



# Police, Crime, Sentencing and Courts Act 2022

## 2022 CHAPTER 32

### PART 7

#### SENTENCING AND RELEASE

### CHAPTER 3

#### ASSAULTS ON THOSE PROVIDING A PUBLIC SERVICE ETC

#### 156 Assaults on those providing a public service etc

In the Sentencing Act 2020, after section 68 insert—

#### “68A Assaults on those providing a public service etc

- (1) This section applies where—
  - (a) a court is considering the seriousness of an offence listed in subsection (3), and
  - (b) the offence is not aggravated under section 67(2).
- (2) If the offence was committed against a person providing a public service, performing a public duty or providing services to the public, the court—
  - (a) must treat that fact as an aggravating factor, and
  - (b) must state in open court that the offence is so aggravated.
- (3) The offences referred to in subsection (1) are—
  - (a) an offence of common assault or battery, except where section 1 of the Assaults on Emergency Workers (Offences) Act 2018 applies;
  - (b) an offence under any of the following provisions of the Offences against the Person Act 1861—

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**Changes to legislation:** There are currently no known outstanding effects for the Police, Crime, Sentencing and Courts Act 2022, CHAPTER 3. (See end of Document for details)

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- (i) section 16 (threats to kill);
  - (ii) section 18 (wounding with intent to cause grievous bodily harm);
  - (iii) section 20 (malicious wounding);
  - (iv) section 47 (assault occasioning actual bodily harm);
  - (c) an inchoate offence in relation to any of the preceding offences.
- (4) In this section—
- (a) a reference to providing services to the public includes a reference to providing goods or facilities to the public;
  - (b) a reference to the public includes a reference to a section of the public.
- (5) Nothing in this section prevents a court from treating the fact that an offence was committed against a person providing a public service, performing a public duty or providing services to the public as an aggravating factor in relation to offences not listed in subsection (3).
- (6) This section has effect in relation to a person who is convicted of the offence on or after the date on which section 156 of the Police, Crime, Sentencing and Courts Act 2022 comes into force.”

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**Commencement Information**

- I1** S. 156 not in force at Royal Assent, see [s. 208\(1\)](#)
- I2** [S. 156](#) in force at 28.6.2022 by [S.I. 2022/520](#), [reg. 5\(s\)](#)

**Changes to legislation:**

There are currently no known outstanding effects for the Police, Crime, Sentencing and Courts Act 2022, CHAPTER 3.