

Changes to legislation: There are currently no known outstanding effects for the Northern Ireland Troubles (Legacy and Reconciliation) Act 2023, PART 2. (See end of Document for details)

SCHEDULES

SCHEDULE 4

SUPPLY OF INFORMATION: ENFORCEMENT

PART 2

DISTORTION OR SUPPRESSION OF EVIDENCE ETC

Distorting evidence etc

- 8 (1) A person is guilty of an offence if the person does anything that is intended to have the effect of—
- (a) distorting or otherwise altering any evidence, document or other thing that is produced or provided to the Commissioner for Investigations in accordance with a notice under section 14, or
 - (b) preventing any evidence, document or other thing from being produced or provided to the Commissioner for Investigations in accordance with a notice under section 14.
- (2) A person is guilty of an offence if the person does anything that the person knows or believes is likely to have the effect described in sub-paragraph (1)(a) or (b).

Commencement Information

- I1** Sch. 4 para. 8 not in force at Royal Assent, see [s. 63\(4\)](#)
I2 [Sch. 4 para. 8](#) in force at 1.5.2024 by [S.I. 2024/584](#), [reg. 2\(j\)](#) (with [regs. 3, 4](#))

Suppression of evidence etc

- 9 (1) A person is guilty of an offence if the person—
- (a) intentionally suppresses or conceals, or
 - (b) intentionally alters or destroys,
- a document that is, and that the person knows or believes to be, a relevant document.
- (2) For that purpose a document is a “relevant document” if it is likely that the Commissioner for Investigations would (if aware of its existence) wish to be provided with it.

Commencement Information

- I3** Sch. 4 para. 9 not in force at Royal Assent, see [s. 63\(4\)](#)
I4 [Sch. 4 para. 9](#) in force at 1.5.2024 by [S.I. 2024/584](#), [reg. 2\(j\)](#) (with [regs. 3, 4](#))

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Institution of proceedings

- 10 Proceedings for an offence under paragraph 8 or 9 may be instituted—
- (a) in England and Wales, only by or with the consent of the Director of Public Prosecutions;
 - (b) in Northern Ireland, only by or with the consent of the Director of Public Prosecutions for Northern Ireland.

Commencement Information

- I5** Sch. 4 para. 10 not in force at Royal Assent, see [s. 63\(4\)](#)
I6 [Sch. 4 para. 10](#) in force at 1.5.2024 by [S.I. 2024/584](#), [reg. 2\(j\)](#) (with [regs. 3, 4](#))

Penalties

- 11 (1) A person who is guilty of an offence under this Part of this Schedule is liable on summary conviction to a fine not exceeding level three on the standard scale or to imprisonment for a term not exceeding the relevant maximum, or to both.
- (2) In this Part of this Schedule “relevant maximum” means—
- (a) in Northern Ireland, six months;
 - (b) in England and Wales, 51 weeks;
 - (c) in Scotland, 12 months.
- (3) In relation to an offence committed before the commencement of section 281(5) of the Criminal Justice Act 2003 (alteration of penalties for summary offences), the reference in sub-paragraph (2)(b) to 51 weeks is to be read as a reference to six months.

Commencement Information

- I7** Sch. 4 para. 11 not in force at Royal Assent, see [s. 63\(4\)](#)
I8 [Sch. 4 para. 11](#) in force at 1.5.2024 by [S.I. 2024/584](#), [reg. 2\(j\)](#) (with [regs. 3, 4](#))

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