

BLACKSTONE'S GUIDE TO THE FRAUD ACT

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The Fraud Act 2006, which came into force 15 January 2007, is an important new statute which creates new offences of fraud that can be committed in three ways. Because all deception offences under the Theft Acts of 1968 and 1978 are abolished, with dishonesty being more important than the mind of the victim, it is vitally important for all those involved in the day to day criminal law to be fully aware of its contents.

For that reason this book is a very good guide, which in addition to covering the law, old and new, also provides the statute in full along with other germane statutes, Reports of Royal Commissions and related matters such as Protocol's issued by the Lord Chief Justice.

Appendix 6 lists other fraud legislation viz, the Theft Acts 1968 and 1978, Forgery & Counterfeiting Act 1981, Copyright Design & Patents Acts 1988, Computer Misuse Act 1990, Social Security Administration Act 1992, Criminal Justice Act 1993, Trademarks Act 1994, Value Added Tax Act 1994, Financial Services and Markets Act 2000 and Proceeds of Crime Act 2002.

Appendix 9 lists sample indictments, which may assist Prosecutors and Custody Sergeants to write up the charge.

The book covers much of the law and discussions very succinctly. There is a great deal to cover with such a complex subject as fraud. Prosecutors and Police who have lived with the problem of the 'deception' offences under the Theft Acts for decades will recognise a good deal as the authors discuss the pre 1968 position with cases such as 'Preddy' and 'Gomez', minds will be cast back to the hours spent reading 'Ellemer', 'Hinks', 'AG's Reference No 1 of 1985', the 'Ghosh test for dishonesty' and the words subjective and objective, 'Oxford v Moss' and 'Dura', 'Childs'