



# Bribery Act 2010

**The Bribery Act reforms the criminal law to provide a new, modern and comprehensive scheme of bribery offences that will enable courts and prosecutors to respond more effectively to bribery at home or abroad.**

The Act will:

- provide a more effective legal framework to combat bribery in the public or private sectors
- replace the fragmented and complex offences at common law and in the Prevention of Corruption Acts 1889-1916
- create two general offences covering the offering, promising or giving of an advantage, and requesting, agreeing to receive or accepting of an advantage
- create a discrete offence of bribery of a foreign public official
- create a new offence of failure by a commercial organisation to prevent a bribe being paid for or on its behalf (it will be a defence if the organisation has adequate procedures in place to prevent bribery)
- require the Secretary of State to publish guidance about procedures that relevant commercial organisations can put in place to prevent bribery on their behalf
- help tackle the threat that bribery poses to economic progress and development around the world.

The Bill was published in draft on 25 March 2009 for pre-legislative scrutiny by a Joint Committee of both Houses of Parliament.

The Bill received Royal Assent on 8 April 2010.

- [Bribery Act 2010](#)
- [Bribery Bill 2009-10](#)
- [Bribery Bill: impact assessment](#) (PDF 0.16mb 22 pages)
  
- [Claire Ward letter on amendments for Commons Committee stage](#) (PDF 0.05mb 1 pages)
- [Lord Bach letter on Government amendments for Lords Report](#) (PDF 0.03mb 2 pages)
- [Lord Bach letter on adequate procedures guidance](#) (PDF 0.05mb 5 pages)
- [Lord Tunnicliffe's letter on corporate hospitality](#) (PDF 0.06mb 2 pages)
- [Lord Tunnicliffe's letter on clause 6\(3\)\(b\)](#) (PDF 0.05mb 1 pages)

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