Changes to legislation: Firearms Act 1968, Part I is up to date with all changes known to be in force on or before 20 August 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)

# SCHEDULES

## SCHEDULE 6

## PROSECUTION AND PUNISHMENT OF OFFENCES

# PART I

#### TABLE OF PUNISHMENTS

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

C1 Sch. 6 Pt. I modified (1.11.1968) by S.I. 1968/1200, art. 3

| Section of this<br>Act creating<br>offence | General<br>nature of<br>offence                                    | Mode of prosecution | Punishment  | Additional provisions                                  |
|--|--|---------------------|---|--|
| Section 1(1)                               | Possessing etc. firearm or ammunition without firearm certificate. | (a) Summary         | 6 months or a fine of [F1£400]; or both.  |  |
|  |  | (b) On indictment   | (i) where the offence is committed in an aggravated form within the meaning of section 4(4) of this Act, [F27 years], or a fine; or both, |  |
|  |  |                     | (ii) in any other case, [F35 years] or a fine; or both.   | Paragraph 1 of<br>Part II of this<br>Schedule applies. |
| Section 1(2)                               | Non-compliance with condition of firearm certificate.              | Summary             | 6 months or a fine of [F4] level 5 on the standard scale]; or both.   | Paragraph 1 of<br>Part II of this<br>Schedule applies. |
| Section 2(1)                               | Possessing,<br>etc., shot gun<br>without shot gun<br>certificate.  | [F5(a) Summary.]    | [F56 months or<br>the statutory   | Paragraph 1 of<br>Part II of this<br>Schedule applies. |

|                 |   |                                     | maximum or both.]   |  |
|-----------------|---|-------------------------------------|---|--|
|                 |   | [ <sup>F5</sup> (b) On indictment.] | [ <sup>F5</sup> [ <sup>F6</sup> 5 years]or a fine; or both.]        |  |
| Section 2(2)    | Non-compliance with condition of shot gun certificate.                        | Summary                             | 6 months or a fine of [F4] level 5 on the standard scale]; or both. | Paragraph 1 of<br>Part II of this<br>Schedule applies. |
| Section 3(1)    | Trading in firearms without being registered as firearms dealer.              | (a) Summary                         | 6 months or a fine both.  | e of [ <sup>F1</sup> £400]; or                         |
|                 |   | (b) On indictment                   | [F75 years]or a fin   | e; or both.  |
| Section 3(2)    | Selling firearm to person without a certificate.                              | (a) Summary                         | 6 months or a fine both.  | e of [ <sup>F1</sup> £400]; or                         |
|                 |   | (b) On indictment                   | [F85 years]or a fin   | e; or both.  |
| Section 3(3)    | Repairing,<br>testing<br>etc. firearm for<br>person without a<br>certificate. | (a) Summary                         | 6 months or a fine both.  | e of [ <sup>F1</sup> £400]; or                         |
|                 |   | (b) On indictment                   | [ <sup>F9</sup> 5 years] or a fir                                   | ne; or both.   |
| Section 3(5)    | Falsifying certificate, etc., with view to acquisition of firearm.            | (a) Summary                         | 6 months or a fine both.  | e of [ <sup>F1</sup> £400]; or                         |
|                 |   | (b) On indictment                   | [ <sup>F10</sup> 5 years] or [ <sup>F11</sup>                       | a fine]; or both.                                      |
| Section 3(6)    | Pawnbroker taking firearm in pawn.  | Summary                             | 3 months or a fine the standard scale                               |  |
| Section 4(1)(3) | Shortening a shot gun; conversion of firearms.                                | (a) Summary                         | 6 months or a fine both.  | e of [ <sup>F1</sup> £400]; or                         |
|                 |   | (b) On indictment                   | [F127 years]or a fin  | ne; or both.   |
| Section 5(1)    | Possessing or distributing prohibited   | (a) Summary                         | 6 months or a fine both.  | e of [ <sup>F1</sup> £400]; or                         |

|                    | weapons or ammunition.   |                           |   |  |
|--------------------|--|---------------------------|---|--|
|                    |  | (b) On indictment         | [F1310 years] or a f  | fine; or both.   |
| [F14 Section 5(1A) | Possessing or distributing other prohibitedweapon ammunition.  | (a) Summary               | [F156 months] or a fine of the statutory maximum; or both.  |  |
|                    |  | (b) On indictment         | [F1610 years] or a f  | ine; or both.]   |
| Section 5(5)       | Non-compliance with condition of Defence Council authority.  | Summary                   | 6 months or a fine of [F4] level 5 on the standard scale]; or both.   |  |
| Section 5(6)       | Non - compliance with requirements to surrender authority to possess, etc., prohibited weapon or ammunition.             | Summary                   | A fine of [F4]level 3 on the standard scale].   |  |
| Section 6(3)       | Contravention<br>of order<br>under s. 6 (or<br>corresponding<br>Northern Irish<br>order) restricting<br>removal of arms. | Summary                   | 3 months or, for each firearm or parcel of ammunition in respect of which the offence is committed, a fine of [F4] level 3 on the standard scale]; or both. | Paragraph 2 of<br>Part II of this<br>Schedule applies. |
| Section 7(2)       | Making false<br>statement in<br>order to obtain<br>police permit.  | Summary                   | 6 months or a fine of [F4] level 5 on the standard scale]; or both.   |  |
| Section 9(3)       | Making false<br>statement in<br>order to obtain<br>permit for<br>auction of<br>firearms, etc.                            | [ <sup>F17</sup> Summary] | [F176 months<br>or a fine not<br>exceeding level<br>5 on the standard<br>scale; o r both.]  |  |
| Section 13(2)      | Making false statement in order to   | Summary                   | 6 months or a fine of [F4]level 5   |  |

|                   | obtain permit<br>for removal<br>of signalling<br>apparatus.   |  | on the standard scale]; or both.                  |   |
|-------------------|---|--|---|---|
| Section 16        | Possession of firearm with intent to endanger life or injure property.  | On indictment  | [F18] life imprisonment] or a fine; or F19        |   |
| [F20]Section 16A] | [F20Possession of firearm with intent to cause fear of violence.]   | [F20On indictment]   | [F2010 years or a fine; or both.]                 |   |
| F20 Section 17(1) | Use of firearms to resist arrest.   | On indictment  | [F18] life imprisonment] or a fine; or, F19 both. | Paragraphs 3 to 5 of Part II of this Schedule apply.  |
| Section 17(2)     | Possessing firearm while committing an offence specified in Schedule 1 or, in Scotland, an offence specified in Schedule 2.                             | On indictment  |   | Paragraphs 3 and 6 of Part II of this Schedule apply. |
| Section 18(1)     | Carrying firearms or imitation firearm with intent commit indictable offence (or, in Scotland, an offence specified in Schedule 2) or to resist arrest. | On indictment  | [F21Life imprisonment] or a fine; or, F19 b oth.  |   |
| Section 19        | Carrying loaded firearm in public place.  | (a) Summary  | 6 months or a fine of [F1£400]; or both.          |   |
|                   |   | (b) On indictment (but not if the firearm is an air weapon). | [F227 years.] or a fine; or both.                 |   |
| Section 20(1)     | Trespassing with firearm [F23 or imitation  | (a) Summary  | 6 months or a fine of [F1£400]; or both.          |   |

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|                    | firearm] in a building.  |   |   |
|--------------------|--|---|---|
|                    |  | (b) On indictment (but not [F23 in the case of an imitation firearm or] if the firearm is an air weapon). | [F247 years] or a fine; or both.  |
| Section 20(2)      | Trespassing with firearm [F25 or imitation firearm] on land.                           | Summary   | 3 months or a fine of [F4] evel 4 on the standard scale]; or both.                            |
| Section 21(4)      | Contravention of provisions denying firearms to ex-prisoners and the like.             | (a) Summary   | 6 months or a fine of [F1£400]; or both.  |
|                    |  | (b) On indictment   | [F265 years] or a fine; or both.  |
| Section 21(5)      | Supplying firearms to person denied them under section 21.                             | (a) Summary   | 6 months or a fine of [F1£400]; or both.  |
|                    |  | (b) On indictment   | [F275 years] or a fine; or both.  |
| Section 22(1)      | Person under 17 acquiring firearm.   | Summary   | 6 months or a fine of [F4]evel 5 on the standard scale]; or both.                             |
| F28 Section 22(1A) | Person under 18 using certificated firearm for unauthorised purpose.                   | Summary   | 3 months or a fine of level 5 on the standard scale; or both.                                 |
| Section 22(2)      | Person under 14<br>having firearm<br>in his possession<br>without lawful<br>authority. | Summary   | 6 months or a fine of [F4]evel 5 on the standard scale]; or both.                             |
| Section 22(3)      | Person under<br>15 having with<br>him a shot gun<br>without adult                      | Summary   | A fine of [F4]level 3 on the standard scale] Paragraph 8 of Part II of this Schedule applies. |

without adult supervision.

| Section 22(4)        | Person under 14 having with him an air weapon or ammunition therefor.  | Summary | A fine of [F4]level 3 on the standard s cale]                       |  |
|----------------------|--|---------|---|--|
| Section 22(5)        | Person under 17 having with him an air weapon in a public place.   | Summary | A fine of [F4]level 3 on the standard s cale]                       |  |
| Section 23(1)        | Person under<br>14 making<br>improper use<br>of air weapon<br>when under<br>supervision;<br>person<br>supervising him<br>permitting such<br>use. | Summary | A fine of [F4] level 3 on the standard s cale]                      |  |
| Section 24(1)        | Selling or letting<br>on hire a firearm<br>to person under<br>17.  | Summary | 6 months or a fine of [F4] level 5 on the standard scale]; or both. |  |
| Section 24(2)        | Supplying firearm or ammunition (being of a kind to which section 1 of this Act applies) to person under 14.                                     | Summary | 6 months or a fine of [F4]level 5 on the standard scale]; or both.  |  |
| Section 24(3)        | Making gift of shot gun to person under 15.  | Summary | A fine of [F4]level 3 on the standard scale]                        | Paragraph 9 of<br>Part II of this<br>Schedule applies. |
| Section 24(4)        | Supplying air weapon to person under 14.   | Summary | A fine of [F4]level 3 on the standard scale]                        | Paragraphs 7 and 8 of Part II of this Schedule apply.  |
| Section 25           | Supplying firearm to person drunk or insane.   | Summary | 3 months or a fine of [F4] level 3 on the standard scale]; or both. |  |
| [F29 Section 28A(7)] | Making false<br>statement in<br>order to procure<br>grant or renewal<br>of a firearm   | Summary | 6 months or a fine of [F4] level 5 on the standard scale]; or both. |  |

| or shot gun certificate.   |   |  |
|--|---|--|
| Making false<br>statement<br>in order to<br>procure variation<br>of a firearm<br>certificate.  | Summary   | 6 months or a fine of [F4] level 5 on the standard scale]; or both.  |
| Failing to surrender certificate on revocation.  | Summary   | A fine of [F4]level 3 on the standard s cale].   |
| Failure to<br>surrender<br>expired<br>European<br>firearms pass  | Summary   | A fine of level 3 on the standard scale.   |
| Failure to produce European firearms pass or Article 7 authority for variation or cancellation etc.; failure to notify loss or theft of firearm identified in pass or to produce pass for endorsement. | Summary   | 3 months or a fine of level 5 on the standard scale; or both]  |
| Failure to surrender certificate of registration [F33] or register of transactions] on removal of firearms dealer's name from from register.   | Summary   | A fine of [F4]level 3 on the standard s cale].   |
| Making false<br>statement in<br>order to secure<br>registration or<br>entry in register<br>of a place of<br>business.  | Summary   | 6 months or a fine of [F4]level 5 on the standard scale]; or both.   |
|  | certificate.  Making false statement in order to procure variation of a firearm certificate.  Failing to surrender certificate on revocation.  Failure to surrender expired European firearms pass  Failure to produce European firearms pass or Article 7 authority for variation or cancellation etc.; failure to notify loss or theft of firearm identified in pass or to produce pass for endorsement.  Failure to surrender certificate of registration [F33] or register of transactions] on removal of firearms dealer's name from from register.  Making false statement in order to secure registration or entry in register of a place of | certificate.  Making false statement in order to procure variation of a firearm certificate.  Failing to surrender certificate on revocation.  Failure to surrender expired European firearms pass  Failure to Failure to produce European firearms pass or Article 7 authority for variation or cancellation etc.; failure to notify loss or theft of firearm identified in pass or to produce pass for endorsement.  Failure to Summary statement in order to secure registration or entry in register of a place of |

| Section 39(2)                | Registered firearms dealer having place of business not entered in the register.   | Summary                    | 6 months or a fine of [F4] level 5 on the standard scale]; or both.         |
|------------------------------|--|----------------------------|---|
| Section 39(3)                | Non-compliance with condition of registration.   | Summary                    | 6 months or a fine of [F4] level 5 on the standard scale]; or both.         |
| Section 40(5)                | Non-compliance<br>by firearms<br>dealer with<br>provivisions as<br>to register of<br>transactions;<br>making false<br>entry in register. | Summary                    | 6 months or a fine of [F4] level 5 on the standard scale]; or both.         |
| F34                          | F34  | F34                        | F34   |
| • • •                        |  |                            |   |
|                              |  | F34                        | F34   |
|                              |  | • • •                      | • • •   |
| [ <sup>F35</sup> Section 42A | Failure to report<br>transaction<br>authorised by<br>visitor's shot gun<br>permit.   | Summary                    | 3 months or a<br>fine of level 5<br>on the standard<br>scale; or both.]     |
| [F36Section 46.]             | [F36Obstructing constable or civilian officer in exercise of search powers.]   | [ <sup>F36</sup> Summary.] | [F366 months or<br>a fine of level 5<br>on the standard<br>scale; or both.] |
| F36 Section 47(2)            | Failure to hand over firearm or ammunition on demand by constable.   | Summary                    | 3 months or a fine of [F4] level 4 on the standard scale]; or both.         |
| Section 48(3)                | Failure to comply with requirement of a constable that a person shall declare his name and address.                                      | Summary                    | A fine of [F4]level 3 on the standard scale].                               |
| [F37]Section 48(4)           | Failure to produce firearms pass issued in   | Summary                    | A fine of level 3 on the standard scale.]                                   |

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> another member State.

Section 49(3) ... Failure to give constable facilities for

> examination of firearms in transit, or to produce papers.

Summary ... ...

3 months or, for each firearm or parcel of ammunition in respect of which the offence is committed, a fine of [F4]level 3

on the standard scale]; or both.

Paragraph 2 of Part II of this Schedule applies.

Section 52(2)(c)

Failure to or shot gun certificate cancelled

A fine of [F4]level surrender firearm 3 on the standard scale].

by court on conviction.

#### **Textual Amendments**

- Words substituted by Criminal Justice Act 1972 (c. 71), ss. 28(1)(5), 66(7)(a) F1
- F2 Sch. 6 Pt. I: words in column 4 of entry relating to s. 1(1) substituted (3.2.1995) by Criminal Justice and Public Order Act 1994 (c. 33), s. 157(3)(9), Sch. 8 Pt. III; S.I. 1995/127, art. 2(1), Sch. 1
- F3 Sch. 6 Pt. I: words in column 4 of entry relating to s. 1(1) substituted (3.2.1995) by Criminal Justice and Public Order Act 1994 (c. 33), s. 157(3)(9), Sch. 8 Pt. III; S.I. 1995/127, art. 2(1), Sch. 1
- F4 Words substituted by virtue of (E.W.) Criminal Justice Act 1982 (c. 48, SIF 39:1), ss. 38, 46 and (S.) Criminal Procedure (Scotland) Act 1975 (c. 21, SIF 39:1), ss. 289F, 289G
- F5 Words substituted by Criminal Justice Act 1988 (c. 33, SIF 39:1), ss. 44(2)(4), 123(6), Sch. 8 para. 16
- **F6** Sch. 6 Pt. I: words in column 4 of entry relating to s. 2(1) substituted (3.2.1995) by Criminal Justice and Public Order Act 1994 (c. 33), s. 157(3)(9), Sch. 8 Pt. III; S.I. 1995/127, art. 2(1), Sch. 1
- **F7** Sch. 6 Pt. I: words in column 4 of entry relating to s. 3(1) substituted (3.2.1995) by Criminal Justice and Public Order Act 1994 (c. 33), s. 157(3)(9), Sch. 8 Pt. III; S.I. 1995/127, art. 2(1), Sch. 1
- F8 Sch. 6 Pt. I: words in column 4 of entry relating to s. 3(2) substituted (3.2.1995) by Criminal Justice and Public Order Act 1994 (c. 33), s. 157(3)(9), Sch. 8 Pt. III; S.I. 1995/127, art. 2(1), Sch. 1
- F9 Sch. 6 Pt. I: words in column 4 of entry relating to s. 3(3) substituted (3.2.1995) by Criminal Justice and Public Order Act 1994 (c. 33), s. 157(3)(9), Sch. 8 Pt. III; S.I. 1995/127, art. 2(1), Sch. 1
- Sch. 6 Pt. I: words in column 4 of entry relating to s. 3(5) substituted (3.2.1995) by Criminal Justice and Public Order Act 1994 (c. 33), s. 157(3)(9), Sch. 8 Pt. III; S.I. 1995/127, art. 2(1), Sch. 1
- F11 Words substituted by Criminal Justice Act 1972 (c. 71), ss. 28(1)(4), 66(7)(a)
- Sch. 6 Pt. I: words in column 4 of entry relating to s. 4(1)(3) substituted (3.2.1995) by Criminal Justice and Public Order Act 1994 (c. 33), s. 157(3)(9), Sch. 8 Pt. III; S.I. 1995/127, art. 2(1), Sch. 1
- F13 Sch. 6 Pt. I: words in column 4 of entry relating to s. 5(1) substituted (3.2.1995) by Criminal Justice and Public Order Act 1994 (c. 33), s. 157(3)(9), Sch. 8 Pt. III; S.I. 1995/127, art. 2(1), Sch. 1
- Sch. 6 Pt. I: the entry relating to s. 5(1A) inserted (1.1.1993) by S.I. 1992/2823, reg. 3(6).
- Sch. 6 Pt. I: words in column 4 of entry relating to s. 5(1A) (Summary) substituted (3.2.1995) by Criminal Justice and Public Order Act 1994 (c. 33), s. 157(3)(9), Sch. 8 Pt. III; S.I. 1995/127, art. 2(1), Sch. 1
- Sch. 6 Pt. I: words in column 4 of entry relating to s. 5(1A) (On Indictment) substituted (3.2.1995) by Criminal Justice and Public Order Act 1994 (c. 33), s. 157(3)(9), Sch. 8 Pt. III; S.I. 1995/127, art. 2(1), Sch. 1

- F17 Words substituted by Firearms (Amendment) Act 1988 (c. 45, SIF 51:1), s. 23(7)
- F18 Words substituted by Criminal Justice Act 1972 (c. 71), ss. 28(1)(2), 66(7)(a)
- **F19** Words repealed by Criminal Justice Act 1972 (c. 71), ss. 28(6), 66(7)(a), Sch. 6 Pt. II
- F20 Sch. 6 Pt. I: entry relating to s. 16A inserted (21.9.1994) by 1994 c. 31, ss. 1(2), 4(2) (with s. 4(3))
- F21 Words substituted by Criminal Justice Act 1988 (c. 33, SIF 39:1), ss. 44(3)(4), 123(6), Sch. 8 para. 16
- F22 Sch. 6 Pt. I: words in column 3 of entry relating to s. 19 substituted (3.2.1995) by Criminal Justice and Public Order Act 1994 (c. 33), ss. 157(3)(9), 172(2), Sch. 8 Pt. III; S.I. 1995/127, art. 2(1), Sch. 1
- **F23** Sch. 6 Pt. I: words in entry relating to s. 20(1) inserted (21.9.1994) by 1994 c. 31, **ss. 2(3)(a)**, 4(2) (with s. 4(3))
- F24 Sch. 6 Pt. I: words in column 4 of entry relating to s. 20(1) substituted (3.2.1995) by Criminal Justice and Public Order Act 1994 (c. 33), s. 157(3)(9), Sch. 8 Pt. III; S.I. 1995/127, art. 2(1), Sch. 1
- **F25** Sch. 6 Pt. I: words in entry relating to s. 20(2) inserted (21.9.1994) by 1994 c. 31, **ss. 2(3)(b)**, 4(2) (with s. 4(3))
- F26 Sch. 6 Pt. I: words in column 4 of entry relating to s. 21(4) substituted (3.2.1995) by Criminal Justice and Public Order Act 1994 (c. 33), s. 157(3)(9), Sch. 8 Pt. III; S.I. 1995/127, art. 2(1), Sch. 1
- F27 Sch. 6 Pt. I: words in column 4 of entry relating to s. 21(5) substituted (3.2.1995) by Criminal Justice and Public Order Act 1994 (c. 33), s. 157(3)(9), Sch. 8 Pt. III; S.I. 1995/127, art. 2(1), Sch. 1
- F28 Sch. 6 Pt. I: the entry relating to s. 22(1A) inserted (1.1.1993) by S.I. 1992/2823, reg. 4(4).
- **F29** Sch. 6 Pt. I: words "Section 28A(7)" substituted for the words "Section 26(5)" (1.7.1997) by 1997 c. 5, s. 52(1), Sch. 2 para. 4(2); S.I. 1997/1535, art. 3(b), Sch. Pt. I
- **F30** Sch. 6 Pt. I: words "Section 30D(3)" substituted for words "Section 30(4)" (1.7.1997) by 1997 c. 5, s. 52(1), Sch. 2 para. 14; S.I. 1997/1535, art. 3(b), Sch. Pt. I
- **F31** Sch. 6 Pt. I: the entry relating to s. 32B(5) inserted (1.1.1993) by S.I. 1992/2823, reg. 5(3).
- **F32** Sch. 6 Pt. I: the entry relating to s. 32C(6) inserted (1.1.1993) by S.I. 1992/2823, reg. 5(3).
- F33 Words inserted by Firearms (Amendment) Act 1988 (c. 45, SIF 51:1), s. 14(1)
- **F34** Sch. 6 Pt. I: entry relating to s. 42 repealed (1.10.1997) by 1997 c. 5, s. 52(1), **Sch. 3**; S.I. 1997/1535, art. 3(c), **Sch. Pt. II**
- F35 Sch. 6 Pt. I: the entry relating to s. 42A inserted (1.1.1993) by S.I. 1992/2823, reg. 6(3).
- F36 Sch. 6 Pt. I: entry relating to s. 46 inserted (1.7.1997) by 1997 c. 5, s. 43(3); S.I. 1997/1535, art. 3(b), Sch. Pt. I
- F37 Sch. 6 Pt. I: the entry relating to s. 48(4) inserted (1.1.1993) by S.I. 1992/2823, reg. 7(5).

### **Status:**

Point in time view as at 01/04/2003.

# **Changes to legislation:**

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