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Magistrates' Courts Act 1980

CHAPTER 43

MAGISTRATES' COURTS ACT 1980

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CRIMINAL JURISDICTION AND PROCEDURE

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- 2 Jurisdiction to deal with charges.
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- 5 Adjournment of inquiry.
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- 59A Orders for periodical payment: proceedings by clerk.
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Orders other than for payment of money.

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- 85 Power to remit fine.
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122 Appearance by counsel or solicitor.

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134	
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143	Power to alter sums specified in certain provisions.
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- 2 Offences under section 8 of the Disorderly Houses Act 1751...
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- 6 Offences under section 20 of the Telegraph Act 1868 (disclosing...
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- 8 Offences under section 5 of the Public Stores Act 1875...
- 9 Offences under section 12 of the Corn Returns Act 1882...
- 11 Offences under section 3 of the Submarine Telegraph Act 1885...
- 12 Offences under section 13 of the Stamp Duties Management Act...
- 13 Offences under section 8(2) of the Cremation Act 1902 (making...
- 14 All offences under the Perjury Act 1911 except offences under—...
- 16 Offences under section 17 of the Deeds of Arrangement Act...
- 18 Offences under section 8(2) of the Census Act 1920 (disclosing...
- 19 Offences under section 36 of the Criminal Justice Act 1925...
- 20 Offences under section 11 of the Agricultural Credits Act 1928...
- 22 Offences under the following provisions of the Post Office Act...
- 23 Offences under the following provisions of the Sexual Offences Act...

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25	
26	The following offences under the Criminal Law Act 1967—
27	Offences under section 4(1) of the Sexual Offences Act 1967
28	All indictable offences under the Theft Act 1968 except:—
29	Offences under the following provisions of the Criminal Damage Act
30	Offences in relation to stamps issued for the purpose of
31	Uttering any forged document the forgery of which is an
32	Committing an indecent assault upon a person whether male or
33	Aiding, abetting, counselling or procuring the commission of any
	offence
34	
35	Any offence consisting in the incitment to commit an offence

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- 1 (1) A magistrates' court may commit a corporation for trial...
- 2 A representative may on behalf of a corporation—
- 3 (1) Where a representative appears, any requirement of this Act...
- 4 (1) Notification or intimation for the purposes of subsections (2)...
- 5
- 6 Subject to the preceding provisions of this Schedule, the provisions...
- Where a corporation and an individual who has attained the...
- 8 Subsection (6) of section 33 of the Criminal Justice Act...

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- 1 Subject to the following provisions of this Schedule, the periods...
- 2 (1) Where the amount due at the time imprisonment or...
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Meaning of "authorised officer" etc

1 In this Schedule—" authorised officer", in relation to...

Entry to execute warrant of arrest etc

2 (1) An authorised officer may enter and search any premises...

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3 (1) An authorised officer may enter and search any premises...

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A court which, on adjourning a case, makes an order...

Where an order under subsection (1) of section 130 of... A court making an order under subsection (1) of section... A person to whom an order under section 130(1) of... Section 130 of this Act and this Schedule have effect... SCHEDULE 6 — FEES PART I — FEES TO BE TAKEN BY CLERKS TO JUSTICES Part II — MATTERS IN RESPECT OF WHICH NO FEES ARE CHARGEABLE Any summons, warrant, notice or order issued, given or made... Any criminal matter, but this paragraph shall not prevent the... Part III — MATTERS TO WHICH PART I DOES NOT APPLY 1 3 Licences under section 1 of the Cinemas Act 1985. Matters in respect of which fees are authorised to be... Schedule 6A — FINES THAT MAY BE ALTERED UNDER SECTION 143 SCHEDULE 7 — CONSEQUENTIAL AMENDMENTS Summary Jurisdiction Act 1857 (20 & 21 Vict. c. 43) Criminal Law Amendment Act 1867 (30 & 31 Vict. c. 35) In section 6 of the Criminal Law Amendment Act 1867... Gun Barrel Proof Act 1868 (c. cxiii) Criminal Justice Act 1925 (15 & 16 Geo. 5 c. 86) 5 In section 33(4) of the Criminal Justice Act 1925 for... Children and Young Persons Act 1933 (23 & 24 Geo. 5 c. 12) In section 46(1A) of the Children and Young Persons Act... Criminal Justice Act 1948 (11 & 12 Geo. 6 c. 58) In section 27(3) of the Criminal Justice Act 1948 for... Maintenance Orders Act 1950 (14 Geo. 6 c. 37) In section 25(1) of the Maintenance Orders Act 1950 for... Rag Flock and Other Filling Materials Act 1951 (14 & IS Geo. 6 c. 63) 9 In section 20 of the Rag Flock and Other Filling...

	Pharmacy Act 1954 (2 & 3 Eliz. 2 c. 61)
10	In section 21 of the Pharmacy Act 1954 for "the
	Mines and Quarries Act 1954 (2 & 3 Eliz. 2 c. 70)
11	In section 153(a) of the Mines and Quarries Act 1954
	Army Act 1955 (3 & 4 Eliz. 2 c. 18)
12	In sections 187(4) and 215(9) of the Army Act 1955
	Air Force Act 1955 (3 & 4 Eliz. 2 c. 19)
13 14, 15	In sections 187(4) and 215(9) of the Air Force Act
Magist	rates' Courts (Appeals from Binding Over Orders) Act 1956 (4 & 5 Eliz. 2 c. 44,
16	In section 1(1) of the Magistrates' Courts (Appeals from Binding
	Sexual Offences Act 1956 (4 & 5 Eliz. 2 c. 69)
17 18 19	In section 37(7) of the Sexual Offences Act 1956— In Part II of Schedule 2 to the Sexual Offences
	Affiliation Proceedings Act 1957 (5 & 6 Eliz. 2 c. 55)
20 21 22	In section 5(5) of the Affiliation Proceedings Act 1957 for In section 6A of the Affiliation Proceedings Act 1957—
	Maintenance Orders Act 1958 (6 & 7 Eliz. 2 c. 39)
23 24	In section 18 of the Maintenance Orders Act 1958— In section 21(1) of the Maintenance Orders Act 1958 for
	Adoption Act 1958 (7 Eliz. 2 c. 5)
25 26	In section 9(2) and (4) of the Adoption Act 1958 In section 48 of the Adoption Act 1958 for "the
	Manoeuvres Act 1958 (7 & 8 Eliz. 2 c. 7)
27	In section 9 of the Manoeuvres Act 1958 for "the
28 29	······································
	Street Offences Act 1959 (7 & 8 Eliz. 2 c. 57)
30	In section 2(2) of the Street Offences Act 1959 for
31, 32 33, 34	
	Road Traffic Act 1960 (8 & 9 Eliz. 2 c. 16)
35	

		Administration of Justice Act 1960 (8 & 9 Eliz. 2 c. 65)
	36	In section 13(5) of the Administration of Justice Act 1960,
		Factories Act 1961 (9 & 10 Eliz. 2 c. 34)
	37	
		Criminal Justice Act 1961 (9 & 10 Eliz. 2 c.39)
38–	–42	
		Plant Varieties and Seeds Act 1964 (c. 14)
	43 44	In section 23(2) of the Plant Varieties and Seeds Act In section 28 of the Plant Varieties and Seeds Act
		Licensing Act 1964 (c. 26)
	45 46 47 48 49	In section 22(4) of the Licensing Act 1964 for "section In section 28(2) of the Licensing Act 1964 for "Section In section 48(3) of the Licensing Act 1964 for "section In section 192(2) of the Licensing Act 1964 for "section
	50	In Schedule 6 to the Licensing Act 1964—
		Administration of Justice Act 1964 (c. 42)
	51 52	In section 38(1) of the Administration of Justice Act 1964
		Finance Act 1965 (c. 25)
	53	In section 92(7) of the Finance Act 1965 for "Section
		Gas Act 1965 (c. 36)
	54	In section 21(4) of the Gas Act 1965 for "section
	55	Backing of Warrants (Republic of Ireland) Act 1965 (c. 45) In the Schedule to the Backing of Warrants (Republic of
		Criminal Procedure (Attendance of Witnesses) Act 1965 (c. 69)
57–	56 –60	In section 8 of the Criminal Procedure (Attendance of Witnesses)
		Criminal Law Act 1967 (c. 58)
	61	In section 2(1) of the Criminal Law Act 1967 for
	62	Wireless Telegraphy Act 1967 (c. 72) In section 11(4) of the Wireless Telegraphy Act 1967 for
	UΔ	In section 11(4) of the Wireless Telegraphy Act 1967 for
	63	Criminal Justice Act 1967 (c. 80) In section 7 of the Criminal Justice Act 1967 for

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In section 11(3) of the Criminal Justice Act 1967 for... 64 In section 32(3)(b) of the Criminal Justice Act 1967 for... 65 In section 36(2) of the Criminal Justice Act 1967 for... 66 67 In section 56 of the Criminal Justice Act 1967— 68 In section 62(7) of the Criminal Justice Act 1967 for... In section 90(2) and (4) of the Criminal Justice Act... 69 *Companies Act 1967 (c. 81)* 70 In section 49(3) of the Companies Act 1967 for "section... Criminal Appeal Act 1968 (c. 19) In section 1 of the Criminal Appeal Act 1968— 71 Firearms Act 1968 (c. 27) 72 In section 51(4) of the Firearms Act 1968 for "section... 73 In Part II of Schedule 6 to the Firearms Act... *Trade Descriptions Act 1968 (c. 29)* 74 In section 19(2) and 40(1)(a) of the Trade Descriptions Act... Civil Evidence Act 1968 (c. 64) 75 In section 8(6) of the Civil Evidence Act 1968 for... Medicines Act 1968 (c. 67) 76 In section 125(1) of the Medicines Act 1968 for "section... Sea Fisheries Act 1968 (c. 77) 77 In section 12(3) of the Sea Fisheries Act 1968 for... Children and Young Persons Act 1969 (c. 54) 78 79 80 In section 8(3) of the Children and Young Persons Act... 81 In section 16(2) of the Children and Young Persons Act... 82 In section 18(2) of the Children and Young Persons Act... 83 84 In section 70(1) of the Children and Young Persons Act... 85 In Schedule 4 to the Children and Young Persons Act... 86 87 In Schedule 5 to the Children and Young Persons Act... Administration of Justice Act 1970 (c. 31) 88 In section 41(8) of the Administration of Justice Act 1970... 89 In Schedule 1 to the Administration of Justice Act 1970... Merchant Shipping Act 1970 (c. 36) 90 In section 56(2) and (7) of the Merchant Shipping Act...

111,

	Guardianship of Minors Act 1971 (c. 3)
91	
92	
	Vehicles (Excise) Act 1971 (c. 10)
93	
	Courts Act 1971 (c. 23)
0.4	
94 95	In section 7(2) of the Courts Act 1971 for "subsection In section 13 of the Courts Act 1971—
96	In section 52(5) of the Courts Act 1971— In section 52(5) of the Courts Act 1971 for "section
90	in section 32(3) of the Courts Act 1971 for section
	Attachment of Earnings Act 1971 (c. 32)
97	In section 3 of the Attachment of Earnings Act 1971—
98	In section 8(3) of the Attachment of Earnings Act 1971
99	In section 17(3)(e) of the Attachment of Earnings Act 1971
100	In section 19 of the Attachment of Earnings Act 1971—
101	In section 25 of the Attachment of Earnings Act 1971—
	Misuse of Drugs Act 1971 (c. 38)
102	In section 25(4) of the Misuse of Drugs Act 1971
	Fire Precautions Act 1971 (c. 40)
103	In section 26(1) of the Fire Precautions Act 1971 for
	Immigration Act 1971 (c. 77)
	<u> </u>
104	In section 6(2) of the Immigration Act 1971 for "section
	Maintenance Orders (Reciprocal Enforcement) Act 1972 (c. 18)
105	In section 14(3) and (6) of the Maintenance Orders (Reciprocal
106	In section 18(1) of the Maintenance Orders (Reciprocal Enforcement) Act
107	In section 21(1) of the Maintenance Orders (Reciprocal Enforcement)
107	Act
108	1100
109	In section 38(4) and (6) of the Maintenance Orders (Reciprocal
110	In section 41 of the Maintenance Orders (Reciprocal Enforcement)
	Act
112	
	Civil Evidence Act 1972 (c. 30)
113	In section 2(8) of the Civil Evidence Act 1972 for
	Criminal Justice Act 1972 (c. 71)
114	
114	In section 46 of the Criminal Justice Act 1972— In section 40(1) of the Criminal Justice Act 1972 for
115	In section 49(1) of the Criminal Justice Act 1972 for

	Guardianship Act 19/3 (c. 29)
116 117	
	Fair Trading Act 1973 (c. 41)
118	In section 129(2) and (4) of the Fair Trading Act
	Powers of Criminal Courts Act 1973 (c. 62)
119 120 121 122 123	In section 1(6) of the Powers of Criminal Courts Act In section 32 of the Powers of Criminal Courts Act In section 42 of the Powers of Criminal Courts Act In section 44(1) of the Powers of Criminal Courts Act In section 57(1) of the Powers of Criminal Courts Act
	Slaughterhouses Act 1974 (c. 3)
124 125 126— 129	In section 6(2) of the Slaughterhouses Act 1974 for "the In sections 38(6) and 43(3) of the Slaughterhouses Act 1974
	Control of Pollution Act 1974 (c. 40)
130	In section 87(3) of the Control of Pollution Act 1974
	Friendly Societies Act 1974 (c. 46)
131	In section 102 of the Friendly Societies Act 1974 for
	Solicitors Act 1974 (c. 47)
132	In sections 26, 42(2) and 44(4) of the Solicitors Act
	Insurance Companies Act 1974 (c. 49)
133	
	Rehabilitation of Offenders Act 1974 (c. 53)
134	In section 6(6)(a) of the Rehabilitation of Offenders Act 1974
	Social Security Act 1975 (c. 14)
135	
	Criminal Procedure (Scotland) Act 1975 (c. 21)
136 137	In section 397(1) of the Criminal Procedure (Scotland) Act 1975 In section 403 of the Criminal Procedure (Scotland) Act 1975—
	Children Act 1975 (c. 72)
138	In section 46(4) of the Children Act 1975 for "section

	Prevention of Terrorism (Temporary Provisions) Act 1976 (c. 8)
139	In section 12(3) of the Prevention of Terrorism (Temporary Provisions)
	Restrictive Trade Practices Act 1976 (c. 34)
140	In sections 39(2) and 41(5) and (7) of the Restrictive
	Adoption Act 1976 (c. 36)
141 142	In section 66(2) of the Adoption Act 1976 for "section In section 72(1) of the Adoption Act 1976, in the
	Bail Act 1976 (c. 63)
143 144 145 146	In section 2(1)(c) of the Bail Act 1976 for "section In section 3(9) of the Bail Act 1976 for "subsection In section 4(7) of the Bail Act 1976 for "section In Part I of Schedule 1 to the Bail Act
	Land Drainage Act 1976 (c.70)
147	
	Sexual Offences (Amendment) Act 1976 (c. 82)
148	In section 3(3) of the Sexual Offences (Amendment) Act 1976
	Criminal Law Act 1977 (c. 45)
149 150 151 152 153 154 155	In section 28(8) of the Criminal Law Act 1977 for In section 38(1) of the Criminal Law Act 1977 for In section 48(1) of the Criminal Law Act 1977 for In section 64(2) of the Criminal Law Act 1977 for In section 65(2) of the Criminal Law Act 1977 for In paragraph 1 of Schedule 5 to the Criminal Law In paragraph 1 of Schedule 14 to the Criminal Law
	Civil Aviation Act 1978 (c. 8)
156	
	Domestic Proceedings and Magistrates' Courts Act 1978 (c. 22)
157 158 159 160 161 162 163 164 165 166	In section 16(8) of the Domestic Proceedings and Magistrates' Courts In section 22 of the Domestic Proceedings and Magistrates' Courts In section 23 of the Domestic Proceedings and Magistrates' Courts In section 24(3) of the Domestic Proceedings and Magistrates' Courts In section 30(1) of the Domestic Proceedings and Magistrates' Courts In section 32(2) of the Domestic Proceedings and Magistrates' Courts
167	In section 88(1) of the Domestic Proceedings and Magistrates' Courts

	Nuclear Safeguards and Electricity (Finance) Act 1978 (c. 25)
168	
	Interpretation Act 1978 (c. 30)
169	In Schedule 1 to the Interpretation Act 1978—
	Theft Act 1978 (c. 31)
170	In section 4(3)(b) of the Theft Act 1978 for "section
	Protection of Children Act 1978 (c. 37)
171	In section 6(3)(b) of the Protection of Children Act 1978
172 173	
	Employment Protection (Consolidation) Act 1978 (c. 44)
174 175	In section 107(5)(a) of the Employment Protection (Consolidation) Act 1978
	Customs and Excise Management Act 1979 (c. 2)
176 177 178	In section 147(2) of the Customs and Excise Management Act In section 151 of the Customs and Excise Management Act In section 171(2)(a) of the Customs and Excise Management Act
	Customs and Excise Duties (General Reliefs) Act 1979 (c. 3)
179	In section 15(3)(a) of the Customs and Excise (General Reliefs)
	Alcoholic Liquor Duties Act 1979 (c. 4)
180	In section 49(1) of the Alcoholic Liquor Duties Act 1979
	Hydrocarbon Oils Duties Act 1979 (c. 5)
181	In section 27(1) of the Hydrocarbon Oils Duties Act 1979
	Agricultural Statistics Act 1979 (c. 13)
182	In section 6(1) of the Agricultural Statistics Act 1979, in
	Credit Unions Act 1979 (c. 34)
183 184	
	Estate Agents Act 1979 (c. 38)
185	
	Merchant Shipping Act 1979 (c. 39)
186 187	In section 42(4) of the Merchant Shipping Act 1979 for In section 43(5) of the Merchant Shipping Act 1979 for

Changes to legislation: Magistrates' Courts Act 1980 is up to date with all changes known to be in force on or before 29 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. (See end of Document for details)

188	
189	
	Ancient Monuments and Archeological Areas Act 1979 (c. 46)
190	
	Justices of the Peace Act 1979 (c. 55)
191	In section 16 of the Justices of the Peace Act
192	In section 18(4) of the Justices of the Peace Act
193	In section 27(8) of the Justices of the Peace Act
194	In section 28(1) of the Justices of the Peace Act
195	In section 29(3) of the Justices of the Peace Act
196	In section 30(2) of the Justices of the Peace Act
197	In section 61(1) of the Justices of the Peace Act
	Isle of Man Act 1979 (c. 58)
198	In section 5 of the Isle of Man Act 1979—
	Child Care Act 1980 (c. 5)
199	
200	
	Foster Children Act 1980 (c. 6)
201	
	Residential Homes Act 1980 (c. 7)
202	In section 4(2) of the Residential Homes Act 1980 for
	Reserve Forces Act 1980 (c. 9)
203	
204	In paragraph 2(4) of Schedule 5 to the Reserve Forces
	Protection of Trading Interests Act 1980 (c. 11)
205	
	Competition Act 1980 (c. 21)
206	
	Companies Act 1980 (c. 22)
207	In section 87(1) of the Companies Act 1980, in the
SO	CHEDULE 8 — TRANSITIONAL PROVISIONS AND SAVINGS

Interpretation

In this Schedule references to the old enactments are to...

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Proceedings commenced before appointed day

2 (1) Where proceedings were commenced before the appointed day, the...

Offences committed before appointed day

3 (1) This paragraph applies where proceedings are commenced under this...

Other matters: general

- 4 Paragraphs 5 and 6 below have effect subject to paragraphs...
- 5 Without prejudice to any express amendment made by this Act,...
- 6 Where a period of time specified in an enactment repealed...

Saving for transitionals in orders

7 (1) This paragraph applies where any provision of an old...

Savings of amendments

8 Notwithstanding the repeal by this Act of the Magistrates' Courts...

Savings for Local Government Act 1972

9 The provisions of this Act shall have effect without prejudice...

Scottish saving

10 (1) This paragraph applies to Schedule 7B to the Criminal...

SCHEDULE 9 — REPEALS

Status:

Point in time view as at 04/07/1996.

Changes to legislation:

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