

STATUTORY INSTRUMENTS

1988 No. 1849

The Malicious Communications (Northern Ireland) Order 1988

Offence of sending letters etc. with intent to cause distress or anxiety

3.—(1) Any person who sends to another person—

(a) a letter or other article which conveys—

(i) a message which is indecent or grossly offensive;

^{F1}(ii)

^{F2}(iii)

(b) any other article which is, in whole or part, of an indecent or grossly offensive nature, is guilty of an offence if his purpose, or one of his purposes, in sending it is that it should, so far as falling within sub#paragraph (a) or (b), cause distress or anxiety to the recipient or to any other person to whom he intends that it or its contents or nature should be communicated.

^{F3}(2)

(3) In this Article references to sending include references to delivering and to causing to be sent or delivered.

(4) A person guilty of an offence under this Article shall be liable on summary conviction to a fine not exceeding level 4 on the standard scale.

F1 Art. 3(1)(a)(ii) repealed (31.1.2024) by [Online Safety Act 2023 \(c. 50\)](#), **ss. 189(3)(a)**, 240(1); S.I. 2024/31, reg. 2

F2 Art. 3(1)(a)(iii) repealed (31.1.2024) by [Online Safety Act 2023 \(c. 50\)](#), **ss. 189(3)(b)**, 240(1); S.I. 2024/31, reg. 2

F3 Art. 3(2) repealed (31.1.2024) by [Online Safety Act 2023 \(c. 50\)](#), **ss. 189(3)(c)**, 240(1); S.I. 2024/31, reg. 2

Changes to legislation:

There are currently no known outstanding effects for the The Malicious Communications (Northern Ireland) Order 1988, Section 3.