



# Prison Act 1952

1952 CHAPTER 52 15 and 16 Geo 6 and 1 Eliz 2

## *Confinement and treatment of prisoners*

### 19 Right of justice to visit prison. **E+W**

- (1) A justice of the peace for [<sup>F1</sup>assigned to any local justice area] . . . <sup>F2</sup> may at any time visit any prison in that [<sup>F3</sup>area] . . . <sup>F2</sup> and any prison in which a prisoner is confined in respect of an offence committed in that [<sup>F3</sup>area] . . . <sup>F2</sup> and may examine the condition of the prison and of the prisoners and enter in the visitors' book, to be kept by the governor of the prison, any observations on the condition of the prison or any abuses.
- (2) Nothing in the preceding subsection shall authorise a justice of the peace to communicate with any prisoner except on the subject of his treatment in the prison,  
<sup>F4</sup> . . .
- (3) The governor of every prison shall bring any entry in the visitors' book to the attention of the [<sup>F5</sup>independent monitoring board] at their next visit.

#### Textual Amendments

- F1** Words in s. 19(1) substituted (1.4.2005) by [Courts Act 2003 \(c. 39\), s. 110\(1\), Sch. 8 para. 94\(2\)](#); S.I. 2005/910, art. 3(y)
- F2** Words repealed by [Local Government Act 1972 \(c. 70\), Sch. 30](#)
- F3** Words in s. 19(1) substituted (27.9.1999) by 1999 c. 22, ss. 76(2), 108(3)(c), [Sch. 10 para. 21\(a\)\(b\)](#) (with [Sch. 14 para. 7\(2\)](#))
- F4** Words in s. 19(2) repealed (1.4.2005) by [Courts Act 2003 \(c. 39\), s. 110\(1\), Sch. 8 para. 94\(3\), Sch. 10](#); S.I. 2005/910, art. 3(y)
- F5** Words in s. 19(3) substituted (1.11.2007) by [Offender Management Act 2007 \(c. 21\), s. 41\(1\), Sch. 3 para. 6](#); S.I. 2007/3001, art. 2(1)(r)

#### Modifications etc. (not altering text)

- C1** S. 19(1)(3) modified (31.10.1991) by [Criminal Justice Act 1991 \(c. 53, SIF 39:1\), s. 87\(4\)](#); S.I. 1991/2208, art. 2(4), [Sch. 3](#)
- S. 19(1) modified (1.4.1996) by S.I. 1996/674, reg. 2, [Sch. Pt. II para. 5\(2\)\(l\)](#)

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**Changes to legislation:** Prison Act 1952, Section 19 is up to date with all changes known to be in force on or before 12 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](#)

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S. 19(1) modified (1.4.1996) by S.I. 1996/675, art. 2, **Sch. Pt. II para. 7(2)(I)**

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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. 47(1A) inserted by [2012 c. 10 s. 129\(2\)](#)
- s. 47(1A) modified (temp.) by [2012 c. 10 s. 129\(10\)](#)
- s. 47(1A) modified (temp.) by [2012 c. 10 s. 129\(11\)\(a\)](#)
- s. 47(1A)(a) words inserted by [2015 c. 2 Sch. 9 para. 3\(3\)](#)
- s. 47(6) inserted by [2012 c. 10 s. 129\(3\)](#)
- s. 47A inserted by [2012 c. 10 s. 129\(4\)](#)
- s. 47A modified (temp.) by [2012 c. 10 s. 129\(11\)\(b\)](#)
- s. 55(4A) repealed by [2006 c. 13 s. 46\(2\)\(a\)Sch. 3](#)