WELSH STATUTORY INSTRUMENTS

2020 No. 1609

The Health Protection (Coronavirus Restrictions) (No. 5) (Wales) Regulations 2020

PART 8

Offences and penalties

CHAPTER 1

Offences

Offences relating to gatherings and being away from home

37.—(1) A person who contravenes a requirement in—

- (a) paragraph $[^{F1}2(1)]$ of Schedule 1,
- (b) paragraph $[{}^{F2}2(1) {}^{F3}...]$ or (3) of Schedule 2,
- (c) paragraph 1(1) [^{F4}2(1) or 3(1)] of Schedule 3, or
- (d) paragraph 1(1) or 2(1) of Schedule 4,

commits an offence.

 $F^{5}(2)$

Textual Amendments

- F1 Words in reg. 37(1)(a) substituted (26.12.2021 at 6.00 a.m.) by The Health Protection (Coronavirus Restrictions) (No. 5) (Wales) (Amendment) (No. 25) Regulations 2021 (S.I. 2021/1485), regs. 1(2), 2(7)(a)(i)
- F2 Words in reg. 37(1)(b) substituted (26.12.2021 at 6.00 a.m.) by The Health Protection (Coronavirus Restrictions) (No. 5) (Wales) (Amendment) (No. 25) Regulations 2021 (S.I. 2021/1485), regs. 1(2), 2(7)(a)(ii)
- F3 Word in reg. 37(1)(b) omitted (21.1.2022 at 6.00 a.m.) by virtue of The Health Protection (Coronavirus Restrictions) (No. 5) (Wales) (Amendment) (No. 2) Regulations 2022 (S.I. 2022/55), regs. 1(2), 2(4) (a)
- F4 Words in reg. 37(1)(c) substituted (26.4.2021 immediately before the start of the day) by The Health Protection (Coronavirus Restrictions) (No. 5) (Wales) (Amendment) (No. 8) Regulations 2021 (S.I. 2021/502), regs. 1(2), 2(8)
- F5 Reg. 37(2) omitted (28.1.2022 at 6.00 a.m.) by The Health Protection (Coronavirus Restrictions) (No. 5) (Wales) (Amendment) (No. 4) Regulations 2022 (S.I. 2022/83), regs. 1(2), **2(8)**

Commencement Information

II Reg. 37 in force at 20.12.2020, see reg. 1(3)

Travel restriction offences

Textual Amendments

F6

Reg. 38 omitted (17.5.2021 at 6.00 a.m.) by virtue of The Health Protection (Coronavirus Restrictions) (No. 5) (Wales) (Amendment) (No. 10) Regulations 2021 (S.I. 2021/583), regs. 1(2), **2(7)**

Offences relating to organising events

39.—(1) A person who contravenes a requirement in—

- (a) paragraph 4 of Schedule 1,
- (b) paragraph 4 of Schedule 2,
- (c) [^{F7}paragraph 5] of Schedule 3, or
- (d) paragraph 4 of Schedule 4,

commits an offence.

Textual Amendments

- F7 Words in reg. 39(1)(c) substituted (26.4.2021 immediately before the start of the day) by The Health Protection (Coronavirus Restrictions) (No. 5) (Wales) (Amendment) (No. 8) Regulations 2021 (S.I. 2021/502), regs. 1(2), 2(9)
- F8 Reg. 39(2) omitted (28.3.2022) by virtue of The Health Protection (Coronavirus Restrictions) (No. 5) (Wales) (Amendment) (No. 8) Regulations 2022 (S.I. 2022/388), regs. 1(2), 2(13) (with reg. 3)
- F9 Reg. 39(3) omitted (28.3.2022) by virtue of The Health Protection (Coronavirus Restrictions) (No. 5) (Wales) (Amendment) (No. 8) Regulations 2022 (S.I. 2022/388), regs. 1(2), 2(13) (with reg. 3)

Commencement Information

I2 Reg. 39 in force at 20.12.2020, see reg. 1(3)

Offences relating to isolation requirements and contact tracing

^{F10}40.

Textual Amendments

F10 Reg. 40 omitted (28.3.2022) by virtue of The Health Protection (Coronavirus Restrictions) (No. 5) (Wales) (Amendment) (No. 8) Regulations 2022 (S.I. 2022/388), regs. 1(2), 2(14) (with reg. 3)

Offence of possessing false or misleading evidence relating to vaccination or coronavirus test results

^{F11}40A.

Textual Amendments

F11 Reg. 40A omitted (18.2.2022) by virtue of The Health Protection (Coronavirus Restrictions) (No. 5) (Wales) (Amendment) (No. 5) Regulations 2022 (S.I. 2022/142), regs. 1(2), 2(11)

Offence of failing to wear a face covering

41. A person who contravenes the requirement in regulation F12 ... 20(1) commits an offence.

Textual Amendments

F12 Words in reg. 41 omitted (28.3.2022) by virtue of The Health Protection (Coronavirus Restrictions) (No. 5) (Wales) (Amendment) (No. 8) Regulations 2022 (S.I. 2022/388), regs. 1(2), 2(15) (with reg. 3)

Commencement Information

I3 Reg. 41 in force at 20.12.2020, see reg. 1(3)

Offences relating to businesses and services

42.—(1) A person who, without reasonable excuse, contravenes a requirement in—

- (a) $[^{F13}$ paragraph 7(1)] of Schedule 1,
- (b) [^{F14}paragraph 7(1)] of Schedule 2,
- (c) paragraphs 7(1), 8(1) or $[^{F15}9(1)]$ of Schedule 3, or
- (d) paragraphs 7(1), 8(1), 9(1) [^{F16}, 10(1) or 11(3)] of Schedule 4,

commits an offence.

$^{17}(2)$			•	•	•													•	
¹¹⁸ (3)																			
¹⁸ (4)																			
¹¹⁸ (5)		•	•					•						•				•	

Textual Amendments

- **F13** Words in reg. 42(1)(a) substituted (26.4.2021 immediately before the start of the day) by The Health Protection (Coronavirus Restrictions) (No. 5) (Wales) (Amendment) (No. 8) Regulations 2021 (S.I. 2021/502), regs. 1(2), **2(10)(a)**
- F14 Words in reg. 42(1)(b) substituted (26.4.2021 immediately before the start of the day) by The Health Protection (Coronavirus Restrictions) (No. 5) (Wales) (Amendment) (No. 8) Regulations 2021 (S.I. 2021/502), regs. 1(2), 2(10)(b)
- F15 Word in reg. 42(1)(c) substituted (26.4.2021 immediately before the start of the day) by The Health Protection (Coronavirus Restrictions) (No. 5) (Wales) (Amendment) (No. 8) Regulations 2021 (S.I. 2021/502), regs. 1(2), 2(10)(c)
- F16 Words in reg. 42(1)(d) substituted (22.12.2020 at 12.01 a.m.) by The Health Protection (Coronavirus Restrictions) (No. 5) (Wales) (Amendment) (No. 2) Regulations 2020 (S.I. 2020/1623), regs. 1(2), 2(4)
- F17 Reg. 42(2) omitted (28.3.2022) by virtue of The Health Protection (Coronavirus Restrictions) (No. 5) (Wales) (Amendment) (No. 8) Regulations 2022 (S.I. 2022/388), regs. 1(2), 2(16) (with reg. 3)
- **F18** Reg. 42(3)-(5) omitted (18.4.2022) by virtue of The Health Protection (Coronavirus Restrictions) (No. 5) (Wales) (Amendment) (No. 9) Regulations 2022 (S.I. 2022/450), regs. 1(2), **2(7)**

Commencement Information

I4 Reg. 42 in force at 20.12.2020, see reg. 1(3)

Offence of failing to work from home where reasonably practicable to do so

Textual Amendments

F19 Reg. 42A omitted (28.1.2022 at 6.00 a.m.) by The Health Protection (Coronavirus Restrictions) (No. 5) (Wales) (Amendment) (No. 4) Regulations 2022 (S.I. 2022/83), regs. 1(2), 2(9)

Obstruction and contravention of directions and compliance notices

43.—(1) A person who obstructs, without reasonable excuse, any person carrying out a function under these Regulations commits an offence.

- (2) A person who, without reasonable excuse—
 - (a) contravenes a direction given-

(i) by an enforcement officer under Part 7, or

- ^{F20}(ii)
- (b) fails to comply with a compliance notice given by an enforcement officer under regulation 27(1),

commits an offence.

Textual Amendments

F20 Reg. 43(2)(a)(ii) omitted (28.3.2022) by virtue of The Health Protection (Coronavirus Restrictions) (No. 5) (Wales) (Amendment) (No. 8) Regulations 2022 (S.I. 2022/388), regs. 1(2), 2(17) (with reg. 3)

Commencement Information

I5 Reg. 43 in force at 20.12.2020, see reg. 1(3)

Penalty

44. An offence under these Regulations is punishable on summary conviction by a fine.

Commencement Information

I6 Reg. 44 in force at 20.12.2020, see reg. 1(3)

Arrest without warrant

45. Section 24 of the Police and Criminal Evidence Act 1984^{MI} applies in relation to an offence under these Regulations as if the reasons in subsection (5) included—

- (a) to maintain public health;
- (b) to maintain public order.

Commencement Information

I7 Reg. 45 in force at 20.12.2020, see reg. 1(3)

Marginal Citations

M1 1984 c. 60. Section 24 was substituted by section 110(1) of the Serious Organised Crime and Police Act 2005 (c. 15).

Offences committed by bodies corporate etc.

46.—(1) If an offence under these Regulations committed by a body corporate is proved—

- (a) to have been committed with the consent or connivance of an officer of the body, or
- (b) to be attributable to any neglect on the part of such an officer,

the officer (as well as the body corporate) is guilty of the offence and liable to be prosecuted and proceeded against and punished accordingly.

(2) In paragraph (1), "officer", in relation to a body corporate, means a director, manager, secretary or other similar officer of the body corporate.

(3) Proceedings for an offence under these Regulations alleged to have been committed by a partnership may be brought in the name of the partnership instead of in the name of any of the partners.

(4) Proceedings for an offence under these Regulations alleged to have been committed by an unincorporated body other than a partnership may be brought in the name of the body instead of in the name of any of its members and, for the purposes of any such proceedings, any rules of court relating to the service of documents have effect as if that body were a body corporate.

(5) Section 33 of the Criminal Justice Act 1925 ^{M2} and Schedule 3 to the Magistrates' Courts Act 1980 ^{M3} apply in proceedings for an offence brought against a partnership or an unincorporated body other than a partnership as they apply in relation to a body corporate.

(6) A fine imposed on a partnership on its conviction for an offence under these Regulations is to be paid out of the partnership assets.

(7) A fine imposed on an unincorporated body other than a partnership on its conviction for an offence under these Regulations is to be paid out of the funds of the body.

Commencement InformationI8Reg. 46 in force at 20.12.2020, see reg. 1(3)

Marginal Citations M2 1925 c. 86.

M3 1980 c. 43.

CHAPTER 2

Fixed penalties

Fixed penalty notices

47.—(1) An enforcement officer may issue a fixed penalty notice to a person the officer reasonably believes—

- (a) has committed an offence under these Regulations, and
- (b) is aged 18 or over.

(2) A fixed penalty notice is a notice offering the person to whom it is issued the opportunity of discharging any liability to conviction for the offence by payment of a fixed penalty to—

- (a) a local authority, or
- (b) a person designated by the Welsh Ministers for the purposes of receiving payment under this regulation,

as the notice may specify.

- (3) The Welsh Ministers may designate themselves under paragraph (2)(b).
- (4) A person designated by the Welsh Ministers for the purposes of receiving payment under-
 - (a) regulation 13 of the Health Protection (Coronavirus Restrictions) (Wales) Regulations 2020,
 - (b) regulation 21 of the Health Protection (Coronavirus Restrictions) (No. 2) (Wales) Regulations 2020,
 - (c) regulation 31 of the Health Protection (Coronavirus Restrictions) (No. 3) (Wales) Regulations 2020, or
 - (d) regulation 37 of the Health Protection (Coronavirus Restrictions) (No. 4) (Wales) Regulations 2020

is to be treated as if designated for the purposes of receiving payment under this regulation.

(5) Where a local authority is specified in the notice it must be the authority (or as the case may be, one of the authorities) in whose area the offence is alleged to have been committed.

- (6) Where a person is issued with a notice under this regulation in respect of an offence—
 - (a) no proceedings may be taken for the offence before the end of the period of 28 days following the date the notice is issued;
 - (b) the person may not be convicted of the offence if the person pays the fixed penalty before the end of that period.

Commencement Information

I9 Reg. 47 in force at 20.12.2020, see reg. 1(3)

Amount of fixed penalty: general

48.—(1) Unless regulation [F21 50 or 52] applies, the amount of a fixed penalty is—

- (a) £60, or
- (b) if $\pounds 30$ is paid before the end of the period of 14 days following the date of the notice, $\pounds 30$.

(2) But if the person to whom such a fixed penalty notice is issued has already received a relevant fixed penalty notice—

- (a) paragraph (1) does not apply, and
- (b) the amount specified as the fixed penalty is—
 - (i) in the case of the second relevant fixed penalty notice received, £120;
 - (ii) in the case of the third relevant fixed penalty notice received, £240;
 - (iii) in the case of the fourth relevant fixed penalty notice received, £480;
 - (iv) in the case of the fifth relevant fixed penalty notice received, £960;

- (v) in the case of the sixth and any subsequent relevant fixed penalty notice received, £1,920.
- (3) In paragraph (2), "relevant fixed penalty notice" means—
 - (a) a fixed penalty notice where the amount of fixed penalty is determined under this regulation;
 - (b) a fixed penalty notice under—
 - (i) the Health Protection (Coronavirus Restrictions) (Wales) Regulations 2020,
 - (ii) the Health Protection (Coronavirus Restrictions) (No. 2) (Wales) Regulations 2020 other than a notice to which regulation 21(7A) of those Regulations applies,
 - (iii) the Health Protection (Coronavirus Restrictions) (No. 3) (Wales) Regulations 2020 other than a notice to which regulation 31(8) of those Regulations applies,
 - (iv) the Health Protection (Coronavirus Restrictions) (No. 4) (Wales) Regulations 2020 other than a notice to which regulation 39, 40, 41 or 42 of those Regulations applies,
 - (v) the Health Protection (Coronavirus Restrictions) (Functions of Local Authorities etc.) (Wales) Regulations 2020^{M4}.

Textual Amendments

F21 Words in reg. 48(1) substituted (28.3.2022) by The Health Protection (Coronavirus Restrictions) (No. 5) (Wales) (Amendment) (No. 8) Regulations 2022 (S.I. 2022/388), regs. 1(2), 2(18) (with reg. 3)

Commencement Information

I10 Reg. 48 in force at 20.12.2020, see reg. 1(3)

Marginal Citations

M4 S.I. 2020/1011 (W. 225).

Amount of fixed penalty: participating in a large gathering at a private dwelling

Textual Amendments

F22 Reg. 49 omitted (28.3.2022) by virtue of The Health Protection (Coronavirus Restrictions) (No. 5) (Wales) (Amendment) (No. 8) Regulations 2022 (S.I. 2022/388), regs. 1(2), 2(19) (with reg. 3)

Amount of fixed penalty: international travel requirements

Textual Amendments

F23 Reg. 49A omitted (17.5.2021 at 6.00 a.m.) by virtue of The Health Protection (Coronavirus Restrictions) (No. 5) (Wales) (Amendment) (No. 10) Regulations 2021 (S.I. 2021/583), regs. 1(2), 2(9)

Amount of fixed penalty: organising an event

50.—(1) Where a fixed penalty notice is issued in respect of an alleged offence under regulation 39(1), the amount of the fixed penalty is £500.

(2) But if the person to whom a fixed penalty notice is issued in respect of such an alleged offence has already received a relevant fixed penalty notice—

- (a) paragraph (1) does not apply, and
- (b) the amount of the fixed penalty is-
 - (i) in the case of the second such fixed penalty notice received, £1,000;
 - (ii) in the case of the third such fixed penalty notice received, £2,000;
 - (iii) in the case of the fourth and any subsequent such fixed penalty notice received, £4,000.

(3) In paragraph (2), "relevant fixed penalty notice" means-

- (a) a fixed penalty notice where the amount of fixed penalty is determined under this regulation;
- (b) a fixed penalty notice under the Health Protection (Coronavirus Restrictions) (No. 4) (Wales) Regulations 2020 to which regulation 40 of those Regulations applies.

Commencement Information

II1 Reg. 50 in force at 20.12.2020, see reg. 1(3)

Amount of fixed penalty: organising an unlicensed music event

Textual Amendments

F24 Reg. 51 omitted (28.3.2022) by virtue of The Health Protection (Coronavirus Restrictions) (No. 5) (Wales) (Amendment) (No. 8) Regulations 2022 (S.I. 2022/388), regs. 1(2), 2(20) (with reg. 3)

Amount of fixed penalty: business-related offences

52.—(1) This regulation applies to a fixed penalty notice issued in respect of an alleged offence under regulation $42(1)^{F25}$... ^{F26}... (an "alleged business offence").

(2) Where a fixed penalty notice is issued in respect of an alleged business offence, the amount of the fixed penalty is $\pounds 1,000$.

(3) But if the person to whom a fixed penalty notice is issued in respect of an alleged business offence has already received a relevant fixed penalty notice—

- (a) paragraph (2) does not apply, and
- (b) the amount of the fixed penalty is—
 - (i) in the case of the second such fixed penalty notice received, £2,000;
 - (ii) in the case of the third such fixed penalty notice received, £4,000;
 - (iii) in the case of the fourth and any subsequent such fixed penalty notice received, £10,000.
- (4) In paragraph (3), "relevant fixed penalty notice" means—

- (a) a fixed penalty notice issued in respect of an alleged business offence;
- (b) a fixed penalty notice under the Health Protection (Coronavirus Restrictions) (No. 4) (Wales) Regulations 2020 to which regulation 42 of those Regulations applies.

Textual Amendments

- F25 Word in reg. 52(1) omitted (28.3.2022) by virtue of The Health Protection (Coronavirus Restrictions) (No. 5) (Wales) (Amendment) (No. 8) Regulations 2022 (S.I. 2022/388), regs. 1(2), 2(21) (with reg. 3)
- **F26** Words in reg. 52(1) omitted (18.4.2022) by virtue of The Health Protection (Coronavirus Restrictions) (No. 5) (Wales) (Amendment) (No. 9) Regulations 2022 (S.I. 2022/450), regs. 1(2), **2(8)**

Commencement Information

I12 Reg. 52 in force at 20.12.2020, see reg. 1(3)

Fixed penalties: form and procedure

53.—(1) A fixed penalty notice must—

- (a) give reasonably detailed particulars of the circumstances alleged to constitute the offence;
- (b) state the period during which (because of regulation 47(6)(a)) proceedings will not be taken for the offence;
- (c) specify the amount of the fixed penalty determined under regulation 48 ^{F27}..., ^{F28}... 50 ^{F27}... or 52 (as the case may be);
- (d) state the name and address of the person to whom the fixed penalty may be paid;
- (e) specify permissible methods of payment.

(2) Whatever other method may be specified under paragraph (1)(e), payment of a fixed penalty may be made by pre-paying and posting to the person whose name is stated under paragraph (1)(d), at the stated address, a letter containing the amount of the penalty (in cash or otherwise).

(3) Where a letter is sent as mentioned in paragraph (2), payment is regarded as having been made at the time at which that letter would be delivered in the ordinary course of post.

- (4) In any proceedings, a certificate—
 - (a) that purports to be signed by or on behalf of the person with responsibility for the financial affairs of—
 - (i) the local authority, or
 - (ii) the person designated under regulation 47(2)(b),

specified in the fixed penalty notice to which the proceedings relate, and

(b) which states that the payment of a fixed penalty was, or was not, received by the date specified in the certificate,

is evidence of the facts stated.

Textual Amendments

- F27 Words in reg. 53(1)(c) omitted (28.3.2022) by virtue of The Health Protection (Coronavirus Restrictions) (No. 5) (Wales) (Amendment) (No. 8) Regulations 2022 (S.I. 2022/388), regs. 1(2), 2(22) (with reg. 3)
- F28 Word in reg. 53(1)(c) omitted (17.5.2021 at 6.00 a.m.) by virtue of The Health Protection (Coronavirus Restrictions) (No. 5) (Wales) (Amendment) (No. 10) Regulations 2021 (S.I. 2021/583), regs. 1(2), 2(10)

Commencement Information

I13 Reg. 53 in force at 20.12.2020, see reg. 1(3)

Fixed penalty notices: prohibition of double jeopardy

54.—(1) Where the same, or largely the same, act or omission by a person may give rise to a reasonable belief that the person has committed more than one offence under these Regulations, a fixed penalty notice may be issued to the person only in respect of one of the alleged offences.

^{F29}(2)

Textual Amendments

F29 Reg. 54(2) omitted (28.3.2022) by virtue of The Health Protection (Coronavirus Restrictions) (No. 5) (Wales) (Amendment) (No. 8) Regulations 2022 (S.I. 2022/388), regs. 1(2), 2(23) (with reg. 3)

Commencement Information

I14 Reg. 54 in force at 20.12.2020, see reg. 1(3)

CHAPTER 3

Proceedings

Self-incrimination

55.—(1) Relevant information may be used in evidence against the person to whom the information relates in criminal proceedings.

(2) Where the information is used in proceedings other than for an offence under these Regulations or section 5 of the Perjury Act 1911 M5 (false statements made otherwise than on oath)—

- (a) no evidence relating to the information may be adduced by or on behalf of the prosecution, and
- (b) no question relating to the information may be asked by or on behalf of the prosecution.
- (3) Paragraph (2) does not apply if, in the proceedings-
 - (a) evidence relating to the information is adduced by or on behalf of the person who provided it, or
 - (b) a question relating to the information is asked by or on behalf of that person.
- (4) In this regulation, "relevant information" means-
 - (a) information which is relevant information for the purposes of regulation 14;
 - (b) information, or the answer to a question, given in response to a requirement imposed under regulation 36(1);
 - (c) anything contained in a document or electronic records produced in response to a requirement imposed under paragraph 8(1) of Schedule 8.

Commencement Information

I15 Reg. 55 in force at 20.12.2020, see reg. 1(3)

Marginal Citations

M5 1911 c. 6. Section 5 was amended by section 1(2) of the Criminal Justice Act 1948 (c. 58).

Prosecutions

56.—(1) No proceedings for an offence under these Regulations may be brought other than by—

- (a) the Director of Public Prosecutions,
- (b) any person designated by the Welsh Ministers, or
- (c) in relation to proceedings for [^{F30}an offence mentioned in paragraph (1A)], a local authority.

 $[^{F31}(1A)$ The offences referred to in paragraph (1)(c) are—

- (a) an offence under regulation 42^{F32} ...;
- (b) an offence under regulation 43(1) where the person carrying out a function under these Regulations is an enforcement officer designated by a local authority;
- (c) an offence under regulation 43(2)(a)(i) or (b) where the enforcement officer giving the direction or compliance notice is a person designated by a local authority.]
- (2) A person designated by the Welsh Ministers under-
 - (a) regulation 14 of the Health Protection (Coronavirus Restrictions) (Wales) Regulations 2020,
 - (b) regulation 22 of the Health Protection (Coronavirus Restrictions) (No. 2) (Wales) Regulations 2020,
 - (c) regulation 32 of the Health Protection (Coronavirus Restrictions) (No. 3) (Wales) Regulations 2020, or
 - (d) regulation 46 of the Health Protection (Coronavirus Restrictions) (No. 4) (Wales) Regulations 2020,

is to be treated as if designated under this regulation.

Textual Amendments

- **F30** Words in reg. 56(1)(c) substituted (26.4.2021 immediately before the start of the day) by The Health Protection (Coronavirus Restrictions) (No. 5) (Wales) (Amendment) (No. 8) Regulations 2021 (S.I. 2021/502), regs. 1(2), **2(11)(a)**
- **F31** Reg. 56(1A) inserted (26.4.2021 immediately before the start of the day) by The Health Protection (Coronavirus Restrictions) (No. 5) (Wales) (Amendment) (No. 8) Regulations 2021 (S.I. 2021/502), regs. 1(2), **2(11)(b)**
- F32 Words in reg. 56(1A)(a) omitted (28.3.2022) by virtue of The Health Protection (Coronavirus Restrictions) (No. 5) (Wales) (Amendment) (No. 8) Regulations 2022 (S.I. 2022/388), regs. 1(2), 2(24) (with reg. 3)

Commencement Information

I16 Reg. 56 in force at 20.12.2020, see reg. 1(3)

Changes to legislation: There are currently no known outstanding effects for the The Health Protection (Coronavirus Restrictions) (No. 5) (Wales) Regulations 2020, PART 8.