



Greater London Authority Act 1999

1999 CHAPTER 29

PART VI

POLICE AND PROBATION SERVICES

The Metropolitan Police Authority and its police force

310 Establishment, membership and duty to maintain police force.

(1) After section 5 of the ^{M1}Police Act 1996 there shall be inserted—

“ The metropolitan police force

5A Maintenance of the metropolitan police force.

A police force shall be maintained for the metropolitan police district.

5B Establishment of the Metropolitan Police Authority.

- (1) There shall be a police authority for the metropolitan police district.
- (2) The police authority established under this section shall be a body corporate to be known as the Metropolitan Police Authority.

5C Membership etc of the Metropolitan Police Authority.

- (1) The Metropolitan Police Authority shall consist of twenty three members (subject to subsection (2)).
- (2) The Secretary of State may by order provide that the number of members of the Metropolitan Police Authority shall be a specified odd number not less than seventeen.

Changes to legislation: Greater London Authority Act 1999, Part VI is up to date with all changes known to be in force on or before 25 June 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

- (3) Before making an order under subsection (2) which reduces the number of members of the Metropolitan Police Authority, the Secretary of State shall consult—
- (a) the Greater London Authority;
 - (b) the Metropolitan Police Authority; and
 - (c) the person or body responsible for the appointment of members of the Greater London Magistrates’ Courts Authority under regulations made under section 30B of the Justices of the ^{M2}Peace Act 1997 (which, by virtue of paragraph 5(b) of Schedule 2A to this Act, appoints magistrates to be members of the Metropolitan Police Authority).
- (4) An order under subsection (2) which reduces the number of members of the Metropolitan Police Authority may include provision as to the termination of the appointment of the existing members of the Metropolitan Police Authority and the making of new appointments or re-appointments.
- (5) A statutory instrument containing an order under subsection (2) shall be laid before Parliament after being made.
- (6) Schedules 2A and 3 shall have effect in relation to the Metropolitan Police Authority and the appointment of its members.

The metropolitan police and forces outside London.”

^{F1}(2)

Textual Amendments

F1 S. 310(2) repealed (1.4.2007) by [Police and Justice Act 2006 \(c. 48\)](#), s. 53(1), [Sch. 15 Pt. 1\(B\)](#); [S.I. 2007/709](#), art. 3(s)(ii) (with art. 7)

Commencement Information

II S. 310 wholly in force at 3.7.2000: by virtue of s. 425(2), s. 310 in force at Royal Assent so far as it confers any power on a Minister of the Crown to make regulations or an order; s. 310 in force for certain purposes at 1.1.2000 by [S.I. 1999/3271](#), [art. 3\(a\)](#); s. 310 in force for specified purposes on "the operative date" (as defined in [S.I. 2000/1095](#), [art. 1](#)) and in so far as not already in force at 3.7.2000 by [S.I. 2000/1095](#), [art. 4\(2\)\(a\)](#) (with arts. 5, 6)

Marginal Citations

M1 1996 c. 16.
M2 1997 c. 25.

311 Assimilation of general functions to those of other police authorities.

In section 6 of the ^{M3}Police Act 1996 (general functions of a police authority to include securing the maintenance of an efficient and effective police force for its area) after subsection (4) there shall be inserted—

“(5) This section shall apply in relation to the Metropolitan Police Authority as it applies in relation to a police authority established under section 3.”

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Marginal Citations

M3 1996 c. 16.

312 Metropolitan Police Authority to be police authority instead of Secretary of State.

- (1) Section 101 of the ^{M4}Police Act 1996 (interpretation) shall be amended as follows.
- (2) In the definition of “police authority”, in paragraph (b), for “Secretary of State” there shall be substituted “Metropolitan Police Authority”.
- (3) In the definition of “police fund”—
 - (a) in paragraph (a), after “force maintained under section 2” there shall be inserted “or the metropolitan police force”, and
 - (b) paragraph (b) shall cease to have effect.

Marginal Citations

M4 1996 c. 16.

313 Openness.

- (1) Section 100J of the ^{M5}Local Government Act 1972 (access to meetings and documents: application of Part VA to certain authorities as to principal councils) shall be amended as follows.
- (2) In subsection (1) (which lists the bodies to which the Part is applied) after paragraph (e) there shall be inserted—

“(eza) the Metropolitan Police Authority;”.
- (3) In subsection (3) (modifications of section 100A(6)(a) relating to council premises in the case of certain bodies specified in paragraphs of subsection (1)) after “(e),” there shall be inserted “(eza),”.
- (4) In subsection (4) (application of section 100G(1)(a) relating to registers of members in the ^{M6}case of certain bodies specified in subsection (1)) in paragraph (a), after “Police Act 1996” there shall be inserted “or the Metropolitan Police Authority”.

Marginal Citations

M5 1972 c. 70.

M6 1996 c. 16.

Commissioners and Commanders

314 General functions of the Commissioner.

After section 9 of the ^{M7}Police Act 1996 there shall be inserted—

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“9A General functions of the Commissioner of Police of the Metropolis.

- (1) The metropolitan police force shall be under the direction and control of the Commissioner of Police of the Metropolis appointed under section 9B.
- (2) In discharging his functions, the Commissioner of Police of the Metropolis shall have regard to the local policing plan issued by the Metropolitan Police Authority under section 8.”

Marginal Citations

M7 1996 c. 16.

315 Appointment of Commissioner.

After section 9A of the ^{M8}Police Act 1996 there shall be inserted—

“9B Appointment of Commissioner of Police of the Metropolis.

- (1) There shall be a Commissioner of Police of the Metropolis.
- (2) Any appointment of a Commissioner of Police of the Metropolis shall be made by Her Majesty by warrant under Her sign manual.
- (3) A person appointed as Commissioner of Police of the Metropolis shall hold office at Her Majesty’s pleasure.
- (4) Any appointment of a Commissioner of Police of the Metropolis shall be subject to regulations under section 50.
- (5) Before recommending to Her Majesty that She appoint a person as the Commissioner of Police of the Metropolis, the Secretary of State shall have regard to—
 - (a) any recommendations made to him by the Metropolitan Police Authority; and
 - (b) any representations made to him by the Mayor of London.
- (6) Any functions exercisable by the Mayor of London under subsection (5) may only be exercised by him personally.”

Marginal Citations

M8 1996 c. 16.

316 Functions of the Deputy Commissioner.

After section 9B of the ^{M9}Police Act 1996 there shall be inserted—

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“9C Functions of Deputy Commissioner of Police of the Metropolis.

- (1) The Deputy Commissioner of Police of the Metropolis may exercise any or all of the powers and duties of the Commissioner of Police of the Metropolis—
 - (a) during any absence, incapacity or suspension from duty of the Commissioner,
 - (b) during any vacancy in the office of the Commissioner, or
 - (c) at any other time, with the consent of the Commissioner.
- (2) The Deputy Commissioner of Police of the Metropolis shall not have power to act by virtue of subsection (1)(a) or (b) for a continuous period exceeding three months, except with the consent of the Secretary of State.
- (3) The Deputy Commissioner of Police of the Metropolis shall also have all the powers and duties of an Assistant Commissioner of Police of the Metropolis.”

Marginal Citations

M9 1996 c. 16.

317 Appointment of Deputy Commissioner.

After section 9C of the ^{M10}Police Act 1996 there shall be inserted—

“9D Appointment of Deputy Commissioner of Police of the Metropolis.

- (1) There shall be a Deputy Commissioner of Police of the Metropolis.
- (2) Any appointment of a Deputy Commissioner shall be made by Her Majesty by warrant under Her sign manual.
- (3) A person appointed as the Deputy Commissioner shall hold office at Her Majesty’s pleasure.
- (4) Any appointment of a Deputy Commissioner shall be subject to regulations under section 50.
- (5) Before recommending to Her Majesty that She appoint a person as the Deputy Commissioner, the Secretary of State shall have regard to—
 - (a) any recommendations made to him by the Metropolitan Police Authority; and
 - (b) any representations made to him by the Commissioner.
- (6) In this section—

“the Commissioner” means the Commissioner of Police of the Metropolis;

“Deputy Commissioner” means Deputy Commissioner of Police of the Metropolis.”

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Marginal Citations

M10 1996 c. 16.

318 Removal of Commissioner or Deputy Commissioner.

After section 9D of the ^{M10}Police Act 1996 there shall be inserted—

“9E Removal of Commissioner or Deputy Commissioner.

- (1) The Metropolitan Police Authority, acting with the approval of the Secretary of State, may call upon the Commissioner of Police of the Metropolis to retire in the interests of efficiency or effectiveness.
- (2) Before seeking the approval of the Secretary of State under subsection (1), the Metropolitan Police Authority shall give the Commissioner of Police of the Metropolis an opportunity to make representations and shall consider any representations that he makes.
- (3) Where the Commissioner of Police of the Metropolis is called upon to retire under subsection (1), he shall retire on such date as the Metropolitan Police Authority may specify or on such earlier date as may be agreed upon between him and the Authority.
- (4) This section shall apply in relation to the Deputy Commissioner of Police of the Metropolis as it applies to the Commissioner of Police of the Metropolis.
- (5) This section is without prejudice to—
 - (a) section 9B(3),
 - (b) section 9D(3),
 - (c) any regulations under section 50, or
 - (d) any regulations under the ^{M12}Police Pensions Act 1976.”

Marginal Citations

M11 1996 c. 16.

M12 1976 c. 35.

319 Appointment, removal and functions of Assistant Commissioners.

After section 9E of the ^{M13}Police Act 1996 there shall be inserted—

“9F Assistant Commissioners of Police of the Metropolis.

- (1) The ranks that may be held in the metropolitan police force shall include that of Assistant Commissioner of Police of the Metropolis (“Assistant Commissioner”).
- (2) Any appointment of an Assistant Commissioner shall be made by the Metropolitan Police Authority, but subject to the approval of the Secretary of State and to regulations under section 50.

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- (3) Subsections (1) to (3) of section 9E shall apply in relation to an Assistant Commissioner as they apply to the Commissioner of Police of the Metropolis.
- (4) Subsection (3) is without prejudice to—
 - (a) any regulations under section 50, or
 - (b) any regulations under the ^{M14}Police Pensions Act 1976.
- (5) An Assistant Commissioner may exercise any of the powers and duties of the Commissioner of Police of the Metropolis with the consent of the Commissioner.
- (6) Subsection (5) is without prejudice to any regulations under section 50.”

Marginal Citations

- M13** 1996 c. 16.
M14 1976 c. 35.

320 Appointment and removal of Commanders.

After section 9F of the ^{M15}Police Act 1996 there shall be inserted—

“9G Commanders.

- (1) The ranks that may be held in the metropolitan police force shall include that of Commander.
- (2) Any appointment of a Commander in the metropolitan police force shall be made by the Metropolitan Police Authority, but subject to the approval of the Secretary of State and to regulations under section 50.
- (3) Subsections (1) to (3) of section 9E shall apply in relation to a Commander in the metropolitan police force as they apply to the Commissioner of Police of the Metropolis.
- (4) Subsection (3) is without prejudice to—
 - (a) any regulations under section 50, or
 - (b) any regulations under the ^{M16}Police Pensions Act 1976.”

Marginal Citations

- M15** 1996 c. 16.
M16 1976 c. 35.

321 Continuation in post of Commissioners and Commanders.

- (1) Any appointment of a person as the Commissioner of Police of the Metropolis under section 1 of the ^{M17}Metropolitan Police Act 1829 which is in force immediately before the coming into force of section 315 above shall have effect as from the coming into force of that section as the appointment of that person as the Commissioner of Police of the Metropolis under and in accordance with section 9B of the ^{M18}Police Act 1996.

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- (2) If, immediately before the coming into force of section 317 above, there is in force in respect of a person who is one of the Assistant Commissioners of Police of the Metropolis an authorisation under section 8 of the ^{M19}Metropolitan Police Act 1856 (authorisation of one of the Assistant Commissioners to act as Commissioner in case of vacancy, illness or absence) that person shall be taken, as from the coming into force of section 317 above, to have been appointed as the Deputy Commissioner of Police of the Metropolis under and in accordance with section 9D of the ^{M20}Police Act 1996.
- (3) Any appointment of a person (other than a person in relation to whom subsection (2) above has effect) as an Assistant Commissioner of Police of the Metropolis under section 2 of the ^{M21}Metropolitan Police Act 1856 which is in force immediately before the coming into force of section 319 above shall have effect as from the coming into force of that section as the appointment of that person as an Assistant Commissioner of Police of the Metropolis under and in accordance with section 9F of the ^{M22}Police Act 1996.
- (4) Any appointment of a person as a Commander in the metropolitan police force which is in force immediately before the coming into force of section 320 above shall have effect as from the coming into force of that section as the appointment of that person as a Commander under and in accordance with section 9G of the ^{M23}Police Act 1996.

Marginal Citations

- M17** 1829 c. 44.
M18 1996 c. 16.
M19 1856 c. 2.
M20 1996 c. 16.
M21 1856 c. 2.
M22 1996 c. 16.
M23 1996 c. 16.

Other members

322 Other members of the metropolitan police force.

After section 9G of the ^{M24}Police Act 1996 there shall be inserted—

“9H Other members of the metropolitan police force.

- (1) The ranks that may be held in the metropolitan police force shall be such as may be prescribed by regulations under section 50.
- (2) The ranks so prescribed in the case of the metropolitan police force shall include, in addition to the ranks of—
- (a) Commissioner of Police of the Metropolis,
 - (b) Deputy Commissioner of Police of the Metropolis,
 - (c) Assistant Commissioner of Police of the Metropolis, and
 - (d) Commander,
- those of superintendent, chief inspector, inspector, sergeant and constable.

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- (3) In the metropolitan police force, appointments and promotions to any rank below that of Commander shall be made in accordance with regulations under section 50 by the Commissioner of Police of the Metropolis.”

Marginal Citations

M24 1996 c. 16.

The metropolitan police district

323 Alteration of the metropolitan police district.

In section 76 of the ^{M25}London Government Act 1963, for subsection (1) (which defines the metropolitan police district so as to include certain areas of Essex, Hertfordshire and Surrey) there shall be substituted—

“(1) The metropolitan police district shall consist of Greater London, excluding the City of London, the Inner Temple and the Middle Temple.”

Marginal Citations

M25 1963 c. 33.

324 Secondments to meet demands caused by the boundary change.

- (1) The Commissioner of Police of the Metropolis may, on the application of the chief officer of police of a police force maintained under section 2 of the ^{M26}Police Act 1996 for the police area of Essex, Hertfordshire or Surrey, provide for that force constables from the metropolitan police force.
- (2) An application under subsection (1) above may only be made for the purpose of, or otherwise in connection with, meeting the demands placed, or reasonably expected to be placed, on the resources of the police force in question in consequence of the change effected as a result of section 323 above in the police area for which that force is maintained.
- (3) While a constable is provided under this section for a police force, he shall be under the direction and control of the chief officer of police of that force, notwithstanding section 9A(1) of the ^{M27}Police Act 1996 (metropolitan police force to be under the direction and control of the Commissioner) or any other enactment relating to the direction or control of the metropolitan police force.
- (4) The police authority maintaining a police force for which constables are provided under this section shall pay to the police authority maintaining the metropolitan police force such contribution as may be agreed upon between those authorities or, in the absence of any such agreement, as may be provided by any agreement subsisting at the time between all police authorities generally, or, in the absence of such general agreement, as may be determined by the Secretary of State.
- (5) This section is without prejudice to any other power of a chief officer of police to provide constables or other assistance to another police force.

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- (6) Expressions used in this section and in the ^{M28}Police Act 1996 have the same meaning in this section as they have in that Act.

Marginal Citations

- M26** 1996 c. 16.
M27 1996 c. 16.
M28 1996 c. 16.

Miscellaneous police amendments

325 Further amendments relating to metropolitan police etc.

Schedule 27 to this Act (which makes further amendments relating to the metropolitan police etc) shall have effect.

Commencement Information

- I2** S. 325 partly in force; s. 325 not in force at Royal Assent see s. 425(2); s. 325 in force for specified purposes at 1.1.2000 and 1.4.2000 by [S.I. 1999/3271](#), [art. 3\(b\)](#), [4\(b\)](#) and in force for specified purposes (3.7.2000) by [S.I. 2000/1648](#), [art. 2](#), [Sch.](#)

The probation service

^{F2}**326**

Textual Amendments

- F2** S. 326 repealed (1.4.2001) by [2000 c. 43](#), s. 75, [Sch. 8](#); [S.I. 2001/919](#), [art. 2\(g\)](#), table

The Receiver for the Metropolitan Police District

327 Abolition of office of Receiver.

- (1) When the Secretary of State is satisfied that—
- (a) provision has been made such that no statutory functions remain, or are to remain, exercisable by the Receiver (whether as a consequence of provision made by or under this Act, the ^{M29}Access to Justice Act 1999 or any other enactment whenever passed), and
 - (b) provision has been made for the transfer of all property, rights and liabilities of the Receiver (whether under Part XII below or by or under the Access to Justice Act 1999 or any other enactment whenever passed),
- the Secretary of State may by order provide for the abolition of the office of the Receiver.

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(2) In subsection (1) above references to the Receiver are references to the Receiver for the Metropolitan Police District.

Commencement Information

I3 S.327 partly in force: s.327 in force at Royal Assent (11.11.1999) for certain purposes, see s.425(2)

Marginal Citations

M29 1999 c. 22.

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. 334(2A)-(2E) substituted for s. 334(2)-(6) by [2023 c. 55 s. 95\(2\)](#)
- s. 334(9)-(11) inserted by [2023 c. 55 s. 95\(3\)](#)
- s. 337(1A) inserted by [2023 c. 55 s. 96\(1\)\(c\)](#)
- s. 337(2)(ca) inserted by [2023 c. 55 Sch. 6 para. 15](#)
- Sch. 23 para. 1(3A) inserted by [2023 c. 55 s. 244\(2\)](#)
- Sch. 23 para. 3A3B and cross-heading inserted by [2023 c. 55 s. 244\(3\)](#)
- Sch. 23 para. 4(2A)(2B) inserted by [2023 c. 55 s. 244\(4\)](#)
- Sch. 23 para. 4A and cross-heading inserted by [2023 c. 55 s. 244\(6\)](#)