



# Criminal Law Act 1977

## 1977 CHAPTER 45

An Act to amend the law of England and Wales with respect to criminal conspiracy; to make new provision in that law, in place of the provisions of the common law and the Statutes of Forcible Entry, for restricting the use or threat of violence for securing entry into any premises and for penalising unauthorised entry or remaining on premises in certain circumstances; otherwise to amend the criminal law, including the law with respect to the administration of criminal justice; to provide for the alteration of certain pecuniary and other limits; to amend section 9(4) of the Administration of Justice Act 1973, the Legal Aid Act 1974, the Rabies Act 1974 and the Diseases of Animals (Northern Ireland) Order 1975 and the law about juries and coroners' inquests; and for connected purposes. [29th July 1977]

### Editorial Information

- X1** The text of ss. 1–5, 14–49, 57, 58, 60–65, Schs. 1–9, 11–14 was taken from S.I.F. Group 39:1 (Criminal Law: General), ss. 51, 63(2), 65(1)(3)(7)(10) from S.I.F. Group 39:2 (Criminal Law: Public Safety and Order), ss. 53, 54, 65(1)(3)(7)(9)(10) Group 39:5 (Criminal Law: Sexual Offences and Obscenity), ss. 6–13, 65(1)(3)(7)–(10), Sch. 14 para. 5 Group 39:6 (Criminal Law: Offences against Property); provisions omitted from S.I.F. have been dealt with as referred to in other commentary.

### Modifications etc. (not altering text)

- C1** Power to apply Act conferred by [Criminal Justice Act 1988](#) (c. 33, SIF 39:1), s. 50(3)(b)(ii), [Sch. 8 para. 16](#)
- C2** By [Criminal Justice Act 1991](#) (c. 53, SIF 39:1), s. 101(1), [Sch. 12 para. 23](#); S.I. 1991/2208, art. 2(1), [Sch.1](#) it is provided (14.10.1991) that in relation to any time before the commencement of s. 70 of that 1991 Act (which came into force on 1.10.1992 by [S.I. 1992/333](#), art. 2(2), [Sch. 2](#)) references in any enactment amended by that 1991 Act, to youth courts shall be construed as references to juvenile courts.

### Commencement Information

- I1** Act not in force at Royal Assent, Act wholly in force on 20.5.1985 see s. 65(7).

**Changes to legislation:**

Criminal Law Act 1977, Introductory Text is up to date with all changes known to be in force on or before 21 June 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.

[View outstanding changes](#)

**Changes and effects yet to be applied to the whole Act associated Parts and Chapters:**

- Blanket amendment words substituted by [S.I. 2011/1043 art. 34](#)

Whole provisions yet to be inserted into this Act (including any effects on those provisions):

- s. 38A(5)(ia) by [2000 c. 43 Sch. 7 para. 55](#)
- s. 38B(5)(a) by [2000 c. 43 Sch. 7 para. 56](#)