



Offences against the Person Act 1861

1861 CHAPTER 100 24 and 25 Vict

Acts causing or tending to cause Danger to Life or Bodily Harm

23 Maliciously administering poison, &c. so as to endanger life or inflict grievous bodily harm.

Whosoever shall unlawfully and maliciously administer to or cause to be administered to or taken by any other person any poison or other destructive or noxious thing, so as thereby to endanger the life of such person, or so as thereby to inflict upon such person any grievous bodily harm, shall be guilty of felony, and being convicted thereof shall be liable . . . ^{F1} to be kept in penal servitude for any term not exceeding ten years . . . ^{F1}

Textual Amendments

F1 Words repealed by [Statute Law Revision Act 1892 \(c. 19\)](#)

Modifications etc. (not altering text)

- C1** Ss. 18, 20, 21, 22, 23, 24, 28, 29, 30 extended by [Internationally Protected Persons Act 1978 \(c. 17, SIF 39:2\)](#), **s. 1**
- C2** Ss. 18, 20, 21, 22, 23, 28, 29 extended by [Aviation Security Act 1982 \(c. 36, SIF 9\)](#), **s. 6(1)**
- C3** Ss. 18, 20, 21, 22, 23, 24, 28, 29 applied by [Aviation and Maritime Security Act 1990 \(c. 31, SIF 39:2\)](#), **ss. 11(7), 14(2), 18(2)**
- C4** S. 23 extended (27.4.1997) by [1997 c. 13](#), **ss. 1(2)(b), 10(2)**

Changes to legislation:

Offences against the Person Act 1861, Section 23 is up to date with all changes known to be in force on or before 07 September 2026. 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.

[View outstanding changes](#)

Changes and effects yet to be applied to :

- s. 23 omitted by [2026 c. 20 s. 134\(1\)\(a\)](#)