

*These notes refer to the Crime and Courts Act 2013
(c.22) which received Royal Assent on 25 April 2013*

CRIME AND COURTS ACT 2013

EXPLANATORY NOTES

COMMENTARY ON SECTIONS

Section 57: Public order offences

680. *Section 57* removes the ‘insulting’ limb from section 5 of the Public Order Act 1986 (“the 1986 Act”), thereby making the use of insulting words, behaviour etc which is likely to cause harassment, alarm or distress no longer a criminal offence.
681. *Subsection (2)* removes the word ‘insulting’ from section 5(1) of the 1986 Act, which sets out the offence.
682. *Subsection (3)* removes the word ‘insulting’ from section 6(4) of the 1986 Act, which provides that a person is guilty of an offence under section 5 only if they intend their words, behaviour etc to be threatening, abusive or insulting, or are aware that their words, behaviour etc may be threatening, abusive or insulting.