

businesscompanion

trading standards law explained

Legislation etc

In this section

[Trading Standards](#)

[In this update](#)

[Key legislation](#)

[Sources and attribution statement](#)

Trading Standards

For more information on the work of Trading Standards services - and the possible consequences of not abiding by the law - please see '[Trading Standards: powers, enforcement and penalties](#)'.

In this update

Two additions to the list of regulated poisons.

Last reviewed / updated: April 2024

Key legislation

- [Restriction of Offensive Weapons Act 1959](#)
- [Poisons Act 1972](#)
- [Criminal Justice Act 1988](#)
- [Knives Act 1997](#)
- [Control of Poisons and Explosives Precursors Regulations 2015](#)
- [Offensive Weapons Act 2019](#)
- [Control of Poisons and Explosives Precursors Regulations 2023](#)

Sources and attribution statement

Contains public sector information licensed under the Open Government Licence v3.0. and the EU Creative Commons Attribution 4.0 International (CC BY 4.0) licence.

<https://www.gov.uk/>

<https://www.hse.gov.uk/>

<https://echa.europa.eu>

<https://ec.europa.eu>

<https://www.gov.uk/government/collections/hazardous-sites-and-substances>

<https://www.gov.uk/government/publications/supplying-explosives-precursors>

<https://www.gov.uk/government/publications/guidance-on-licensed-transactions-for-explosives-precursors>

<https://www.gov.uk/government/publications/guidance-on-labelling-requirements-for-regulated-explosives-precursors>
<https://www.gov.uk/government/publications/guidance-on-licensed-transactions-for-internet-retailers-of-explosives-precursors>
<https://www.gov.uk/government/publications/advice-to-the-public-on-the-control-of-explosives-precursors-regulations-2014>
<https://report-suspicious-chemical-activity.dsa.homeoffice.gov.uk/login>
<https://www.gov.uk/government/publications/refusing-a-sale>
<https://www.gov.uk/government/publications/due-diligence-checks>
<https://www.gov.uk/government/publications/knives-and-offensive-weapons-information>
<https://www.gov.uk/buying-carrying-knives>
<https://www.gov.uk/government/consultations/offensive-weapons-act-2019-draft-statutory-guidance>
<https://www.protectuk.Police.uk/advice-and-guidance/awareness/poisons-act-1972-selling-chemicals-responsibly>
<https://www.gov.uk/government/consultations/machetes-and-other-bladed-articles-proposed-legislation>

Last reviewed / updated: April 2024

[**< Part 2. Knives, bladed articles and bladed products**](#)

Please note

This information is intended for guidance; only the courts can give an authoritative interpretation of the law.

The guide's 'Key legislation' links may only show the original version of the legislation, although some amending legislation is linked to separately where it is directly related to the content of a guide. Information on changes to legislation can be found by following the above links and clicking on the 'More Resources' tab.

© 2025 Chartered Trading Standards Institute

Source URL:

<https://www.businesscompanion.info/focus/knives-bladed-items-and-hazardous-materials/legislation-etc>