



Criminal Justice Act 2003

2003 CHAPTER 44

PART 12

SENTENCING

CHAPTER 6

[^{F1} RELEASE, LICENCES^{F1}, SUPERVISION] AND RECALL]

[^{F1}Supervision of offenders

[^{F1}256A] Supervision after end of sentence of prisoners serving less than 2 years

- (1) This section applies where a person (“the offender”) has served a fixed-term sentence which was for a term of more than 1 day but less than 2 years, except where—
- (a) the offender was aged under 18 on the last day of the requisite custodial period (as defined in section 243A(3)),
 - (b) the sentence was an extended sentence imposed under [^{F2}section 254, 266 or 279 of the Sentencing Code],
[the sentence was imposed under [^{F4}section 265 or 278 of that Code],]
 - ^{F3}(ba) [section 247A applied to the offender in respect of the sentence,] or
 - ^{F5}(bb) (c) the sentence was imposed in respect of an offence committed before the day on which section 2(2) of the Offender Rehabilitation Act 2014 came into force.
- (2) The offender must comply with the supervision requirements during the supervision period, except at any time when the offender is—
- (a) in legal custody,
 - (b) subject to a licence under this Chapter or Chapter 2 of Part 2 of the 1997 Act, or
 - (c) subject to DTO supervision.

Changes to legislation: *Criminal Justice Act 2003, Section 256AA is up to date with all changes known to be in force on or before 31 July 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) The supervision requirements are the requirements for the time being specified in a notice given to the offender by the Secretary of State (but see the restrictions in section 256AB).
- (4) “The supervision period” is the period which—
- (a) begins on the expiry of the sentence, and
 - (b) ends on the expiry of the period of 12 months beginning immediately after the offender has served the requisite custodial period (as defined in section 244(3)).
- (5) The purpose of the supervision period is the rehabilitation of the offender.
- (6) The Secretary of State must have regard to that purpose when specifying requirements under this section.
- (7) The supervisor must have regard to that purpose when carrying out functions in relation to the requirements.
- (8) In this Chapter, “the supervisor”, in relation to a person subject to supervision requirements under this section, means a person who is for the time being responsible for discharging the functions conferred by this Chapter on the supervisor in accordance with arrangements made by the Secretary of State.
- (9) In relation to a person subject to supervision requirements under this section following a sentence of detention under [^{F6}section 250 of the Sentencing Code], the supervisor must be—
- (a) an officer of a provider of probation services, or
 - (b) a member of the youth offending team established by the local authority in whose area the offender resides for the time being.
- (10) In relation to any other person, the supervisor must be an officer of a provider of probation services.
- (11) In this section “DTO supervision” means supervision under—
- (a) a detention and training order (including an order under section 211 of the Armed Forces Act 2006), or
 - (b) an order under [^{F7}paragraph 3(2)(b) of Schedule 12 to the Sentencing Code] (breach of supervision requirements of detention and training order).
- (12) This section has effect subject to section 264(3C)(b) and (3D).]

Textual Amendments

- F1** S. 256AA and cross-heading inserted (1.2.2015) by [Offender Rehabilitation Act 2014 \(c. 11\), ss. 2\(2\), 22\(1\)](#) (with [Sch. 7 para. 2](#)); [S.I. 2015/40, art. 2\(b\)](#)
- F2** Words in s. 256AA(1)(b) substituted (1.12.2020) by [Sentencing Act 2020 \(c. 17\), s. 416\(1\), Sch. 24 para. 229\(2\)\(a\)](#) (with [Sch. 24 para. 447, Sch. 27](#)); [S.I. 2020/1236, reg. 2](#)
- F3** S. 256AA(1)(ba) inserted (13.4.2015) by [Criminal Justice and Courts Act 2015 \(c. 2\), s. 95\(1\), Sch. 1 para. 18](#); [S.I. 2015/778, art. 3, Sch. 1 para. 72](#)
- F4** Words in s. 256AA(1)(ba) substituted (1.12.2020) by [Sentencing Act 2020 \(c. 17\), s. 416\(1\), Sch. 24 para. 229\(2\)\(b\)](#) (with [Sch. 24 para. 447, Sch. 27](#)); [S.I. 2020/1236, reg. 2](#)
- F5** S. 256AA(1)(bb) inserted (26.2.2020) by [Terrorist Offenders \(Restriction of Early Release\) Act 2020 \(c. 3\), ss. 7\(3\), 10\(4\)](#)

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- F6** Words in s. 256AA(9) substituted (1.12.2020) by [Sentencing Act 2020 \(c. 17\), s. 416\(1\), Sch. 24 para. 229\(3\)](#) (with [Sch. 24 para. 447, Sch. 27](#)); S.I. 2020/1236, reg. 2
- F7** Words in s. 256AA(11)(b) substituted (1.12.2020) by [Sentencing Act 2020 \(c. 17\), s. 416\(1\), Sch. 24 para. 229\(4\)](#) (with [Sch. 24 para. 447, Sch. 27](#)); S.I. 2020/1236, reg. 2

Modifications etc. (not altering text)

- C1** Pt. 12 Ch. 6 modified (1.12.2020) by [Sentencing Act 2020 \(c. 17\), s. 245\(1\)\(2\)\(c\), 416\(1\)](#) (with [ss. 2, 245\(3\), 398\(1\), 406, Sch. 27](#)); S.I. 2020/1236, reg. 2
- C2** Pt. 12 Ch. 6 modified (1.12.2020) by [Sentencing Act 2020 \(c. 17\), s. 244\(1\)\(2\)\(c\), 416\(1\)](#) (with [ss. 2, 244\(3\), 398\(1\), 406, Sch. 27](#)); S.I. 2020/1236, reg. 2
- C3** Ss. 256AA-256E applied (with modifications) by 1997 c. 43, Sch. 1 para. 8(2)(4)(8)-(12) (as amended (1.2.2015) by [Offender Rehabilitation Act 2014 \(c. 11\), para. 3\(3\), \(5\), s. 22\(1\), Sch. 3 para. 3\(2\)](#) (with [Sch. 7 para. 2](#))); S.I. 2015/40, art. 2(u))
- C4** Ss. 256AA-256AC applied (with modifications) by 1997 c. 43, Sch. 1 para. 9(2)(4)(9)-(12) (as amended (1.2.2015) by [Offender Rehabilitation Act 2014 \(c. 11\), s. 22\(1\), Sch. 3 para. 5\(5\)](#) (with [Sch. 7 para. 2](#)); S.I. 2015/40, art. 2(u))
- C5** S. 256AA(2)-(11) applied (with modifications) by 2000 c. 6, s. 106B(2)-(7) (as inserted (1.2.2015) by [Offender Rehabilitation Act 2014 \(c. 11\), ss. 6\(4\), 22\(1\)](#) (with [Sch. 7 para. 2](#)); S.I. 2015/40, art. 2(f))
- C6** Ss. 256AA(2)-(11) applied (with modifications) (1.12.2020) by [Sentencing Act 2020 \(c. 17\), s. 247\(2\)\(a\)\(3\)\(4\)\(7\), 416\(1\)](#) (with [ss. 2, 398\(1\), 406, Sch. 27](#)); S.I. 2020/1236, reg. 2

Changes to legislation:

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Changes and effects yet to be applied to :

- specified provision(s) amendment to earlier commencing SI 2012/2574, Sch. by [S.I. 2012/2761 art. 2](#)

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. 256AZBA-256AZBC and cross-heading inserted by [2024 c. 21 s. 62\(1\)](#)
- s. 256AZBC(1) power to amend or apply conferred by 2012 c.10, s. 128(3A) (as inserted) by [2024 c. 21 s. 60\(3\)](#)
- s. 150(aa) inserted by [2012 c. 10 Sch. 26 para. 19\(2\)](#) (This amendment not applied to legislation.gov.uk. Sch. 26 para. 19 omitted (11.12.2013) by virtue of 2013 c. 22, Sch. 16 para. 23(2); S.I. 2013/2981, art. 2(d))
- s. 150(ba) inserted by [2012 c. 10 Sch. 26 para. 19\(3\)](#) (This amendment not applied to legislation.gov.uk. Sch. 26 para. 19 omitted (11.12.2013) by virtue of 2013 c. 22, Sch. 16 para. 23(2); S.I. 2013/2981, art. 2(d))
- s. 151(A1) inserted by [2008 c. 4 s. 11\(3\)](#)
- s. 151(1A) inserted by [2008 c. 4 s. 11\(5\)](#)
- s. 151(1A)(b) word substituted by [2008 c. 4 Sch. 4 para. 76\(3\)](#) (This amendment not applied to legislation.gov.uk. S. 151(1A) is still only prospectively inserted by 2008 c. 4, s. 11(5))
- s. 151(1A)(c) substituted by [2009 c. 25 Sch. 17 para. 8\(3\)](#) (This amendment not applied to legislation.gov.uk. S. 151(1A) is still only prospectively inserted by 2008 c. 4, s. 11(5))
- s. 151(2A)(b) substituted by [2009 c. 25 Sch. 17 para. 8\(4\)](#)
- s. 151(4A) inserted by [2009 c. 25 Sch. 17 para. 8\(5\)](#)
- s. 151(8)(a) words substituted by [2009 c. 25 Sch. 17 para. 8\(6\)\(a\)](#)
- s. 151(8)(b) words inserted by [2009 c. 25 Sch. 17 para. 8\(6\)\(b\)\(i\)](#)
- s. 151(8)(b) words substituted by [2009 c. 25 Sch. 17 para. 8\(6\)\(b\)\(ii\)](#)
- s. 151(8)(c)-(f) inserted by [2009 c. 25 Sch. 17 para. 8\(6\)\(c\)](#)
- s. 165(5) inserted by [2014 c. 12 s. 179\(3\)](#)
- s. 237(1A) inserted by [2006 c. 48 s. 34\(3\)](#)
- s. 237(1B)(f)(g) inserted by [2021 c. 11 Sch. 13 para. 40\(b\)](#)
- s. 237A237B inserted by [2024 c. 21 s. 59\(2\)](#)
- s. 237A power to amend conferred by 2012 c.10, s. 128(3)(aaza) (as inserted) by [2024 c. 21 s. 60\(2\)\(b\)](#)
- s. 239A inserted by [2015 c. 2 s. 8\(1\)](#)
- s. 239A cross-heading inserted by [2015 c. 2 Sch. 3 para. 5](#)
- s. 250(5C) inserted by [2015 c. 2 Sch. 3 para. 7\(4\)](#)
- s. 250(5D) inserted by [2024 c. 21 s. 64\(3\)](#)
- s. 255A(4A) inserted by [2015 c. 2 s. 9\(2\)](#)
- s. 255B(3A) inserted by [2015 c. 2 s. 9\(3\)\(b\)](#)
- s. 255B(3A) inserted by [2024 c. 21 s. 59\(5\)](#)
- s. 255B(4A)-(4C) inserted by [2015 c. 2 s. 9\(3\)\(d\)](#)
- s. 255C(3A) inserted by [2015 c. 2 s. 9\(4\)\(b\)](#)
- s. 255C(3A) inserted by [2024 c. 21 s. 59\(6\)](#)
- s. 255C(4A)-(4C) inserted by [2015 c. 2 s. 9\(4\)\(d\)](#)
- s. 256A(1)-(1B) substituted for s. 256A(1) by [2015 c. 2 s. 9\(6\)\(a\)](#)
- s. 256A(4A)(4B) inserted by [2015 c. 2 s. 9\(6\)\(f\)](#)

- s. 256A(5)(6) substituted for s. 256A(5) by [2015 c. 2 s. 9\(6\)\(g\)](#)
- s. 256AZA inserted by [2015 c. 2 s. 10\(1\)](#)
- s. 256AZB(3) inserted by [2024 c. 21 s. 59\(7\)](#)
- s. 257(3) inserted by [2006 c. 48 s. 34\(4\)](#)
- s. 258(1A) inserted by [2006 c. 48 s. 34\(5\)](#)
- s. 260(4)(aa) substituted for word by [2008 c. 4 s. 34\(7\)\(b\)](#) (This amendment not applied to legislation.gov.uk. S. 34(2)(4)(b)(7)(10) omitted (3.12.2012) by virtue of 2012 c. 10, s. 118(4)(b); S.I. 2012/2906, art. 2(d))
- s. 268A inserted by [2024 c. 21 s. 70](#)
- s. 327(4A)(ca) inserted by [2024 c. 21 s. 65](#)
- Sch. 15B para. 49A omitted by [S.I. 2019/780 reg. 26\(4\)\(c\)](#) (This amendment not applied to legislation.gov.uk. Regs. 21, 25, 26, 27, 30 revoked (1.12.2020) by 2020 c. 17, Sch. 28; S.I. 2020/1236, reg. 2)
- Sch. 15B para. 49B omitted by [S.I. 2019/780 reg. 26\(4\)\(d\)](#) (This amendment not applied to legislation.gov.uk. Regs. 21, 25, 26, 27, 30 revoked (1.12.2020) by 2020 c. 17, Sch. 28; S.I. 2020/1236, reg. 2)
- Sch. 18B inserted by [2024 c. 21 Sch. 2](#)
- Sch. 19 para. 2(2)(e) and word inserted by [2024 c. 21 s. 74\(3\)\(b\)](#)
- Sch. 19 para. 2(2A) inserted by [2024 c. 21 s. 74\(4\)](#)
- Sch. 20B para. 34(6)(7) substituted for Sch. 20B para. 34(6) by [2015 c. 2 Sch. 3 para. 10](#)