or chances on the taking of which lottery duty is or will be chargeable; or”, and
(c) in sub-paragraph (ii) after “activities” there shall be inserted “ as are mentioned in sub-paragraph (i) or (ia) above ”.
- (4) In section 117 of the ^{M5}Customs and Excise Management Act 1979 (execution and distress against revenue traders) after subsection (1) there shall be inserted—
 “(1A) In subsection (1) above as it applies in relation to a sum owing by a revenue trader in respect of lottery duty or of a relevant penalty—
 (a) references to goods liable to any excise duty include lottery tickets on the taking of which lottery duty will be chargeable, and
 (b) “the trade in respect of which the duty is imposed” includes any trade or business carried on by the revenue trader that consists of or includes the buying, selling, importation, exportation, dealing in or handling of tickets or chances on the taking of which lottery duty is or will be chargeable.”

Marginal Citations

- M4 1979 c. 2.
M5 1979 c. 2.

31 General offences.

- (1) A person who is knowingly concerned—
(a) in the fraudulent evasion (by him or another person) of lottery duty, or
(b) in taking steps with a view to such fraudulent evasion,
is guilty of an offence.
- (2) A person guilty of an offence under subsection (1) above is liable—
(a) on summary conviction, to a penalty of the statutory maximum or, if greater, treble the amount of the duty evaded or sought to be evaded or to imprisonment for a term not exceeding six months, or to both, or
(b) on conviction on indictment, to a penalty of any amount or to imprisonment for a term not exceeding seven years, or to both.
- (3) A person who in connection with lottery duty—
(a) makes a statement that he knows to be false in a material particular or recklessly makes a statement that is false in a material particular, or
(b) with intent to deceive, produces or makes use of a book, account, return or other document that is false in a material particular,
is guilty of an offence.

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- (4) A person guilty of an offence under subsection (3) above is liable—
- (a) on summary conviction, to a penalty of the statutory maximum or to imprisonment for a term not exceeding six months, or to both, or
 - (b) on conviction on indictment, to a penalty of any amount or to imprisonment for a term not exceeding two years, or to both.

32 Offences by bodies corporate.

Where an offence under this Chapter is committed by a body corporate, every person who at the date of the commission of the offence is a director, manager, secretary or other similar officer of the body corporate (or is purporting to act in such a capacity) is also guilty of the offence unless—

- (a) the offence is committed without his consent or connivance, and
- (b) he has exercised all such diligence to prevent its commission as he ought to have exercised, having regard to the nature of his functions in that capacity and to all the circumstances.

33 Forfeiture.

- (1) Where a person has committed an offence under section 31(1) or (3) above, any goods used in the promotion of, or in any other way related to, a relevant lottery are liable to forfeiture.
- (2) In subsection (1) above “relevant lottery”—
 - (a) in relation to an offence under section 31(1) above, means a lottery in respect of which lottery duty was fraudulently evaded or (as the case may be) in respect of which the fraudulent evasion of lottery duty was sought, and
 - (b) in relation to an offence under section 31(3) above, means a lottery to which the false statement or (as the case may be) false document related.

34 Protection of officers etc.

Where a person takes an action in pursuance of instructions of the Commissioners given in connection with the enforcement of this Chapter or of regulations under it and, apart from this section, the person would in taking that action be committing an offence under any enactment relating to lotteries, he shall not be guilty of that offence.

35 Evidence by certificate etc.

- (1) A certificate of the Commissioners—
 - (a) that a person was or was not, at any date, registered under section 29 above,
 - (b) that any return required by regulations under this Chapter had not been made at any date, or
 - (c) that any lottery duty shown as due in a return made in pursuance of such regulations or in an estimate made under section 116A of the ^{M6}Customs and Excise Management Act 1979 had not been paid at any date,
 is sufficient evidence of that fact until the contrary is proved.

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- (2) A photograph of any document furnished to the Commissioners for the purposes of this Chapter and certified by them to be such a photograph is admissible in any proceedings, whether civil or criminal, to the same extent as the document itself.
- (3) Any document purporting to be a certificate under subsection (1) or (2) above shall be taken to be such a certificate until the contrary is proved.

Marginal Citations

M6 1979 c. 2.

36 Duty a preferential debt in insolvency.

- (1) In section 386(1) of the ^{M7}Insolvency Act 1986 (preferential debts) after “beer duty” there shall be inserted “, lottery duty”.
- (2) In Schedule 6 to that Act (categories of preferential debts) in Category 2 (debts due to Customs and Excise) after paragraph 5A there shall be inserted—

“5B Any amount which is due by way of lottery duty from the debtor at the relevant date and which became due within the period of 12 months next before that date.”

- (3) In Schedule 3 to the ^{M8}Bankruptcy (Scotland) Act 1985 (list of preferred debts) at the end of paragraph 2 (debts due to Customs and Excise) there shall be added—

“(5) Any amount which is due by way of lottery duty from the debtor at the relevant date and which became due within the period of 12 months next before that date.”

- (4) In Article 346(1) of the ^{M9}Insolvency (Northern Ireland) Order 1989 (preferential debts) after “beer duty” there shall be inserted “, lottery duty”.
- (5) In Schedule 4 to that Order (categories of preferential debts) in Category 2 (debts due to Customs and Excise) after paragraph 5A there shall be inserted—

“5B Any amount which is due by way of lottery duty from the debtor at the relevant date and which became due within the period of 12 months next before that date.”

Marginal Citations

M7 1986 c. 45.

M8 1985 c. 66.

M9 S.I. 1989/2405 (N.I.19).

37 Disclosure of information.

- (1) Notwithstanding any obligation not to disclose information that would otherwise apply, the Commissioners may disclose information—

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- (a) to the Secretary of State,
 - (b) to the Gaming Board for Great Britain, or
 - (c) to an authorised officer of the Secretary of State or Gaming Board,
- for the purpose of assisting the Secretary of State or Gaming Board (as the case may be) in the performance of duties imposed by or under any enactment in relation to lotteries.
- (2) Notwithstanding any such obligation as is mentioned in subsection (1) above—
- (a) the Secretary of State,
 - (b) the Gaming Board for Great Britain, or
 - (c) an authorised officer of the Secretary of State or Gaming Board,
- may disclose information to the Commissioners or to an authorised officer of the Commissioners for the purpose of assisting the Commissioners in the performance of duties in relation to lottery duty.
- (3) Information that has been disclosed to a person by virtue of this section shall not be disclosed by him except—
- (a) to another person to whom (instead of him) disclosure could by virtue of this section have been made, or
 - (b) for the purpose of any proceedings connected with the operation of any enactment in relation to lotteries or lottery duty.
- (4) References above in this section to the Secretary of State include any person who has been designated by the Secretary of State as a person to and by whom information may be disclosed under this section.
- (5) The Secretary of State shall notify the Commissioners in writing if he designates a person under subsection (4) above.

Supplementary

38 Regulations and orders.

- (1) Any regulations under this Chapter may make—
- (a) different provision for different cases or circumstances, and
 - (b) incidental, supplemental or consequential provision.
- (2) Any power to make regulations or orders under this Chapter is exercisable by statutory instrument.
- (3) Subject to subsection (4) below, a statutory instrument containing such regulations or an order under section 24(5) above is subject to annulment in pursuance of a resolution of the House of Commons.
- (4) An order under section 24(5) above that will result in lottery duty becoming chargeable in respect of any description of lottery shall not be made unless a draft of the statutory instrument containing it has been laid before, and approved by a resolution of, the House of Commons.

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39 Disapplication of pool betting duty.

In section 6 of the ^{M10}Betting and Gaming Duties Act 1981 (pool betting duty)—

(a) for subsection (3)(b) there shall be substituted—

“(b) “bet” does not include the taking of a ticket or chance in a lottery.”, and

(b) subsection (4) shall cease to have effect.

Marginal Citations

M10 1981 c. 63.

40 Interpretation etc.

(1) In this Chapter—

“the Commissioners” means the Commissioners of Customs and Excise,
“document” includes a document of any kind whatsoever and, in particular, a record kept by means of a computer,

“promotion”, in relation to a lottery, includes the conduct of the lottery (and “promoted” is to be read accordingly), and

“regulations” means regulations made by the Commissioners.

(2) This Chapter applies in relation to lotteries promoted on behalf of the Crown in pursuance of any enactment as it applies in relation to lotteries not so promoted.

(3) The imposition by this Chapter of lottery duty does not make lawful anything that is unlawful apart from this Chapter.

41 Commencement.

This Chapter shall come into force on such day as the Commissioners may by order appoint, and different days may be appointed for different provisions or for different purposes.

Subordinate Legislation Made

P1 S. 41 power fully exercised (18.11.1993): different dates appointed for specified provisions by S.I. 1993/2842, art. 3.

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