



Explosives Act 1875

1875 CHAPTER 17 38 and 39 Vict

PART I.—LAW RELATING TO GUNPOWDER

Sale of Gunpowder

31 Penalty for sale of gunpowder to children.

[^{F1}(1)] Gunpowder shall not be sold to [^{F2}any person apparently under the age of sixteen] years; and any person selling gunpowder in contravention of this section [^{F3}shall be guilty of an offence and liable on summary conviction to a fine not exceeding level 5 on the standard scale]

[^{F4}(2) Subsection (1) does not apply to—

- (a) pyrotechnic articles within the meaning set out in regulation 3 of the Pyrotechnic Articles (Safety) Regulations 2015; or
- (b) percussion caps intended specifically for toys within the meaning set out in regulation 4(2) of the Toys (Safety) Regulations 2011 ([S.I. 2011/1881](#)).]

Textual Amendments

- F1** S. 31(1): s. 31 renumbered as s. 31(1) (4.7.2010) by [The Pyrotechnic Articles \(Safety\) Regulations 2010 \(S.I. 2010/1554\)](#), regs. 1(1), **49(1)**
- F2** Words substituted by [Explosives \(Age of Purchase etc.\) Act 1976 \(c. 19\)](#), **s. 10(1)**
- F3** Words substituted by [Consumer Protection Act 1987 \(c. 43, SIF 109:1\)](#), ss. 41(2), 47(1)(2), 48, **Sch. 4 para. 1**
- F4** S. 31(2) substituted for s. 31(2)-(5) (17.8.2015) by [The Pyrotechnic Articles \(Safety\) Regulations 2015 \(S.I. 2015/1553\)](#), **regs. 1, 75(3)** (with [reg. 75\(4\)](#))

Changes to legislation:

Explosives Act 1875, Section 31 is up to date with all changes known to be in force on or before 07 July 2023. 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 :

- s. 30-32 repealed by [2003 c. 22 Sch.](#)