



Police Act 1996

1996 CHAPTER 16

PART V

MISCELLANEOUS AND GENERAL

Offences

90 Impersonation, etc.

- (1) Any person who with intent to deceive impersonates a member of a police force or special constable, or makes any statement or does any act calculated falsely to suggest that he is such a member or constable, shall be guilty of an offence and liable on summary conviction to imprisonment for a term not exceeding six months or to a fine not exceeding level 5 on the standard scale, or to both.
- (2) Any person who, not being a constable, wears any article of police uniform in circumstances where it gives him an appearance so nearly resembling that of a member of a police force as to be calculated to deceive shall be guilty of an offence and liable on summary conviction to a fine not exceeding level 3 on the standard scale.
- (3) Any person who, not being a member of a police force or special constable, has in his possession any article of police uniform shall, unless he proves that he obtained possession of that article lawfully and has possession of it for a lawful purpose, be guilty of an offence and liable on summary conviction to a fine not exceeding level 1 on the standard scale.
- (4) In this section—
 - (a) “article of police uniform” means any article of uniform or any distinctive badge or mark or document of identification usually issued to members of police forces or special constables, or anything having the appearance of such an article, badge, mark or document,
 - [^{F1}(aa) “member of a police force” includes a member of the British Transport Police Force,] and
 - (b) “special constable” means a special constable appointed for a police area.

Status: Point in time view as at 01/07/2004. This version of this provision has been superseded.
Changes to legislation: Police Act 1996, Section 90 is up to date with all changes known to be in force on or before 10 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)

Textual Amendments

F1 S. 90(4)(aa) inserted (14.12.2001) by [2001 c. 24, ss. 101, 127\(2\)\(f\)](#), [Sch. 7 para. 25](#)

Modifications etc. (not altering text)

C1 S. 90 applied (with modifications) (1.7.2004) by [Railways and Transport Safety Act 2003 \(c. 20\)](#), [s. 68\(2\)\(3\)](#); [S.I. 2004/1572, art. 3\(yy\)](#)

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