

The Bribery Act 2010



Definition

The Bribery Act 2010 defines a bribe as a payment (or other advantages) given with the intention that a person will improperly perform a relevant function or activity.



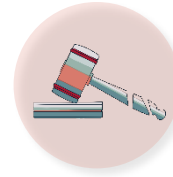
Offences

The Bribery Act sets out what constitutes Bribery and explains that an offence of Bribery occurs when a person: Offers a bribe; or promises to pay a bribe; or pays a bribe; or agrees to receive a bribe; or receives a bribe.



Improper Performance

Performing (or not performing) a function or activity in breach of an expectation of good faith or impartiality, or an expectation arising from a position of trust.



Enforcement

The Act is enforced by the UK Serious Fraud Office, with strict penalties which take the form of unlimited fines and/or up to ten years in prison.



Intent

What is essential is that the payment (or other advantages) is in some manner intended to produce the effect of improper performance or behaviour.



Obligations on Firms

There is a responsibility on every company, that in the event of an offence being committed, it must be able to show that it had sufficient procedures in place to prevent it.