



# Offensive Weapons Act 1996

## 1996 CHAPTER 26

### **6 Sale of knives and certain articles with blade or point to persons under sixteen.**

- (1) After section 141 of the <sup>M1</sup>Criminal Justice Act 1988 (offensive weapons) there is inserted—

**“141A Sale of knives and certain articles with blade or point to persons under sixteen.**

- (1) Any person who sells to a person under the age of sixteen years an article to which this section applies shall be guilty of an offence and liable on summary conviction to imprisonment for a term not exceeding six months, or a fine not exceeding level 5 on the standard scale, or both.
- (2) Subject to subsection (3) below, this section applies to—
- (a) any knife, knife blade or razor blade,
  - (b) any axe, and
  - (c) any other article which has a blade or which is sharply pointed and which is made or adapted for use for causing injury to the person.
- (3) This section does not apply to any article described in—
- (a) section 1 of the <sup>M2</sup>Restriction of Offensive Weapons Act 1959,
  - (b) an order made under section 141(2) of this Act, or
  - (c) an order made by the Secretary of State under this section.
- (4) It shall be a defence for a person charged with an offence under subsection (1) above to prove that he took all reasonable precautions and exercised all due diligence to avoid the commission of the offence.
- (5) The power to make an order under this section shall be exercisable by statutory instrument which shall be subject to annulment in pursuance of a resolution of either House of Parliament.”
- (2) In section 172 of that Act (extent) in subsection (2), for “and 142” there is substituted “ 141A and 142 ”.

---

*Changes to legislation: There are currently no known outstanding effects for the Offensive Weapons Act 1996, Section 6. (See end of Document for details)*

---

- (3) Subsections (1) and (2) above shall come into force on such day as the Secretary of State may by order made by statutory instrument appoint.

---

**Subordinate Legislation Made**

**P1** [S. 6\(3\)](#) power fully exercised (4.12.1996): 1.1.1997 appointed day by [S.I. 1996/3063](#), **art. 2**

---

**Commencement Information**

**II** [S. 6](#) wholly in force; [s. 6\(3\)](#) in force at Royal Assent see [s. 6\(3\)](#); [s. 6\(1\)\(2\)](#) in force at 1.1.1997 by [S.I. 1996/3063](#), **art. 2**

---

**Marginal Citations**

**M1** 1988 c. 33.

**M2** 1959 c. 37.

**Changes to legislation:**

There are currently no known outstanding effects for the Offensive Weapons Act 1996, Section 6.