



Agriculture Act 1967

1967 CHAPTER 22

PART I

LIVESTOCK AND MEAT MARKETING

Modifications etc. (not altering text)

- C1** Pt. I (ss. 1-22): Functions of the Secretary of State, the Secretary of State for Scotland or the Secretary of State for Wales transferred to the Minister of Agriculture, Fisheries and Food (except for Sch. 1 Pt. II para. 9(2) for certain purposes) (27.12.1999) by [S.I. 1999/3141](#), arts. 2(1)(5), [Sch.](#) (with art. 3)
- C2** Pt. I power to repeal conferred (1.10.2006) by [Natural Environment and Rural Communities Act 2006](#) (c. 16), [ss. 91\(4\)](#), 107(6)(b); [S.I. 2006/2541](#), art. 2 (with [Sch.](#))

The Meat and Livestock Commission

^{F1} **1 The Meat and Livestock Commission.**

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Textual Amendments

- F1** Ss. 1-25 repealed (1.4.2008) by [The Agriculture and Horticulture Development Board Order 2008](#) (S.I. 2008/576), art. 1(3), [Sch. 5 para. 7](#) (with [Sch. 4 para. 10](#))

^{F1}^{F2} **1A Commission's duty to consult representative organisations.**

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Changes to legislation: Agriculture Act 1967 is up to date with all changes known to be in force on or before 21 February 2024. 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. (See end of Document for details) View outstanding changes

Textual Amendments

F1 Ss. 1-25 repealed (1.4.2008) by [The Agriculture and Horticulture Development Board Order 2008 \(S.I. 2008/576\)](#), art. 1(3), **Sch. 5 para. 7** (with Sch. 4 para. 10)

F2 [S.1A](#) inserted by [Agriculture \(Miscellaneous Provisions\) Act 1976 \(c. 55\)](#), s. 3(2)

Modifications etc. (not altering text)

C3 Ss. 1A, 2 excluded by [Pig Industry Levy Act 1983 \(c. 4, SIF 4:4\)](#), s. 4(1)

^{F1}^{F3} 2] The Consumers Committee, and other committees of the Commission.

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Textual Amendments

F1 Ss. 1-25 repealed (1.4.2008) by [The Agriculture and Horticulture Development Board Order 2008 \(S.I. 2008/576\)](#), art. 1(3), **Sch. 5 para. 7** (with Sch. 4 para. 10)

F3 [S. 2](#) substituted with saving by [Agriculture \(Miscellaneous Provisions\) Act 1976 \(c. 55\)](#), s. 3(4), **Sch. 1 para. 2**

Modifications etc. (not altering text)

C4 Ss. 1A, 2 excluded by [Pig Industry Levy Act 1983 \(c. 4, SIF 4:4\)](#), s. 4(1)

^{F1}3 Commission’s duties in connection with fatstock guaranteed prices and calf subsidies.

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Textual Amendments

F1 Ss. 1-25 repealed (1.4.2008) by [The Agriculture and Horticulture Development Board Order 2008 \(S.I. 2008/576\)](#), art. 1(3), **Sch. 5 para. 7** (with Sch. 4 para. 10)

^{F1}4 Commission’s functions in connection with Markets and Fairs (Weighing of Cattle) Acts.

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Textual Amendments

F1 Ss. 1-25 repealed (1.4.2008) by [The Agriculture and Horticulture Development Board Order 2008 \(S.I. 2008/576\)](#), art. 1(3), **Sch. 5 para. 7** (with Sch. 4 para. 10)

^{F1}5 Systems for classification of carcasses.

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Textual Amendments

F1 Ss. 1-25 repealed (1.4.2008) by [The Agriculture and Horticulture Development Board Order 2008 \(S.I. 2008/576\)](#), art. 1(3), **Sch. 5 para. 7** (with Sch. 4 para. 10)

F16 Compulsory use of systems of classification of carcasses.

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Textual Amendments

F1 Ss. 1-25 repealed (1.4.2008) by [The Agriculture and Horticulture Development Board Order 2008 \(S.I. 2008/576\)](#), art. 1(3), **Sch. 5 para. 7** (with Sch. 4 para. 10)

Modifications etc. (not altering text)

C5 S. 6 modified (1.7.1999) by [S.I. 1999/1747](#), arts. 1, 3, **Sch. 16 para. 3(1)**; [S.I. 1998/3178](#), **art. 3**

F17 Systems of classifying meat, and codes of practice for butchers.

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Textual Amendments

F1 Ss. 1-25 repealed (1.4.2008) by [The Agriculture and Horticulture Development Board Order 2008 \(S.I. 2008/576\)](#), art. 1(3), **Sch. 5 para. 7** (with Sch. 4 para. 10)

F18 Information as to retail meat prices.

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Textual Amendments

F1 Ss. 1-25 repealed (1.4.2008) by [The Agriculture and Horticulture Development Board Order 2008 \(S.I. 2008/576\)](#), art. 1(3), **Sch. 5 para. 7** (with Sch. 4 para. 10)

F19 Powers to meet future developments in livestock and livestock products industries.

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Extent Information

E1 [S. 9\(11\)](#) extends to N.I. otherwise the rest of the section extends to G.B. only

Textual Amendments

F1 Ss. 1-25 repealed (1.4.2008) by [The Agriculture and Horticulture Development Board Order 2008 \(S.I. 2008/576\)](#), art. 1(3), **Sch. 5 para. 7** (with Sch. 4 para. 10)

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Modifications etc. (not altering text)

C6 S. 9 modified (1.7.1999) by S.I. 1999/1747, arts. 1, 3, **Sch. 16 para. 3(1)**; S.I. 1998/3178, **art. 3**

10— **F4**
11.

Textual Amendments

F4 Ss. 10–12 repealed by **Statute Law (Repeals) Act 1986** (c. 12), s. 1(1), **Sch. 1 Pt. II**

12 **F5**

Textual Amendments

F5 Ss. 10–12 repealed by **Statute Law (Repeals) Act 1986** (c. 12), s. 1(1), **Sch. 1 Pt. II**

Financial

^{F1}13 Levy on industries to meet Commission’s expenses.

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Textual Amendments

F1 Ss. 1-25 repealed (1.4.2008) by **The Agriculture and Horticulture Development Board Order 2008** (S.I. 2008/576), art. 1(3), **Sch. 5 para. 7** (with Sch. 4 para. 10)

Modifications etc. (not altering text)

C7 S. 13 modified (1.7.1999) by S.I. 1999/1747, arts. 1, 3, **Sch. 16 para. 3(1)**; S.I. 1998/3178, **art. 3**

^{F1}14 Levy: registration, returns and records.

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Textual Amendments

F1 Ss. 1-25 repealed (1.4.2008) by **The Agriculture and Horticulture Development Board Order 2008** (S.I. 2008/576), art. 1(3), **Sch. 5 para. 7** (with Sch. 4 para. 10)

Modifications etc. (not altering text)

C8 S. 14 extended by **Pig Industry Levy Act 1983** (c. 4, SIF 4:4), **s. 1(1)(4)**

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F¹15 Ministers' contributions to Commission's expenses.

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Textual Amendments

- F1** Ss. 1-25 repealed (1.4.2008) by [The Agriculture and Horticulture Development Board Order 2008 \(S.I. 2008/576\)](#), art. 1(3), **Sch. 5 para. 7** (with Sch. 4 para. 10)

F⁶16 Payments for scientific research.

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Textual Amendments

- F6** S. 16 repealed (22.7.2004) by [Statute Law \(Repeals\) Act 2004 \(c. 14\)](#), **Sch. 1 Pt. 2** Group 1

F¹17 Collection of statutory levies by Commission.

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Textual Amendments

- F1** Ss. 1-25 repealed (1.4.2008) by [The Agriculture and Horticulture Development Board Order 2008 \(S.I. 2008/576\)](#), art. 1(3), **Sch. 5 para. 7** (with Sch. 4 para. 10)

F¹18 Commission's reserve fund.

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Textual Amendments

- F1** Ss. 1-25 repealed (1.4.2008) by [The Agriculture and Horticulture Development Board Order 2008 \(S.I. 2008/576\)](#), art. 1(3), **Sch. 5 para. 7** (with Sch. 4 para. 10)

F¹19 Commission's annual report and accounts.

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Textual Amendments

- F1** Ss. 1-25 repealed (1.4.2008) by [The Agriculture and Horticulture Development Board Order 2008 \(S.I. 2008/576\)](#), art. 1(3), **Sch. 5 para. 7** (with Sch. 4 para. 10)

Modifications etc. (not altering text)

- C9** S. 19 extended (14.3.2001) by [S.I. 2001/935](#), **art. 2**, para. 16 of Scheme

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Supplemental

F120 Directions to Commission by Ministers.

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Textual Amendments

F1 Ss. 1-25 repealed (1.4.2008) by [The Agriculture and Horticulture Development Board Order 2008 \(S.I. 2008/576\)](#), art. 1(3), **Sch. 5 para. 7** (with Sch. 4 para. 10)

Modifications etc. (not altering text)

C10 S. 20 modified (23.10.2002) by [The Scotland Act 1998 \(Cross-Border Public Authorities\) \(Adaption of Functions etc.\) Order 1999 \(S.I. 1999/1747\)](#), Sch. 16 Pt. II paras. 4, 5 (as inserted by [The Scotland Act 1998 \(Cross-Border Public Authorities\) \(Adaptation of Functions etc.\) \(Amendment\) Order 2002 \(S.I. 2002/2636\)](#)), **art. 3(b)(ii)**)

F121 Inquiries by Commission.

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Textual Amendments

F1 Ss. 1-25 repealed (1.4.2008) by [The Agriculture and Horticulture Development Board Order 2008 \(S.I. 2008/576\)](#), art. 1(3), **Sch. 5 para. 7** (with Sch. 4 para. 10)

F722 Dissolution of Pig Industry Development Authority.

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Textual Amendments

F7 S. 22 repealed (22.7.2004) by [Statute Law \(Repeals\) Act 2004 \(c. 14\)](#), **Sch. 1 Pt. 2** Group 1

F123 Power of entry.

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Textual Amendments

F1 Ss. 1-25 repealed (1.4.2008) by [The Agriculture and Horticulture Development Board Order 2008 \(S.I. 2008/576\)](#), art. 1(3), **Sch. 5 para. 7** (with Sch. 4 para. 10)

Modifications etc. (not altering text)

C11 S. 23 applied (with modifications) (14.3.2001) by [S.I. 2001/935](#), **art. 2**, para. 14 of Scheme

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F⁸24 Disclosure of information.

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Extent Information

E2 For the extent of s. 24 see s. 24(4)

Textual Amendments

F8 S. 24 repealed (1.10.2006) by Natural Environment and Rural Communities Act 2006 (c. 16), s. 107, Sch. 11 para. 40, 12; S.I. 2006/2541, art. 2 (with Sch.)

Modifications etc. (not altering text)

C12 S. 24 extended by Pig Industry Levy Act 1983 (c. 4, SIF 39:1), s. 4(4) s. 24 applied (with modifications) (14.3.2001) by S.I. 2001/935, art. 2, para. 14 of Scheme

F¹25 Interpretation of Part I.

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Textual Amendments

F1 Ss. 1-25 repealed (1.4.2008) by The Agriculture and Horticulture Development Board Order 2008 (S.I. 2008/576), art. 1(3), Sch. 5 para. 7 (with Sch. 4 para. 10)

PART II

**FARM STRUCTURE AND FARM IMPROVEMENTS,
AND PROMOTION OF AGRICULTURAL INVESTMENT**

Farm Structure

[F⁹26 Grants for amalgamations and boundary adjustments.

(1) [F¹⁰The appropriate Minister may in accordance with a scheme and subject to section 50 of the M¹Agriculture Act 1970 make, out of money provided by Parliament, grants of amounts determined in such manner as may be provided by or under the scheme in connection with the carrying out of any of the following transactions approved by him in pursuance of the scheme, that is to say—]

(a) F¹¹ transactions for securing that agricultural land which is [F¹²or forms part of] an uncommercial unit, but which together with some other agricultural land could form an intermediate unit or commercial unit, shall be owned and occupied with that other land, [F¹³or, if not so owned, occupied with that other land by a person who shall occupy any part of the resulting unit not owned by him as a tenant (as defined in the [F¹⁴Agricultural Holdings Act 1986] or, in Scotland, [F¹⁵the Agricultural Holdings (Scotland) Act 1991], and]

(b) F¹¹ transactions for securing that, where an intermediate unit or a commercial unit is not all in the same ownership,

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any part of it comes to be in the same ownership as the rest of that unit, or in the same ownership as some other part of that unit, but excluding transactions which bring into the same ownership and occupation two or more parts of the unit each of which could by itself form a commercial unit, and

[^{F16}(bb) transactions for securing that, where the person occupying an intermediate unit or a commercial unit occupies any part or parts of it otherwise than as owner or as a tenant as defined in the [^{F14}Agricultural Holdings Act 1968] (or, in Scotland, [^{F15}the Agricultural Holdings (Scotland) Act 1991]), he comes to occupy that part or all those parts as owner or as such a tenant, and]

(c)^{F11} transfers or exchanges of agricultural land (or estates or interests in agricultural land) for the purpose of giving more satisfactory boundaries to one or more agricultural units;

and for the purposes of paragraph (a) above, such assumptions as the appropriate Minister may consider reasonable may be made as to the [^{F17}works and facilities which will be carried out or provided] for the benefit of the unit to be formed.

[^{F18}Transactions within paragraphs (a), (b) and (bb) above] are in this Part of this Act referred to as “amalgamations”, and transactions within paragraph (c) are in this Part of this Act referred to as “boundary adjustments”.

(2) A scheme under this section may restrict the amalgamations and boundary adjustments to which it applies in any way, and may in particular exclude amalgamations of land which has reverted from being in single ownership or occupation [^{F19}or, as respects transactions within subsection (1)(bb) of this section, cases where after the transaction has been effected the unit is not in single ownership].

(3)^{F20}

(4) A scheme under this section may make different provision for [^{F21}different circumstances]; ...^{F22}.

(5)^{F20}

[^{F24}Any approval in pursuance of a scheme under this section of an amalgamation or ^{F23}(6) boundary adjustment—]

(a) may be given either before or, in any case where the appropriate Minister thinks fit, after ...^{F25} the amalgamation or boundary adjustment has been carried out;

(b) may given subject to such conditions as the appropriate Minister may specify, and in particular subject to any condition as to the time within which the amalgamation or boundary adjustment is to be carried out or as to the carrying out or provision within a specified period of specified works or facilities appearing to the appropriate Minister to be necessary as a consequence of the amalgamation or boundary adjustment;

(c) may be varied or withdrawn by the appropriate Minister with the written consent of the person on whose application the approval was given;

and the appropriate Minister may, if he thinks fit, for the purposes of a claim for grant under section 29 of the Agriculture Act 1970 issue a certificate with respect to any work or facility that he considers it to be necessary or desirable as a consequence of an amalgamation, or to be necessary as a consequence of a boundary adjustment, approved by that Minister in pursuance of the scheme]

(7) After the payment of any grant under this section [^{F26}any grant under section 29 of the Agriculture Act 1970 in respect of any work or facility certified under subsection (6)

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above or any grant under] subsection (1)(a) of the next following section in connection with an amalgamation the relevant unit shall be subject to the provisions of Schedule 3 to this Act and—

- (a) the appropriate Minister shall not approve . . . ^{F27} the amalgamation unless satisfied that all persons having an estate or interest in the relevant unit have given their written consent to the application of that Schedule to the relevant unit,
- (b) the relevant unit shall be, or be the part of, the agricultural unit or units specified for the purposes of this subsection by the appropriate Minister in the document giving his approval to the [^{F28}amalgamation], and
- (c) in the said Schedule 3 as applied by this subsection “relevant Exchequer payments” shall mean—

- [any such grant as aforesaid in respect of such expenditure as the
- ^{F29}(i) appropriate Minister may certify as being expenditure related to the relevant unit, and]
- (ii) such sum as the appropriate Minister may certify as the sum representing his administrative expenses (including an appropriate proportion of overhead expenses and other fixed or general expenses) incurred in connection with making the grant,

and “the relevant date” shall, for any grant and the related administrative expenses, be the date when the grant was paid.

(8) In the case of the payment of any grant under this section [^{F30}or any such grant under section 29 of the Agriculture Act 1970 as is referred to in the last foregoing subsection] in connection with a boundary adjustment the appropriate Minister may, if he thinks fit, designate in the document giving his approval to the [^{F30}boundary adjustment] any land appearing to him to benefit from the boundary adjustment as land which, after the payment of that grant, is to be a relevant unit subject to the provisions of Schedule 3 to this Act, and paragraphs (a) and (c) of the last foregoing subsection shall apply in relation to the boundary adjustment as they apply in relation to an amalgamation.

(9) The duration of a scheme under this section shall be a period not exceeding seven years, but that period may from time to time be extended by further schemes under this section for periods not exceeding seven years.

(10) A grant shall not be made under ^{M2}section 16 of the Agriculture Act 1957 (which relates to grants towards costs of amalgamation and is superseded by this section) in respect of a transaction proposed in an application made under that section after the coming into force of the first scheme made under this section, and so much of subsection (2) of the said section 16 as limits the time within which applications may be made under that section shall cease to have effect.

(11) The following enactments—

- (a) section 6(c) of the Hill Farming Act 1946,
- (b)^{F31}
- ^{F32}(c)

(under which grant under those Acts may be recovered by the appropriate Minister if there is a failure to carry out proposals), and any provision to the like effect in regulations made under section 77(3) of the Agriculture (Scotland) Act 1948 or section 22(4) of the Crofters (Scotland) Act 1955, shall not apply where in the opinion of the appropriate Minister the carrying out of the proposals is, [^{F33}as a consequence of an amalgamation or boundary adjustment approved in pursuance of a scheme under

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this section or in consequence of the carrying out or provision of works or facilities certified under subsection (6) thereof], impracticable or to no purpose or unduly expensive.]

Textual Amendments

- F9** S. 26 repealed (N.I.) by S.I. 1987/166 (N.I. 1), art. 20, **Sch.**
- F10** Words substituted by virtue of [Agriculture \(Miscellaneous Provisions\) Act 1972 \(c. 62\)](#) s. 9(1)(2)(a)(i)
- F11** Words repealed by virtue of [Agriculture Act 1970 c. 40](#) s. 32(2)(a)(i)
- F12** Words inserted by virtue of [Agriculture Act 1970 c. 40](#) s. 32(2)(a)(ii)
- F13** Words substituted by virtue of SI 1973/1402
- F14** Words substituted by [Agricultural Holdings Act 1986 \(c. 5\)](#) s. 100 sch. 14 para. 37
- F15** Words in s. 26(1) substituted (25.9.1991) by [Agricultural Holdings \(Scotland\) Act 1991 \(c. 55, SIF 2:3\)](#), ss. 88(1), 89(2), **Sch. 11**, para. 26
- F16** S. 26(1)(bb) inserted by virtue of [Agriculture \(Miscellaneous Provisions\) Act 1972 \(c. 62\)](#) s. 9(1)(2)(a)(ii)
- F17** Words substituted by virtue of [Agriculture Act 1970 c. 40](#) s. 32(2)(a)(iii)
- F18** Words substituted by virtue of [Agriculture \(Miscellaneous Provisions\) Act 1972 \(c. 62\)](#) s. 9(1)(2)(a)(iii)
- F19** Words inserted by virtue of [Agriculture \(Miscellaneous Provisions\) Act 1972 \(c. 62\)](#) s. 9(1)(2)(b)
- F20** S. 26(3)(5) repealed by virtue of [Agriculture \(Miscellaneous Provisions\) Act 1972 \(c. 62\)](#) s. 9(1)(2)(c)
- F21** Words substituted by virtue of [Agriculture Act 1970 \(c. 40\)](#) s. 32(2)(c)
- F22** Words repealed by virtue of [Agriculture Act 1970 \(c. 40\)](#) s. 29(6) sch. 5
- F23** S. 26(6) substituted by virtue of [Agriculture Act 1970 c. 40](#) s. 32 (2)(e)
- F24** Words substituted by virtue of [Agriculture \(Miscellaneous Provisions\) Act 1972 \(c. 62\)](#) s. 9(1)(2)(d)(i)
- F25** Words repealed by virtue of [Agriculture \(Miscellaneous Provisions\) Act 1972 \(c. 62\)](#) s. 9(1)(2)(d)(ii)
- F26** Words substituted by virtue of [Agriculture Act 1970 c. 40](#) s. 32 (2)(f)
- F27** Words repealed by virtue of [Agriculture Act 1970 c. 40](#) s. 32 (2)(g)
- F28** Word substituted by virtue of [Agriculture Act 1970 c. 40](#) s. 32 (2)(h)
- F29** S. 26(7)(c)(i) substituted by virtue of [Agriculture Act 1970 c. 40](#) s. 32(2)(i)
- F30** Words inserted by virtue of [Agriculture Act 1970 c. 40](#) s. 32 (2)(j)
- F31** S. 26(11)(b) repealed by [Statute Law \(Repeals\) Act 1986 \(c. 12\)](#) sch. 1 Pt. II
- F32** S. 26(11)(c) repealed (5.11.1993) by 1993 c. 50, s. 1(1), **Sch. 1 Pt. II**.
- F33** Words substituted by virtue of [Agriculture Act 1970 c. 40](#) s. 32 (2)(k)

Modifications etc. (not altering text)

- C13** S. 26 applied by [Rent Act 1977 \(c. 42\)](#), s. 98, **sch. 15 Pt. II** Cases 17, 18
- C14** S. 26(7)(8) excluded by [Agriculture \(Miscellaneous Provisions\) Act 1972 \(c. 62\)](#) s. 10(1)(3)

Marginal Citations

- M1** 1970 c. 40.
- M2** 1957 c. 57.

^{F34}27 Grants for individuals relinquishing occupation of uncommercial units.

- (1) The appropriate Minister may in accordance with a scheme make a grant by way of a lump sum payment or an annuity to or for the benefit of an individual who in prescribed circumstances [^{F35}relinquishes his occupation of, or of a part of, an uncommercial unit] of agricultural land—

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- (a) where the relinquishment of all or any part of that uncommercial unit is effected as part of an ^{F36}amalgamation approved in pursuance of a scheme under section 26 of this Act, or]
 - (b) in accordance with arrangements which the appropriate Minister or, subject to the provisions of Part III of this Act, a Rural Development Board makes with him (whether or not his landlord or any other person is a third party) to enable the appropriate Minister or the Board to dispose of the unit so that it is owned or occupied with other land, or so as to improve the shape of any agricultural units, or
 - (c) subject to the provisions of Part III of this Act, in accordance with arrangements approved by a Rural Development Board as being for the purpose of facilitating the afforestation of land in the area of the Board, ^{F37} or
 - (d) where the grant is made in pursuance of provisions of a scheme implementing, or arising out of or related to, ^{F38}an EU] obligation.]
- (2) A scheme under this section—
- (a) may, subject to any prescribed exceptions, require the individual to have been in occupation of the whole of the uncommercial unit for a prescribed period,
 - (b) may exclude an individual who occupied the uncommercial unit under a short-term letting as defined in the scheme.
 - (c) may apply to the individual a test by reference to the income (calculated in a prescribed way) derived from ^{F39}the trade or business of, or employment in, agriculture] including, if the scheme so provides, income so derived by the individual's wife or husband or partner or by any other person jointly occupying the land.
- (3) A scheme under this section may authorise the making of grant subject to such conditions as the appropriate Minister may specify.
- (4) Grants shall not be payable under this section to any one individual in respect of more than one uncommercial unit, and a scheme under this section shall contain provisions for securing that the amount of the grant payable in respect of an uncommercial unit occupied by more than one individual is an amount which is not more than approximately equivalent to the amount which would be payable if it had been occupied by a single individual.
- (5) A scheme under this section may provide that, after the death of a person in receipt of a grant by way of annuity, grant under this section of an amount specified in the scheme may be payable to a surviving widow or widower.
- [A scheme under this section may make provision, in a case where a person who has
- ^{F40}(5A) submitted an application for a grant under this section, and who has in prescribed circumstances either relinquished or become under an obligation to relinquish occupation of the uncommercial unit of agricultural land in question, subsequently dies before the application has been dealt with, for the application to be proceeded with after the death and for grants under this section of such respective amounts as may be determined by or under the scheme to be payable either—
- (a) by way of annuity—
 - (i) in respect of any period after the relinquishment and before the death, for the benefit of the deceased's estate; and
 - (ii) in respect of any period falling after both the relinquishment and the death, to any person who was both at the date of the death and at the time when the application was made the spouse of the deceased; or

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(b) by way of a lump sum payment for the benefit of the deceased's estate.]

[A scheme made [^{F42}by virtue of subsection (1)(a), (b) or (d) of this section] may make ^{F41}(5B) provision whereby a person is treated for the purposes of the scheme, to such extent and in such cases as may be prescribed—

- (a) as the occupier of any land in respect of which he has granted, or agreed to grant, to another person a licence or tenancy of a kind not making that other person a tenant as defined in the [^{F43}Agricultural Holdings Act 1986] (or, in Scotland, [^{F44}the Agricultural Holdings (Scotland) Act 1991]);
- (b) as relinquishing his occupation of that land if he relinquishes his remaining estate or interest in the land;
- (c) as relinquishing his occupation of, or of part of, an uncommercial unit of agricultural land if the land was, or was part of, such a unit immediately before he first granted or agreed to grant such a licence or tenancy as aforesaid;

and, in relation to any provision made by virtue of this subsection, subsections (2), (4) and (5A) of this section shall not apply but provision may be made in the scheme for corresponding purposes.]

(6) The duration of a scheme under this section shall be a period not exceeding seven years, but that period may be extended from time to time by subsequent schemes under this section for periods not exceeding seven years.

(7) Any grant under this section shall be paid out of money provided by Parliament.]

Textual Amendments

- F34** S. 27 repealed (N.I) by S.I. 1987/166 (N.I. 1) art. 20, Sch.
- F35** Words substituted by Agriculture (Miscellaneous Provisions) Act 1972 (c. 62) , s. 9(1)(3)(a)
- F36** Words substituted by Agriculture Act 1970 (c. 40) , s. 32(3)(a)
- F37** S. 27(1)(d) substituted by S.I. 1976/1771 , reg. 2
- F38** Words in Act substituted (22.4.2011) by The Treaty of Lisbon (Changes in Terminology) Order 2011 (S.I. 2011/1043) , arts. 3 , 6 (with art. 3(2)(3)4(2)6(4)6(5))
- F39** Words substituted by S.I. 1973/1402 , reg. 4(b)
- F40** S. 27(5A) inserted by Agriculture Act 1970 (c. 40) , s. 32(3)(b)
- F41** S. 27(5B) inserted by Agriculture (Miscellaneous Provisions) Act 1972 (c. 62) , s. 9(1)(3)(b)
- F42** Words substituted by S.I. 1973/1402 , reg. 4(c)
- F43** Words substituted by Agricultural Holdings Act 1986 (c. 5, SIF 2:3) , ss. 99 , 100 , Sch. 13 para. 3 , Sch. 14 , para. 38
- F44** Words in s. 27(5B) substituted (25.9.1991) by Agricultural Holdings (Scotland) Act 1991 (c. 55, SIF 2:3) , ss. 88(1) , 89(2) , Sch. 11 , para.27

28 Loans to assist amalgamations and boundary adjustments.

[^{F45}(1) The appropriate Minister may with the approval of the Treasury make or guarantee loans to meet expenditure incurred in connection with an amalgamation or boundary adjustment approved by the appropriate Minister in pursuance of a scheme under section 26 of this Act, being—

- (a) the costs of the amalgamation or boundary adjustment consisting of surveyor's fees and legal costs, stamp duty on any conveyance, lease, tenancy agreement or mortgage or heritable security and any compensation for disturbance under [^{F46}section 60(2)(a) of the Agricultural Holdings Act 1986] or [^{F47}section 43 of the Agricultural Holdings (Scotland) Act 1991], or

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- (aa) expenditure incurred in the carrying out or provision of works or facilities which the appropriate Minister considers to be necessary or desirable as a consequence of the amalgamation, or to be necessary as a consequence of the boundary adjustment, or
 - (b) any part of the purchase price of any land acquired as part of the amalgamation or as the case may be any part of the purchase price of land acquired, or of money given by way of equality of exchange, as part of the boundary adjustment,
- or expenditure under all or any two of paragraphs (a), (aa) and (b) above.]
- (2) A loan made by the appropriate Minister—
 - (a) may be effected through the agency of such body or bodies as the appropriate Minister may select,
 - (b) must have been approved by the appropriate Minister on an application made in the manner directed by him and within the period of duration of schemes under section 26 of this Act, or within such longer period as the appropriate Minister may determine.
 - (3) A loan guaranteed by the appropriate Minister shall be a loan made by such body or bodies as the appropriate Minister may select.
 - (4) A loan made or guaranteed by the appropriate Minister must be one repayable as to both capital and interest within a period of sixty years from the making of the loan.
 - (5) The appropriate Minister may in making a loan or guarantee under this section impose such conditions as he thinks fit.
 - (6) After the giving of a loan or guarantee under this section in connection with an amalgamation the relevant unit shall be subject to the provisions of Schedule 3 to this Act and—
 - (a) the appropriate Minister shall not approve the proposals for the amalgamation unless satisfied that all persons having an estate or interest in the relevant unit have given their written consent to the application of that Schedule to the relevant unit,
 - (b) the relevant unit shall be, or be the part of, the agricultural unit or units specified for the purposes of this subsection by the appropriate Minister in the document giving his approval to the proposals, and
 - (c) in the said Schedule 3 as applied by this subsection “relevant Exchequer payments” shall mean—
 - (i) in the case of a loan, the amount of the loan and interest outstanding and, so far as the lender has been required to accept repayment at a time earlier than that agreed in making the loan, the cost, or so much thereof as the appropriate Minister may determine, of reinvestment and, if the rate of interest on the loan is higher than can reasonably be expected to be obtained on reinvestment (regard being had to the current rate of interest) compensation in respect of the loss thereby sustained or such part thereof as the appropriate Minister may determine,
 - (ii) in the case of a guarantee, any amount paid by the appropriate Minister in fulfilment of the guarantee,
 - (iii) in either case, such sum as the appropriate Minister may certify as the sum representing his administrative expenses (including an appropriate proportion of overhead expenses and other fixed or

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- general expenses) incurred in connection with making the loan or guarantee and, in the case of a guarantee, in fulfilling the guarantee,
- (d) in the said Schedule 3 as applied by this section “relevant date” shall mean—
- (i) for any administrative expenses related to a loan within subsection (6)(c)(i) above, the date when the loan is made,
 - (ii) for sums within subsection (6)(c)(ii) above, and any related administrative expenses, the date when the guarantee is fulfilled.
- (7) In the case of a loan or guarantee made under this section in connection with a boundary adjustment the appropriate Minister may, if he thinks fit, designate in the document giving his approval to the proposals any land appearing to him to benefit from the boundary adjustment as land which, after the making of the loan or guarantee, is to be a relevant unit subject to the provisions of Schedule 3 to this Act, and paragraphs (a),(c) and (d) of the last foregoing subsection shall apply in relation to the boundary adjustment as they apply in relation to an amalgamation.
- (8) A mortgage, heritable security or charge securing a loan made or guaranteed by the appropriate Minister under this section may, notwithstanding any rule of law or equity to the contrary, contain a provision that the mortgage, heritable security or charge shall not be redeemable except in the manner specified in the mortgage, heritable security or charge.
- (9) Any sums required by the appropriate Minister for making a loan under this section or fulfilling a guarantee made under this section shall be paid out of money provided by Parliament.
- (10) References in this section to the guarantee of a loan include references to the guarantee of part of a loan, including a guarantee restricted to interest payable on a loan.

Textual Amendments

- F45** S. 28(1) substituted by virtue of [Agriculture \(Miscellaneous Provisions\) Act 1972 \(c. 62\), s. 9\(9\), Sch. 4](#)
- F46** Words substituted by [Agricultural Holdings Act 1986 \(c. 5, SIF 2:3\), ss. 99, 100, Sch. 13 para. 3, Sch. 14 para. 39](#)
- F47** Words in s. 28(1)(a) substituted (25.9.1991) by [Agricultural Holdings \(Scotland\) Act 1991 \(c. 55, SIF 2:3\), ss. 88\(1\), 89\(1\), Sch. 11, para. 28](#)

Modifications etc. (not altering text)

- C15** S.28(5) amended by [Agricultural \(Miscellaneous Provisions\) Act 1972 \(c. 62\), s. 10\(4\)](#)
- C16** S.28(6)(7) excluded by [Agricultural \(Miscellaneous Provisions\) Act 1972 \(c. 62\), s. 10\(3\)](#)

29 Promotion of amalgamations and boundary adjustments by Minister.

- (1) It is hereby declared that the appropriate Minister has power under sections 82 and 90 of the ^{M3}Agriculture Act 1947 and sections 55 and 61 of the ^{M4}Agriculture (Scotland) Act 1948 (powers of acquiring land by agreement and managing land) to acquire, hold and dispose of land for the purposes of effecting amalgamations of agricultural land and reshaping agricultural units.
- (2) That power shall include in particular power for the said purposes to enter into transactions involving loss, including—

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- (a) amalgamating holdings of land in a way which renders less valuable, or useless, any buildings or equipment on any of the land,
 - (b) allowing the occupier of an uncommercial unit to retain occupation of a dwelling-house on the land when the remainder of the unit is acquired by the appropriate Minister for the purposes of amalgamation,
 - (c) selling land resulting from an amalgamation effected by the appropriate Minister subject to depreciatory conditions imposed for the purpose of ensuring that the land continues to be held in single ownership and single occupation for agricultural purposes.
- (3) A deed by which the appropriate Minister conveys land, or an estate or interest in land, may apply Schedule 3 to this Act to any of that land, and to any other land, but only if all the persons who will have an estate or interest in the land to which Schedule 3 is so applied [^{F48}have executed] the deed; and in that Schedule as so applied “relevant Exchequer payments” shall mean such amounts as are specified in the deed for the purposes of this subsection under the heads of—
- (a) the incidental costs incurred by the appropriate Minister in acquiring and disposing of the land, estate or interest conveyed by the deed, being costs consisting of surveyor’s fees and legal costs, stamp duty on any conveyance, lease, tenancy agreement or mortgage or heritable security, and any compensation for disturbance under [^{F49}section 60(2)(a) of the Agricultural Holdings Act 1986] or [^{F50}section 43 of the Agricultural Holdings (Scotland) Act 1991],
 - (b) any such loss as is described in subsection (2) of this section incurred by the appropriate Minister in dealing with the land, estate or interest so conveyed, including any reduction in the purchase price obtained by him on the transaction effected by the deed in consequence of the depreciatory conditions contained in the deed,
 - (c) such sum as the appropriate Minister may certify as the sum representing his administrative expenses (including an appropriate proportion of overhead expenses and other fixed or general expenses) incurred in connection with the transaction to which the deed gives effect,
- and “relevant date” means the date on which the transaction to which the deed relates takes effect.
- (4) Section 24(1) of the ^{M5}Agricultural Holdings Act 1948 and [^{F50}section 22(1) of the Agricultural Holdings (Scotland) Act 1991] (which restrict the operation of a notice to quit an agricultural holding) shall not apply to a notice to quit given by the appropriate Minister where—
- (a) the appropriate Minister certifies in writing that the notice to quit is given in order to enable him to use or dispose of the land for the purpose of effecting any amalgamation or the reshaping of any agricultural unit, and
 - (b) the instrument under which the tenancy was granted contains an acknowledgment signed by the tenant that the tenancy is subject to the provisions of this section.
- (5) Where an instrument bearing to grant a tenancy contains such an acknowledgment as is mentioned in paragraph (b) of the last foregoing subsection, the grant of the tenancy shall have effect notwithstanding section 16 of the ^{M6}Crofters (Scotland) Act 1955 (vacant crofts), and during the subsistence of the tenancy the provisions of the ^{M7}Crofters (Scotland) Acts 1955 and 1961 and of the Small Landholders (Scotland) Acts 1886 to 1931 shall not apply to any land subject to the tenancy.

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Textual Amendments

F48 Words substituted by [Agriculture Act 1970 \(c. 40\), s. 33\(2\)](#)

F49 Words substituted by [Agricultural Holdings Act 1986 \(c. 5, SIF 2:3\)](#), ss. 99, 100, Sch. 13 para. 3, **Sch. 14 para. 40**

F50 Words in s. 29(3)(a)(4) substituted (25.9.1991) by [Agricultural Holdings \(Scotland\) Act 1991 \(c. 55, SIF 2:3\)](#), ss. 88(1), 89(2), **Sch. 11**, para. 29(a)(b)

Modifications etc. (not altering text)

C17 [S. 29\(4\)](#) repealed (E.W.) by [Agricultural Holdings \(Notices to Quit\) Act 1977 \(c. 12\)](#), **Sch. 2**, except in relation to notices to quit given before 7.4.1978: see s. 14 of that 1977 Act.

Marginal Citations

M3 1947 c. 48.

M4 1948 c. 45.

M5 1948 c. 63.

M6 1955 c. 21.

M7 1961 c. 58.

30 ^{F51}

Textual Amendments

F51 [Ss. 30–32, 36, 37\(3\)\(5\)](#) repealed by [Agriculture Act 1970 \(c. 40\)](#), ss. 29(6)(7), 113(3), **Sch. 5 Pt. I**

Promotion of agricultural investment

31, 32. ^{F52}

Textual Amendments

F52 [Ss. 30–32, 36, 37\(3\)\(5\)](#) repealed by [Agriculture Act 1970 \(c. 40\)](#), ss. 29(6)(7), 113(3), **Sch. 5 Pt. I**

^{F53}**33** **Supplements to improvement and water supply grants.**

.....

Textual Amendments

F53 [S. 33](#) repealed (22.7.2004) by [Statute Law \(Repeals\) Act 2004 \(c. 14\)](#), **Sch. 1 Pt. 2** Group 1

^{F54}**34** **Power to vary rates, and extend scope, of grants for agricultural investment.**

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Textual Amendments

F54 S. 34 repealed (22.7.2004) by Statute Law (Repeals) Act 2004 (c. 14), Sch. 1 Pt. 2 Group 1

Supplemental

[35 ^{F55} **General provisions for schemes under Part II.**

A scheme under section 26 or section 27 of this Act—

- (a) shall be made by the appropriate Minister with the approval of the Treasury,
- (b) [^{F56}without prejudice to the provisions of subsection (4) of the said section 26 as to schemes under that section, may, in the case of a scheme under the said section 27]] authorise the making of different grant in different circumstances,
- (c) may authorise the reduction or withholding of grant where assistance in respect of expenditure for which the grant is made is or may be given otherwise than under the scheme, but so that where expenditure, or part of expenditure, is eligible for grant at different rates, grant at the higher rate shall be allowed,
- (d) may authorise the reduction or withholding of grant in respect of land for the benefit of which any other prescribed grant or contribution has been made out of money provided by Parliament or has been so made within a prescribed period ,
- (e) may be made for England and Wales, for Scotland, for Northern Ireland, or for any two or all of those parts of the United Kingdom jointly,
- (f) may contain such incidental and supplemental provisions as appear to the appropriate Minister expedient [^{F56}including transitional provisions treating as having been done under or in pursuance of the scheme anything done under or in pursuance of a previous scheme]
- (g) may be varied or revoked by a subsequent scheme,
- (h) shall be made by statutory instrument of which a draft has been laid before and approved by resolution of each House of Parliament.

Textual Amendments

F55 S. 35 repealed (N.I.) by S.I. 1987/166 (N.I. 1), art. 20, Sch.

F56 Words substituted by Agriculture Act 1970 (c. 40), s. 32(5)

36 ^{F57}

Textual Amendments

F57 Ss. 30–32, 36, 37(3)(5) repealed by Agriculture Act 1970 (c. 40), ss. 29(6)(7), 113(3), Sch. 5 Pt. I

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37 Recovery of grant and revocation of approval.

[^{F58}(1) If at any time after the approval of proposals under section 26, section 27 . . . ^{F59}of this Act, and whether before or after the proposals have been fully carried out, it appears to the appropriate Minister—

- (a) that any condition imposed by the appropriate Minister in giving his approval has not been complied with, or
- (b) in the case of proposals for the carrying out of work, that the work has been badly done, or has been or is being unreasonably delayed, or is unlikely to be completed, or
- (c) that in connection with the submission of the proposals the person submitting them gave information on any matter which was false or misleading in a material respect,

the appropriate Minister may, on demand made after compliance with subsection (4) below, recover any grant or any part of a grant paid by him by reference to the proposals and revoke the approval in whole or in part.

(2) In the case of a grant under section 27 of this Act which is a lump sum payable by instalments or a grant by way of annuity the appropriate Minister may, in a case within paragraph (a) or paragraph (c) of subsection (1) above, after compliance with subsection (4) below direct that future instalments of the grant or annuity shall not be payable.

(3) ^{F60}

- (a) shall give to any person to whom any payment by way of grant would be payable by reference to the proposals, or from whom any such payment would be recoverable, a written notification of the reasons for the action proposed to be taken by the appropriate Minister, and
- (b) shall accord to each such person an opportunity of appearing before and being heard by a person appointed for the purpose by the appropriate Minister, and
- (c) shall consider the report by a person so appointed and supply a copy of the report to each person who is entitled to appear before the person submitting it.]

(5) ^{F60}

(6) Where a grant by reference to which a supplementary grant has been made under section 33 of this Act becomes recoverable in whole or in part, the supplementary grant shall also become recoverable on demand.

Textual Amendments

F58 S. 37(1)–(4) repealed (N.I.) by S.I. 1987/166 (N.I. 1), **art. 20 Sch.**

F59 Words repealed by **Agriculture Act 1970 (c. 40)**, ss. 29(6)(7), 113(3), **Sch. 5 Pt. I**

F60 Ss. 30–32, 36, 37(3)(5) repealed by **Agriculture Act 1970 (c. 40)**, ss. 29(6)(7), 113(3), **Sch. 5 Pt. I**

Modifications etc. (not altering text)

C18 S. 37 extended by **Agriculture Act 1970 (c. 40)**, **s. 32(6)**, which provision is repealed (N.I.) by S.I. 1987/166 (N.I.1), **art. 20, Sch.**

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Textual Amendments

F61 s. 38 repealed by [Rent Act 1968 \(c. 23\)](#), [Sch. 17](#) and [Rent \(Scotland\) Act 1971 \(c. 28\)](#), [Sch. 20](#)

39 Provisions relating to Northern Ireland.

(1) Subject to this section, this Part of this Act shall extend to Northern Ireland with the exception of section 28 and section 38 and, subject to the following provisions of this section, of section 29.

(2) [^{F62}The Department of Agriculture for Northern Ireland] may acquire by agreement any estate or interest in—

- (a) any land used for agriculture,
- (b) any other agricultural land,
- (c) where any such land as is mentioned in paragraph (a) or (b) above is offered to the said [^{F62}Department] for acquisition by it on the condition that it also acquires other land not falling within either of those paragraphs, that other land,

for the purpose of effecting amalgamations of agricultural land and reshaping agricultural units.

(3) The said [^{F62}Department] may manage, farm or dispose of land acquired by it under subsection (2) above—

- (a) in such manner as appears to the said [^{F62}Department] expedient for the purpose for which the land was acquired,
- (b) if the said [^{F62}Department] is satisfied that the land ought to be devoted to some other purpose, in such manner as appears to the said [^{F62}Department] expedient therefor,

[^{F63}and in section 27(1)(b) of this Act as it applies in Northern Ireland the reference to the appropriate Minister shall include a reference to the said [^{F62}Department]].

Section 45(3) of the ^{M8}Interpretation Act (Northern Ireland) 1954 shall have effect for the purposes of this subsection as it has effect for the purposes of an enactment of the Parliament of Northern Ireland passed after the commencement of that Act.

(4) Sections 4 and 5 of the ^{M9}Land Law (Ireland) Act 1881 shall not have effect in relation to any tenancy granted by the said [^{F62}Department] under subsection (3) above.

(5) Subsections (2) and (3) above shall in particular confer power to enter into transactions involving loss, including transactions corresponding to those into which the appropriate Minister may enter under section 29(2) of this Act.

[^{F64}[^{F66}Sections 26(1)(a) and (bb) and 27(5B)]] of this Act shall, in their application to ^{F65}(5A) Northern Ireland, have effect as if references to a tenant as defined in the Acts there mentioned were references to a tenant who holds under a contract of tenancy for a life or lives or for a term of years.]]

(6) Section 29(3) of this Act, and Schedule 3 to this Act when read with the said section 29(3), shall apply in Northern Ireland as if—

- (a) the said [^{F62}Department] were substituted for the appropriate Minister,

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- (b) the reference to legal costs in the said section 29(3)(a) included a reference to the costs of obtaining any requisite consent of [^{F62}the Department of Finance for Northern Ireland],
- (c) the said section 29(3)(a) included a reference to compensation for disturbance under section 3 of the ^{M10}Landlord and Tenant (Ireland) Act 1870.

[^{F67}(7) The functions conferred by this section on the said [^{F62}Department] shall be exercised in accordance with arrangements made between the [^{F62}Department] and the Minister of Agriculture, Fisheries and Food with the approval of the Treasury, and the Minister of Agriculture, Fisheries and Food shall pay out of money provided by Parliament any expenses incurred by the said [^{F62}Department] in exercising those functions, and any sums received by that [^{F62}Department] in exercising those functions (including any sums so received or recovered under Schedule 3 to this Act) shall be paid over to the said Minister.]

Textual Amendments

- F62** Words substituted by virtue of Northern Ireland Constitution Act 1973 (c.36), **Sch. 5 para.8(1)**
- F63** Words repealed (N.I.) by S.I. 1987/166 (N.I. 1), art. 20, **Sch.**
- F64** S. 39(5A) repealed (N.I.) by S.I. 1987/166 (N.I. 1), art. 20, **Sch.**
- F65** S. 39(5A) inserted by Agriculture (Miscellaneous Provisions) Act 1972 (c. 62), **s.9(5)**
- F66** Words substituted by S.I. 1973/1402, **reg. 5**
- F67** S. 39(7) repealed (N.I.) by S.I. 1987/166 (N.I. 1), art. 20, **Sch.**

Marginal Citations

- M8** 1954 c. 53 (N.I.)
- M9** 1881 c. 49.
- M10** 1870 c. 46.

40 Interpretation of Part II.

- (1) In this Part of this Act, except where the context otherwise requires—
- “amalgamation” and “boundary adjustment” have the meanings given by section 26 of this Act;
 - “exchange” in relation to land in Scotland means excambion;
 - “prescribed”, in relation to the contents of a scheme, means prescribed by the scheme.
- (2) In this Part of this Act—
- (a) “commercial unit” means an agricultural unit which in the opinion of the appropriate Minister is capable, when farmed under reasonably skilled management, of providing full-time employment for an individual occupying it and for at least one other man (or full-time employment for an individual occupying it and employment for members of his family or other persons equivalent to full-time employment for one man);
 - (b) “intermediate unit” means an agricultural unit which, in the opinion of the appropriate Minister, is capable, when farmed under reasonably skilled management, of providing full-time employment for an individual occupying it.

In this subsection “full-time employment” shall be construed in accordance with any provisions defining that expression in any scheme made under section 26 of this Act.

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(3) In this Part of this Act “uncommercial unit” shall be construed by reference to the definition of commercial unit, except that, where the appropriate Minister so directs, it may be treated as referring to the relevant agricultural unit exclusive of any one dwelling house of the unit [^{F68}or of an area sufficient to provide a site for one dwelling house] and, if the Minister so directs, exclusive of any small portion of land to be occupied with that dwelling house.

(4) Where any agricultural land in Scotland consists of or includes a croft or holding, for the purposes—

- (a) of determining under the preceding provisions of this section whether an agricultural unit formed by that land is commercial, intermediate or uncommercial, and
- (b) of calculating under section 27(2)(c) of this Act the income derived from the land,

the land shall be taken to include any right in pasture or grazing land held by the tenant or landholder whether alone or in common with others and deemed to form part of the croft or holding.

In this subsection “croft” and “holding” have the meanings ascribed to them by the ^{M11}Crofters (Scotland) Act 1955 and the Small Landholders (Scotland) Acts 1886 to 1931 respectively.

Textual Amendments

F68 Words inserted by [Agriculture \(Miscellaneous Provisions\) Act 1972 \(c. 62\), s. 9\(6\)](#)

Marginal Citations

M11 1955 c. 21.

PART III

HILL LAND

General

41, 42. ^{F69}

Textual Amendments

F69 Ss. 41, 42 repealed by [Agriculture Act 1970 \(c. 40\), ss. 29\(6\)\(7\), 113\(3\), Sch. 5 Pt. I](#)

43 ^{F70}

Textual Amendments

F70 S. 43 repealed by [Statute Law \(Repeals\) Act 1986 \(c. 12\), s. 1\(1\), Sch. 1 Pt. II](#)

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44 F71

Textual Amendments
F71 S. 44 repealed by Statute Law (Repeals) Act 1986 (c. 12), s. 1(1), Sch. 1 Pt. II

Special measures for certain areas

45 Rural Development Boards.

- (1) With a view to applying the provisions of this Part of this Act for meeting the special problems of the development as rural areas of hills and uplands, and the special needs of such areas, the appropriate Minister may, in accordance with this Part of this Act, establish a Board, to be known as a Rural Development Board, for any area appearing to be one where those problems or needs exist.
- (2) Those special problems and needs include the special difficulties in the formation of commercial units of agricultural land in such areas, the need for an overall programme for guidance in making decisions as to the use of land in such areas for agriculture and forestry, so that those two uses are complementary, the need for improved public services in such areas in step with their development for agricultural and forestry purposes, and the need for preserving and taking full advantage of the amenities and scenery in those areas in the course of their development for those purposes.
- (3) The overall programme referred to in the preceding subsection is one having regard, among other things, to the special economic considerations and the long-term nature of forestry.
- (4) The amenities to which consideration is to be given under subsection (2) above shall include any feature of scientific or historic interest in those areas, and in particular, but without prejudice to the generality of the foregoing, their flora and fauna and physiological features, and any buildings of special interest.
- (5) Schedule 5 to this Act shall have effect as respects the procedure for establishing a Rural Development Board, and its constitution.
- [^{F72}(6) As respects the area of a Rural Development Board established under this section the provisions of this Part of this Act controlling sales of land and controlling afforestation shall be a local land charge, and for the purposes of the ^{M12}Local Land Charges Act 1975 the appropriate Minister shall be treated as the originating authority as respects such charge.]
- (7) ^{F73}
- (9) The provisions of subsections (6), . . . ^{F74} of this section shall not apply to Scotland, and on the establishment of a Rural Development Board in Scotland, the Secretary of State shall cause a notice referring to the provisions of this Part of this Act controlling sales of land and controlling afforestation to be lodged at the principal office of the county council of every county in the area of which any part of the Board’s area lies, and the notice shall be available for inspection free of charge at all reasonable hours.

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- (10) In the foregoing provisions of this section and the said Schedule 5 “the appropriate Minister” means, in relation to Wales, the Minister of Agriculture, Fisheries and Food and the Secretary of State for Wales acting jointly.
- (11) The appropriate Minister shall to such extent as may be approved by the Treasury pay out of money provided by Parliament any expenditure incurred, or to be incurred, by a Board in the performance of their functions.

Textual Amendments

- F72** S. 45(6) substituted by [Local Land Charges Act 1975 \(c. 76\), Sch. 1](#)
- F73** S. 45(7)(8) repealed by [Local Land Charges Act 1975 \(c. 76\), s. 19, Sch. 2](#)
- F74** Words repealed by [Local Land Charges Act 1975 \(c. 76\), s. 19, Sch. 2](#)

Marginal Citations

- M12** 1975 c. 76.

46 Functions of Rural Development Boards.

- (1) It shall be the function of a Rural Development Board—
- (a) to keep under review all means of meeting the problems and needs described in the last foregoing section in their area,
 - (b) in consultation with such local authorities and other bodies as appear to the Board to have an interest, to draw up a programme for action to meet those problems and needs and, so far as the programme will entail expenditure by the Board, to submit to the appropriate Minister for his approval proposals for that expenditure,
 - (c) to concert, promote, assist or undertake measures to implement the programme subject, so far as those measures involve expenditure by the Board, to approval by the appropriate Minister.
- (2) The appropriate Minister may approve in whole or in part any proposals submitted to him under subsection (1)(b) above, or may refuse to approve them.
- (3) It shall be the duty of a Rural Development Board and of [^{F75}the appropriate forestry authority] to co-ordinate the preparation and implementation of their proposals and programmes for the Board’s area, and for that purpose to consult together at all stages and, where necessary, to act in concert.

Any dispute between them shall be referred to and determined by the appropriate Minister, and, in relation to Wales, “the appropriate Minister” in this subsection has the meaning given by subsection (10) of the last foregoing section.

- (4) In the discharge of their functions a Rural Development Board may—
- (a) acquire by agreement any land in their area,
 - (b) manage, improve, farm, sell, let or otherwise deal with any of their land, and may in particular sell or let any land subject to any depreciatory conditions imposed in the interests of the community or for any purpose connected with the discharge of their functions,
 - (c) acquire by agreement any farming business or any dead or live farm stock,
 - (d) build on and otherwise develop any of their land, and in particular provide dwellings for their tenants and employees,

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- (e) provide equipment and services for persons who are their tenants and who are engaged or employed in agriculture or forestry,
- (f) carry out or commission the carrying out of inquiries, investigations or researches in connection with the discharge of their functions.

Textual Amendments

F75 Words in s. 46(3) substituted (1.4.2013) by [The Natural Resources Body for Wales \(Functions\) Order 2013 \(No. 755\)](#), art. 1(2), **Sch. 2 para. 82** (with Sch. 7)

47 **Boards' powers of giving financial assistance.**

- (1) In the discharge of their functions a Rural Development Board may, in accordance with arrangements approved by the appropriate Minister and the Treasury, give financial assistance, whether by way of grant or loan or partly grant and partly loan, towards the undertaking of measures to implement any programme drawn up under section 46 of this Act, and in particular (subject to its being so approved)—
 - (a) financial assistance for providing or improving communications and public services in the Board's area,
 - (b) financial assistance towards expenditure incurred in installing or connecting a supply of electricity, gas or water to a dwelling-house or other premises used in connection with agriculture or forestry or for the improvement of accommodation on such premises for tourists, being expenditure incurred by an owner or occupier of the premises,
 - (c) financial assistance towards expenditure incurred in providing or improving a site on an agricultural or forestry unit for tourists' caravans or as a tourists' camping site, being expenditure incurred by the occupier of the agricultural or forestry unit.
- (2) On making a grant or loan under the foregoing subsection the Board may impose such conditions as they think fit, including, in the case of a grant, conditions for repayment in specified circumstances.

48 **Promotion of amalgamations and boundary adjustments by Rural Development Boards.** **E+W**

- (1) Without prejudice to the generality of section 46 of this Act, a Rural Development Board shall have power to acquire by agreement, hold and dispose of land in their area for the purpose of effecting amalgamations of agricultural land and reshaping agricultural units, and power for the said purposes to enter into transactions involving loss, including—
 - (a) amalgamating holdings of land in a way which renders less valuable, or useless, any buildings or equipment on any of the land,
 - (b) allowing the occupier of an uncommercial unit to retain occupation of a dwelling-house on the land when the remainder of the unit is acquired by the Board for the purposes of amalgamation,
 - (c) selling land resulting from an amalgamation effected by the Board subject to depreciable conditions imposed for the purpose of ensuring that the land continues to be held in single ownership and single occupation for agricultural purposes.

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(2) A deed by which a Rural Development Board conveys land, or an estate or interest in land, may apply Schedule 3 to this Act to any of that land, and to any other land, but only if all the persons who will have an estate or interest in the land to which Schedule 3 is so applied [^{F76}have executed] the deed; and in that Schedule as so applied “relevant Exchequer payments” shall mean such amounts as are specified in the deed for the purposes of this subsection under the heads of:—

- (a) the incidental costs incurred by the Board in acquiring and disposing of the land, estate or interest conveyed by the deed, being costs consisting of surveyor’s fees and legal costs, stamp duty on any conveyance, lease, tenancy agreement or mortgage or heritable security and any compensation for disturbance under [^{F77}section 60(2)(a) of the Agricultural Holdings Act 1986] or [^{F78}section 43 of the Agricultural Holdings (Scotland) Act 1991],
- (b) any such loss as is described in subsection (1) of this section incurred by the Board in dealing with the land, estate or interest so conveyed, including any reduction in the purchase price obtained by them on the transaction effected by the deed in consequence of the depreciatory conditions contained in the deed,
- (c) such sum as the appropriate Minister may certify as the sum representing his administrative expenses (including an appropriate proportion of overhead expenses and other fixed or general expenses) incurred in connection with the transaction to which the deed gives effect,

and “relevant date” means the date on which the transaction to which the deed relates takes effect.

(3) Where under section 27(1)(b) or (c) of this Act a scheme under that section authorises the making of grant by reference to arrangements made or approved by a Rural Development Board, the Rural Development Board shall repay to the appropriate Minister the amount of any grant paid by the appropriate Minister under the scheme by reference to any such arrangements.

[^{F79} Case H in Part I of Schedule 3 to the Agricultural Holdings Act 1986 shall apply in
^{F80}(4) relation to a Rural Development Board as it applies in relation to the Minister within the meaning of that Act.]]

(5) In relation to any tenancy certified by a Rural Development Board in the instrument by which the tenancy is granted as being a tenancy granted in connection with transactions entered into by the Board for the purpose of effecting amalgamations of agricultural land and reshaping agricultural units, [^{F81}section 14 of the ^{M13}Rent Act 1977] and [^{F81}section 5 of the ^{M14}Rent (Scotland) Act 1971] (exclusion of local authority houses from Rent Acts) shall apply to the Rural Development Board as they apply to the council of a county or other local authority.

Textual Amendments

F76 Words substituted by [Agriculture Act 1970 \(c. 40\), s. 33\(2\)](#)

F77 Words substituted by [Agricultural Holdings Act 1986 \(c. 5, SIF 2:3\), ss. 99, 100, Sch. 13 para. 3, Sch. 14 para. 41](#)

F78 Words in s. 48(2)(a) substituted (25.9.1991) by [Agricultural Holdings \(Scotland\) Act 1991 \(c. 55, SIF 2:3\), ss. 88\(1\), 89\(2\), Sch. 11, para. 30](#)

F79 S. 48(4) substituted (E.W.) by [Agricultural Holdings Act 1986 \(c. 5, SIF 2:3\), ss. 99, 100, Sch. 13 para. 3, Sch. 14 para. 41\(3\)](#)

F80 S. 48(4) substituted (E.W.) by [Agricultural Holdings \(Notices to Quit\) Act 1977 \(c. 12\), Sch. 1 para. 4](#) except in relation to notices to quit given before 7.4.1978: *ibid.*, s. 14

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F81 Words substituted by virtue of [Interpretation Act 1978 \(c. 30\), s. 17\(2\)\(a\)](#)

Marginal Citations

M13 1977 c. 42.

M14 1971 c. 28.

48 Promotion of amalgamations and boundary adjustments by Rural Development Boards. **S**

- (1) Without prejudice to the generality of section 46 of this Act, a Rural Development Board shall have power to acquire by agreement, hold and dispose of land in their area for the purpose of effecting amalgamations of agricultural land and reshaping agricultural units, and power for the said purposes to enter into transactions involving loss, including—
- (a) amalgamating holdings of land in a way which renders less valuable, or useless, any buildings or equipment on any of the land,
 - (b) allowing the occupier of an uncommercial unit to retain occupation of a dwelling-house on the land when the remainder of the unit is acquired by the Board for the purposes of amalgamation,
 - (c) selling land resulting from an amalgamation effected by the Board subject to depreciatory conditions imposed for the purpose of ensuring that the land continues to be held in single ownership and single occupation for agricultural purposes.
- (2) A deed by which a Rural Development Board conveys land, or an estate or interest in land, may apply Schedule 3 to this Act to any of that land, and to any other land, but only if all the persons who will have an estate or interest in the land to which Schedule 3 is so applied [^{F140}have executed] the deed; and in that Schedule as so applied “relevant Exchequer payments” shall mean such amounts as are specified in the deed for the purposes of this subsection under the heads of:—
- (a) the incidental costs incurred by the Board in acquiring and disposing of the land, estate or interest conveyed by the deed, being costs consisting of surveyor’s fees and legal costs, stamp duty on any conveyance, lease, tenancy agreement or mortgage or heritable security and any compensation for disturbance under [^{F141}section 60(2)(a) of the Agricultural Holdings Act 1986] or [^{F142}section 43 of the Agricultural Holdings (Scotland) Act 1991],
 - (b) any such loss as is described in subsection (1) of this section incurred by the Board in dealing with the land, estate or interest so conveyed, including any reduction in the purchase price obtained by them on the transaction effected by the deed in consequence of the depreciatory conditions contained in the deed,
 - (c) such sum as the appropriate Minister may certify as the sum representing his administrative expenses (including an appropriate proportion of overhead expenses and other fixed or general expenses) incurred in connection with the transaction to which the deed gives effect,
- and “relevant date” means the date on which the transaction to which the deed relates takes effect.
- (3) Where under section 27(1)(b) or (c) of this Act a scheme under that section authorises the making of grant by reference to arrangements made or approved by a Rural Development Board, the Rural Development Board shall repay to the appropriate

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Minister the amount of any grant paid by the appropriate Minister under the scheme by reference to any such arrangements.

- (4) Section 29(4) and (5) of this Act shall apply in relation to a Rural Development Board as they apply in relation to the appropriate Minister.
- (5) In relation to any tenancy certified by a Rural Development Board in the instrument by which the tenancy is granted as being a tenancy granted in connection with transactions entered into by the Board for the purpose of effecting amalgamations of agricultural land and reshaping agricultural units, [^{F143}section 14 of the ^{M44}Rent Act 1977] and [^{F143}section 5 of the ^{M45}Rent (Scotland) Act 1971] (exclusion of local authority houses from Rent Acts) shall apply to the Rural Development Board as they apply to the council of a county or other local authority.

Extent Information

- E3** This version of this provision extends to Scotland only; a separate version has been created for England and Wales only.

Textual Amendments

- F140** Words substituted by [Agriculture Act 1970 \(c. 40\), s. 33\(2\)](#)
- F141** Words substituted by [Agricultural Holdings Act 1986 \(c. 5, SIF 2:3\), ss. 99, 100, Sch. 13 para. 3, Sch. 14 para. 41](#)
- F142** Words in s. 48(2)(a) substituted (25.9.1991) by [Agricultural Holdings \(Scotland\) Act 1991 \(c. 55, SIF 2:3\), ss. 88\(1\), 89\(2\), Sch. 11, para. 30](#)
- F143** Words substituted by virtue of [Interpretation Act 1978 \(c. 30\), s. 17\(2\)\(a\)](#)

Marginal Citations

- M44** 1977 c. 42.
- M45** 1971 c. 28.

49 Control of sale of certain land.

- (1) Subject to this and the next following section, any transfer of land in the area of a Rural Development Board shall require the Board's written consent.
- (2) An application for consent under this section shall be in such form as the Board direct, and on the application the Board may refuse or grant the consent applied for.
- (3) The Board shall not refuse consent unless they are satisfied that the land to which the application relates, if acquired by them in accordance with this section—
 - (a) can suitably be used or disposed of by them for the purpose of effecting amalgamations of agricultural land or reshaping agricultural units, or
 - (b) can suitably be used or disposed of by them in a way which will promote the co-ordination of the use of land for forestry and agriculture, or
 - (c) is land which, in the opinion of the Board and [^{F82}the appropriate forestry authority], ought to be planted by [^{F82}the appropriate forestry authority], or
 - (d) can suitably be used or disposed of by them for some purpose ancillary to the use of other land for agriculture or forestry,

or unless the Board are satisfied that refusal of their consent will prevent the creation of an uncommercial unit of agricultural land.

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- (4) The Board shall, within two months of receipt of an application duly made for consent under this section, serve on the applicant notice of the manner in which the application has been dealt with; and, except where their decision is to grant their consent, the notice shall give the reasons for their decision.
- (5) Within two months of receipt of a notice under the last foregoing subsection stating that the Board withhold consent the applicant may appeal to the appropriate Minister on the ground that the application for consent ought to be granted, and before determining the appeal the appropriate Minister shall, if either the appellant or the Board so desire, afford to each of them an opportunity of appearing before, and being heard by, a person appointed by the appropriate Minister for the purpose; and in relation to appeals under this section—
- (a) where the appeal is to the Minister of Agriculture, Fisheries and Food, [^{F83}section 289 of the Town and Country Planning Act 1990] (appeals to High Court from decision of Minister) shall apply in relation to an appeal under this subsection as it applies in relation to an appeal under [^{F84}Part VII of that Act] against an enforcement notice, and
 - (b) where the appeal is to the Secretary of State, the Secretary of State may, and if so directed by the Court of Session shall, state a case for the opinion of that Court on any question of law arising in the proceedings, and an appeal shall lie to the Court of Session on any question of law from the decision of the Secretary of State.
- (6) Within three months from the date of receipt of a notice under subsection (4) of this section stating that the Board withhold consent or, if an appeal is brought under subsection (5) of this section which does not result in the granting of consent, from the final determination of the appeal, the applicant may serve on the Board a notice requiring the Board to purchase the estate or interest proposed to be transferred by him in the transaction to which the application relates, and the following provisions of this section (under which the Board can be compelled to purchase it) shall have effect.
- (7) Subject to the following provisions of this section, on service of a notice under the last foregoing subsection—
- (a) the Board shall be deemed to be authorised to acquire compulsorily the estate or interest to which the notice relates by a compulsory purchase order,
 - (b) the Board shall be deemed to have served a notice to treat in respect of that interest at that time,
- and in relation to this subsection—
- (i) “compulsory purchase order” means an order to which Part I of the ^{M15}Compulsory Purchase Act 1965 applies, or, as the case may be, an order which has become operative under the ^{M16}Acquisition of Land (Authorisation Procedure) (Scotland) Act 1947;
 - (ii) the power of withdrawal of a notice to treat conferred by section 31 of the ^{M17}Land Compensation Act 1961 or section 39 of the ^{M18}Land Compensation (Scotland) Act 1963, and the power of entry conferred by section 11(1) of the said Act of 1965 or by paragraph 3 of Part I of Schedule 2 to the said Act of 1947, shall not be exercisable in relation to a notice to treat deemed to be served by virtue of paragraph (b) of this subsection.
- (8) The applicant may withdraw the purchase notice—

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- (a) where there has been a final determination by the [^{F85}appropriate tribunal] on the question of compensation payable pursuant to the purchase notice, within six weeks from the date of the final determination, and
- (b) in any other case, at any time before the acceptance in writing by the applicant of an unconditional offer in writing by the Board of a sum as such compensation,

but the applicant shall be liable to pay compensation to the Board for any loss or expense occasioned to the Board by the giving and withdrawal of the purchase notice.

[^{F86}For the purposes of paragraph (a) “appropriate tribunal” means—

- (i) in relation to England and Wales, the Upper Tribunal;
- (ii) in relation to Scotland, the Lands Tribunal for Scotland.]

[^{F87}(8A) For the purposes of subsection (8)(a) a claim shall not be deemed to be fully determined so long as—

- (a) in relation to a decision of the Upper Tribunal, the time for applying for permission to appeal to the Court of Appeal, or for applying for permission to appeal from the decision of the Court of Appeal on such an appeal, has not expired; or
- (b) in relation to a decision of the Lands Tribunal for Scotland, the time for requiring the tribunal to state a case with respect thereto, or for appealing from any decision on the points raised by a case so stated, has not expired.]

(9) If the applicant’s estate or interest in the land to which the application relates is greater than what is proposed to be transferred by the transaction to which the application relates, the Board may by notice given to the applicant within two months of receipt of the purchase notice require that the purchase notice shall apply to all the estate or interest of the applicant in the land.

(10) An application for consent under this section must be sent to the Board by registered post or recorded delivery service, or delivered to the secretary or chief officer of the Board, and if within the period specified in the next following subsection the Board do not notify the applicant of their decision on the application, this section shall have effect as if at the expiration of that period the Board had granted the consent; and it shall be the duty of the Board to give a written consent to the applicant accordingly.

(11) Any applicant who has not received a notice as required by subsection (4) of this section may by notice (to be served on the Board in the way required for service of his application) require the Board to make good their default and the period at the end of which subsection (10) above shall operate shall be the period of fourteen days from the service of that notice.

^{F88}(12)

(13) References in this and the next following section to the transfer of land include references to the granting of a lease of land for a term exceeding 10 years, and to assigning a lease of land with an unexpired term exceeding 10 years, but in relation to the grant of a lease references in this section to the estate and interest of the person transferring or proposing to transfer the land shall be taken as references to his estate and interest both in the reversion and the lease.

(14) In the application of this section to Scotland, for the last foregoing subsection there shall be substituted the following subsection—

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“(13) For the purposes of this and the next following section, any grant of a lease for a period exceeding 10 years and any assignation of a lease with an unexpired period exceeding 10 years shall be a transfer of land, and in relation to the grant of a lease any references in this section to the estate and interest of the person transferring or proposing to transfer the land shall be taken as references to his estate and interest in the lease and in the land subject thereto”.

Textual Amendments

- F82** Words in s. 49(3)(c) substituted (1.4.2013) by [The Natural Resources Body for Wales \(Functions\) Order 2013 \(No. 755\)](#), art. 1(2), **Sch. 2 para. 83** (with Sch. 7)
- F83** Words substituted by [Planning \(Consequential Provisions\) Act 1990](#) (c. 11, SIF 123:1, 2), s. 4, **Sch. 2 para. 15(1)(a)**
- F84** Words substituted by [Planning \(Consequential Provisions\) Act 1990](#) (c. 11, SIF 123:1, 2), s. 4, **Sch. 2 para. 15(1)(b)**
- F85** Words in s. 49(8)(a) substituted (1.6.2009) by [The Transfer of Tribunal Functions \(Lands Tribunal and Miscellaneous Amendments\) Order 2009 \(S.I. 2009/1307\)](#), art. 1, **Sch. 1 para. 78(2)(a)** (with Sch. 5)
- F86** Words in s. 49(8) substituted (1.6.2009) by [The Transfer of Tribunal Functions \(Lands Tribunal and Miscellaneous Amendments\) Order 2009 \(S.I. 2009/1307\)](#), art. 1, **Sch. 1 para. 78(2)(b)** (with Sch. 5)
- F87** S. 49(8A) inserted (1.6.2009) by [The Transfer of Tribunal Functions \(Lands Tribunal and Miscellaneous Amendments\) Order 2009 \(S.I. 2009/1307\)](#), art. 1, **Sch. 1 para. 78(3)** (with Sch. 5)
- F88** S. 49(12) omitted (1.6.2009) by virtue of [The Transfer of Tribunal Functions \(Lands Tribunal and Miscellaneous Amendments\) Order 2009 \(S.I. 2009/1307\)](#), art. 1, **Sch. 1 para. 78(4)** (with Sch. 5)

Modifications etc. (not altering text)

- C19** S. 49 excluded by [Agriculture \(Miscellaneous Provisions\) Act 1968](#) (c. 34), s. 47

Marginal Citations

- M15** 1965 c. 56.
M16 1947 c. 42.
M17 1961 c. 33.
M18 1963 c. 51.

50 Control of sale of certain land: exceptions and supplemental provisions.

- (1) The last foregoing section shall only apply to land which at the time when it is or is to be transferred is agricultural land or woodland or unenclosed mountain, hill or heath land, or common land or waste land.
- (2) Where one of the grounds on which an appeal is brought under subsection (5) of the last foregoing section is that the proposed transfer is part of a proposed transaction involving land in the Board's area which is not within subsection (1) of this section, or involving land which is not within the Board's area, the appropriate Minister may, if he decides not to allow the appeal but is of opinion that the appellant would be substantially prejudiced if he is unable to dispose in one transaction of all the land comprised in the proposed transaction, with the consent of the appellant direct that any purchase notice served under the last foregoing section by the appellant shall relate both to the land to which the application relates and also to the other land, or such part of it as the appropriate Minister may direct.
- (3) The last foregoing section shall not apply to a transfer to or from—
 - (a) a local authority,

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- [^{F89}(aa) a National Park authority;]
- (b) statutory undertakers as defined in [^{F90}section 336(1) of the Town and Country Planning Act 1990] or [^{F91}section 214 of the Town and Country Planning (Scotland) Act 1997],
- (c) any body corporate which is established by or under any enactment for the purpose of carrying on under national ownership any industry or part of an industry or undertaking and whose affairs are managed by the members thereof,
- (d) the National Trust,
- [^{F92}(e) . . .
- [^{F93}(f) United Kingdom Research and Innovation,]
- [^{F94}(g) the Environment Agency, the Natural Resources Body for Wales or any water undertaker or sewerage undertaker;]
- [^{F95}(h) an internal drainage board ^{F96} . . .]

In this subsection the “ National Trust ” means in relation to Scotland the National Trust for Scotland for Places of Historic Interest or Natural Beauty incorporated by the Order confirmed by the ^{M19}National Trust for Scotland Order Confirmation Act 1935; ^{F97} . . .

- (4) The last foregoing section shall not apply to a transfer by an individual to a member of his family or to the trustees of a settlement exclusively for the benefit of members of his family, and in this subsection “ family ” means the individual’s husband or wife, any lineal descendant or ancestor of his, and his brother and sister and any child of a brother or sister, and in deducing any such relationship an adopted child shall be treated as a child and any relationship of the half blood shall be treated as a relationship of the whole blood.
- (5) The last foregoing section shall not apply to a transfer of land effected in pursuance of a contract of sale concluded before the land came to be in the area of the Board or, if the order establishing the Board so provides, before the expiry of such period not exceeding three months from the date on which it is established as may be specified in the order.
- (6) The last foregoing section shall not apply—
 - (a) to a transfer to give effect to the devolution of land on death or bankruptcy or sequestration or under the terms of a settlement, or
 - (b) to a transfer in exercise of the rights conferred on a mortgagee heritable creditor or chargee by a mortgage heritable security or charge created before the relevant land came to be in the area of the Board.
- (7) If land is transferred in contravention of subsection (1) of the last foregoing section the Board shall be deemed to be authorised to acquire all the estate and interest of the transferor in the land transferred (whether in his hands, or in the hands of persons deriving title under him) by a compulsory purchase order, but any notice to treat given in pursuance of this subsection shall be served within six years from the date of transfer.

“Compulsory purchase order” has the same meaning as in section 49(7) of this Act, and [^{F98} Part IV of the Acquisition of Land Act 1981] and Part IV of Schedule 1 to the ^{M20} Acquisition of Land (Authorisation Procedure) (Scotland) Act 1947 (validity of compulsory purchase orders) shall apply in relation to any notice to treat served in pursuance of this subsection as they apply in relation to a compulsory purchase order.

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- (8) In assessing compensation in accordance with section 5 of the ^{M21} Land Compensation Act 1961 or section 12 of the ^{M22} Land Compensation (Scotland) Act 1963 (which relate to compulsory purchases of land) no account shall be taken of any depreciation of the value of the relevant interest which is attributable to the provisions of the last foregoing section and this section.
- (9) Failure to obtain consent under subsection (1) of the last foregoing section to any transaction shall not invalidate that transaction.

Textual Amendments

- F89** S. 50(3)(aa) inserted (23.11.1995) (E.W.) by 1995 c. 25 , s. 78 , **Sch. 10 para. 6** (with ss. 7(6) , 115 , 117 , Sch. 8 para. 7) ; S.I. 1995/2950 , **art. 2(1)**
- F90** Words substituted by Planning (Consequential Provisions) Act 1990 (c. 11, SIF 123:1, 2) , s. 4 , **Sch. 2 para. 15(2)**
- F91** Words in s. 50(3)(b) substituted (27.5.1997) by virtue of 1997 c. 11 , s. 4 , **Sch. 2 para. 14(1)**
- F92** S. 50(3)(e) repealed (1.4.1997) by 1995 c. 25 , s. 120(3) , **Sch. 24** (with ss. 7(6) , 115 , 117 , Sch. 8 para. 7) ; S.I. 1996/2560 , art. 2 , **Sch.**
- F93** S. 50(3)(f) substituted (1.4.2018) by Higher Education and Research Act 2017 (c. 29), s. 124(5), **Sch. 12 para. 6**; S.I. 2018/241, reg. 2(t)
- F94** S. 50(3)(g) substituted (1.4.2013) by The Natural Resources Body for Wales (Functions) Order 2013 (No. 755) , art. 1(2) , **Sch. 2 para. 84** (with Sch. 7)
- F95** S. 50(3)(g)(h) added (E.W.) by Agriculture (Miscellaneous Provisions) Act 1968 (c. 34) , **s. 47**
- F96** Words in s. 50(3)(h) repealed (1.12.1991) by virtue of Water Consolidation (Consequential Provisions) Act 1991 (c. 60, SIF 130) , ss. 3(1) , 4(2) , Sch. 3 Pt. I (with s. 2 , Sch. 2 paras. 10 , 14(1) , **15**)
- F97** Words in s. 50(3) repealed (1.4.1997) by 1995 c. 25 , s. 120(3) , **Sch. 24** (with ss. 7(6) , 115 , 117 , Sch. 8 para. 7) ; S.I. 1996/2560 , art. 2 , **Sch.**
- F98** Words substituted by Acquisition of Land Act 1981 (c. 67, SIF 28:1), s. 34 , **Sch. 4 para. 15(2)**

Modifications etc. (not altering text)

- C20** S. 50 extended (E.W.S.) by Gas Act 1986 (c. 44, SIF 44:2) , s. 67(1)(3) , Sch. 7 para. 2(1)(xix) , **Sch. 8 para. 33**
- C21** S. 50 extended (E.W.S.) by Electricity Act 1989 (c. 29, SIF 44:1) , s. 112(1)(3) , Sch. 16 para. 1(1) (xviii) , Sch. 17 paras. 33 , **35(1)**
- C22** S. 50 extended (1.3.1996) by 1995 c. 45 , s. 16(1) , **Sch. 4 para. 2(1)(xiv)** ; S.I. 1996/218 , **art. 2**

Marginal Citations

- M19** 1935 c. ii .
- M20** 1947 c. 42 .
- M21** 1961 c. 33 .
- M22** 1963 c. 51 .

51 Schemes for co-ordinated amalgamations and reshaping of agricultural units.

- (1) If it appears to a Rural Development Board that in any part of their area there is a need, for the benefit of the community and for the mutual advantage of those owning and occupying the agricultural land, of a co-ordinated scheme of amalgamations of agricultural land, reshaping of agricultural units and afforestation to be effected by transfers and exchanges of land and grants, surrenders, renunciations and variations of tenancies, the Rural Development Board may proceed to make a scheme under this section.

Changes to legislation: Agriculture Act 1967 is up to date with all changes known to be in force on or before 21 February 2024. 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. (See end of Document for details) View outstanding changes

- (2) The scheme—
- (a) shall be based on a comprehensive plan for the uses of the land, including afforestation, and
 - (b) shall be published and made available for inspection in such manner, and with such maps, plans and notes, as the Board consider appropriate,
- and the Board shall, in publishing notice of the scheme and in such other ways as appear to them appropriate, invite submissions to the Board on any aspect of the scheme.
- (3) The Board shall report to the appropriate Minister on the substance of the submissions made to them on the scheme and the appropriate Minister, after taking that report into consideration, may if he thinks fit direct a public inquiry to be held as regards the scheme.
- (4) After taking the Board's report into consideration, together with the report of the person holding the public inquiry, if any, the appropriate Minister shall either reject the scheme or approve it with or without modifications.
- (5) If the appropriate Minister approves the scheme, with or without modifications, he shall publish notice of his approval in such manner as appears to him appropriate, and shall direct the Board to seek to negotiate with those concerned for the carrying into effect of the transactions required to implement the scheme.
- (6) The Board shall endeavour to arrive at proposals for a scheme which all concerned will be willing to implement, and for that purpose the Board may carry out all or any of the necessary negotiations for particular transactions, prepare or commission draft agreements, conveyances and other instruments and, by settling terms for inclusion in agreements for sale and other instruments or by drawing up a programme for the carrying out of the transactions, make arrangements for ensuring that the scheme, or any interdependent transactions, cannot be partly fulfilled and partly unfulfilled; and may carry out that and any other preliminary work notwithstanding that, if the scheme is unfulfilled, their expenses may be irrecoverable.
- (7) If the appropriate Minister is satisfied—
- (a) that, except for transactions which in all involve the transfer of, or of estates or interests in, land (in this subsection called "the outstanding land") of an [F⁹⁹area] small in comparison with the total [F⁹⁹area] of the land affected by the scheme, agreements, enforceable in law, have been made to enter into all the transactions required to implement, or complete the implementation of, the scheme,
 - (b) that the Board have entered into agreements, enforceable in law, such that, if they acquired the outstanding land, there would be agreements, enforceable in law, to carry out all the transactions required to implement, or complete the implementation of, the scheme,
 - (c) that the terms of the scheme on which the transactions transferring the outstanding land were to be carried out were equitable,

the Board may be authorised by the appropriate Minister to acquire the outstanding land compulsorily, and the [F¹⁰⁰Acquisition of Land Act 1981] or, as the case may be, the M²³Acquisition of Land (Authorisation Procedure) (Scotland) Act 1947 shall apply [F¹⁰¹as if the Board were a local authority within the meaning of the relevant Act and as if this section were comprised in an Act in force immediately before the commencement of the relevant Act.]

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- (8) In this section “the appropriate Minister” means, in relation to Wales, the Minister of Agriculture, Fisheries and Food and the Secretary of State for Wales acting jointly.

Textual Amendments

F99 Word substituted by [S.I. 1978/244, reg. 2\(1\)](#)

F100 Words substituted by [Acquisition of Land Act 1981 \(c. 67, SIF 28:1\), s. 34, Sch. 4 para. 1](#) Table

F101 Words repealed (E.W.) by [Acquisition of Land Act 1981 \(c. 67, SIF 28:1\), s. 34, Sch. 6 Pt. I](#)

Marginal Citations

M23 [1947 c. 42.](#)

52 Control of afforestation.

- (1) Subject to this section, no person shall plant land in the area of a Rural Development Board with trees except under the authority of a licence granted by the Board.
- (2) Subsection (1) above shall not apply—
- (a) to planting by [^{F102}the appropriate forestry authority],
 - (b) so long as the covenant, agreement or scheme in question continues in force, but without prejudice to the enforceability of any condition contained in a licence granted before it was entered into or, as the case may be, took effect, to land which is subject to a forestry dedication covenant or agreement as defined in section 5 of the ^{M24}Forestry Act 1967, or the subject of an approved woodlands scheme made under the powers contained in that Act or any enactment repealed by that Act,
 - (c) to land which is, or at some time in the period of ten years before the planting has been, woodland,
 - (d) to the planting of land of an area not exceeding [^{F103}four hectares], but not so as to permit more than [^{F103}four hectares] of land in the ownership of any one person or, where two or more agricultural units are in the same ownership, more than [^{F103}four hectares] in each unit, to be planted in any period of twelve months,
 - (e) to the planting of fruit trees or to land forming part of an orchard,
 - (f) to land forming part of a public open space, or to land which it is not reasonably practicable to put to any beneficial use in its existing state,
 - (g) [^{F104}to planting required as a condition—
 - (i) imposed on the granting of planning permission under the Town and Country Planning (Scotland) Act 1997 or the Town and Country Planning Act 1990,
 - (ii) attached to a felling licence granted, or having effect as if granted, under the Forestry Act 1967, or
 - (iii) imposed on a felling permission, felling direction, restocking direction, registered notice to comply, remedial notice or registered remedial notice under the Forestry and Land Management (Scotland) Act 2018,]
 - (h) if the order establishing the Board so provides, to planting carried out during such period not exceeding three months from the date on which it is established as may be specified in the order.

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- (3) An application for a licence under this section shall be in such form as the Board direct, and on the application the Board may refuse or grant it either with or without conditions; and the Board shall exercise their powers under this section as a means of meeting the problems and needs described in section 45 of this Act in their area.
- (4) The Board may in particular grant a licence subject to any condition—
 - (a) governing the kinds of trees planted,
 - (b) where the licence authorises the planting of a short-term crop, requiring the use of the land for growing trees to be discontinued by the end of a specified period, and requiring before the end of that period the carrying out of such works for the clearing of the land as will make it suitable for agricultural purposes,
 - (c) limiting the period within which the planting authorised by the licence is to be carried out,
 - (d) requiring the planting, and any fencing in connection therewith, to be carried out in such a way that access to other land will not be blocked.
- (5) A licence under this section shall name the person to whom it is granted, and shall authorise planting by that person only unless it is endorsed by the Board in favour of another; and—
 - (a) the Board shall not endorse a licence in favour of any person except with the consent in writing of the person for the time being entitled to its benefit,
 - (b) subject to the foregoing paragraph, it shall be the duty of the Board to endorse a licence on the application in writing of a person owning for the time being the same estate or interest in the land to which the licence relates as that owned by the grantee of the licence at the time when it was granted or (by virtue of subsection (12) below) is deemed to have been granted,
 - (c) subject to that paragraph, in any other case the Board may grant or refuse an application for endorsement as they think fit.
- (6) The Board shall, within two months of receipt of an application duly made for a licence under this section, serve on the applicant, and on all persons other than the applicant who have an estate or interest in the land to which the application relates, other than a minor tenancy, notice of the manner in which the application has been dealt with; and, except where their decision is to grant a licence without any conditions other than a condition requiring the planting which is authorised to be carried out within a period of five years from the grant of the licence, the notice shall give the reasons for their decision.
- (7) Within two months of receipt of a notice under subsection (6) of this section, the applicant and any person other than the applicant who has an estate or interest, other than a minor tenancy, in the land to which the notice relates, may appeal to the appropriate Minister against the decision and—
 - (a) before determining the appeal the appropriate Minister shall, if either the appellant or the Board so desire, afford to each of them an opportunity of appearing before, and being heard by, a person appointed by the appropriate Minister for the purpose,
 - (b) the appropriate Minister may allow or dismiss the appeal, or may reverse or vary any part of the decision of the Board on the application, whether the appeal relates to that part or not, and

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- (c) the appropriate Minister shall serve notice of his decision on the appeal on the appellant and on every person other than the appellant who has an estate or interest, other than a minor tenancy, in the land to which the appeal relates.
- (8) A person who contravenes subsection (1) of this section, or any condition subject to which a licence is granted under this section, shall be liable on summary conviction to a fine not exceeding [^{F107}level 3 on the standard scale].
- (9) Where a person is convicted of an offence under the last foregoing subsection the court may, in addition to or instead of inflicting a fine, order him, within the time specified in the order, to take such steps as may be so specified for remedying the matters in respect of which the contravention occurred, and may on application enlarge the time so specified; and if the order is not complied with that person shall be liable on summary conviction to a fine not exceeding ten pounds for each day on which the non-compliance continues.
- (10) Proceedings in respect of an offence under subsection (8) of this section may be instituted within six months of the first discovery of the offence by the person taking the proceedings, so, however, that no proceedings shall be instituted in respect of such an offence more than two years after the date of the offence.
- (11) A Rural Development Board in granting consent under section 49 of this Act to the transfer of land which in their opinion is land in respect of which an offence has been committed under subsection (8) of this section may impose a condition that the consent shall not take effect until such steps as may be specified by the Board in granting their consent have been taken to remedy the matters in respect of which the alleged contravention occurred, and the conditions so imposed may be varied by the court in exercising its jurisdiction under subsection (9) of this section.
- (12) An application for a licence under this section must be sent to the Board by registered post or recorded delivery service, or delivered to the secretary or chief officer of the Board, and if within the period specified in the next following subsection the Board do not notify the applicant of their decision on the application, this section shall have effect as if at the expiration of that period the Board had granted the licence applied for without any conditions other than a condition requiring the authorised planting to be carried out within five years from that date; and it shall be the duty of the Board to grant a licence to the applicant in those terms.
- (13) An applicant who has not received a notice as required by subsection (6) of this section may by notice (to be served on the Board in the way required for service of his application) require the Board to make good their default and the period at the end of which subsection (12) above shall operate shall be the period of fourteen days from the service of that notice.
- (14) For the purpose of this section the period of twelve months mentioned in subsection (2) (d) of this section shall, in relation to any land, include a period beginning before the land is within the Board's area.
- (15) In this section, unless the context otherwise requires—
- “minor tenancy” means a tenancy of less than twelve months;
- “public open space” means land laid out as a public garden or used (otherwise than in pursuance of section 193 of the ^{M26}Law of Property Act 1925 or of Part V of the National Parks and Access to the ^{M27}Countryside Act 1949 [^{F108}or Part I of the Countryside and Rights of Way Act 2000]) for the purpose of public recreation, or land being a disused burial ground.

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- (16) In this section “the appropriate Minister” means, in relation to Wales, the Minister of Agriculture, Fisheries and Food and the Secretary of State for Wales acting jointly.

Textual Amendments

- F102** Words in s. 52(2)(a) substituted (1.4.2013) by [The Natural Resources Body for Wales \(Functions\) Order 2013 \(No. 755\)](#), art. 1(2), **Sch. 2 para. 85** (with Sch. 7)
- F103** Words substituted by [S.I. 1978/244](#), **reg. 2(2)**
- F104** [S. 52\(2\)\(g\)](#) substituted (1.4.2019) (S.) by [The Forestry and Land Management \(Scotland\) Act 2018 \(Consequential Amendments\) Regulations 2019 \(S.S.I. 2019/125\)](#), regs. 1(2), **3(2)**
- F105** Words in s. 52(2)(g) substituted (27.5.1997) by virtue of 1997 c. 11, s. 4, **Sch. 2 para. 14(2)**
- F106** Words substituted by [Planning \(Consequential Provisions\) Act 1990](#) (c. 11, SIF 123:1, 2), s. 4, **Sch. 2 para. 15(3)**
- F107** Words substituted by virtue of (E.W.) [Criminal Justice Act 1982](#) (c. 48, SIF 39:1), **ss. 38**, 46 and (S.) [Criminal Procedure \(Scotland\) Act 1975](#) (c. 21, SIF 39:1), **ss. 289F**, 289G
- F108** Words in s. 52(15) inserted (19.9.2004 for E., 28.5.2005 for W.) by [Countryside and Rights of Way Act 2000](#) (c. 37), s. 103(3), **Sch. 4 para. 3**; [S.I. 2004/2173](#), art. 2(1)(i); [S.I. 2005/423](#), art. 2(h)

Marginal Citations

- M24** 1967 c. 10.
M25 1967 c. 10.
M26 1925 c. 20.
M27 1949 c. 97.

53 Boards’ annual reports and accounts.

- (1) A Rural Development Board shall prepare and transmit to the appropriate Minister annually a report setting out what has been done in the discharge of their functions under this Act during their financial year last completed, and the appropriate Minister shall lay a copy of the report before each House of Parliament.
- (2) A Rural Development Board shall keep proper accounts and other records in such form as the appropriate Minister may, with the approval of the Treasury, determine.
- (3) A Rural Development Board shall prepare and transmit to the appropriate Minister in respect of each of their financial years statements of account in such form as the appropriate Minister may, with the approval of the Treasury, determine, and the appropriate Minister shall transmit them on or before 30th September following the financial year to the Comptroller and Auditor General, who shall examine and certify them and lay copies of them together with his reports thereon before each House of Parliament.

Modifications etc. (not altering text)

- C23** [S. 53\(2\)\(3\)](#) functions modified (W.) (24.5.2018) by [The Welsh Ministers \(Transfer of Functions\) Order 2018 \(S.I. 2018/644\)](#), arts. 1(1), **10**

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54 Directions to Boards by appropriate Minister.

- (1) The appropriate Minister, after consultation with a Rural Development Board, may give to the Board such directions of a general character with respect to the performance of any functions of the Board as appear to him to be requisite in the public interest.
- (2) The Minister of Agriculture, Fisheries and Food or, as the case may be, the Secretary of State may, as respects such of a Board's books, records and accounts as appear to him to be ones in respect of which, having regard to his relationship with the Board, it is reasonable to give such a direction, direct that they shall be kept available by the Board at all reasonable times for inspection by him or on his behalf or by or on behalf of the Comptroller and Auditor General.
- (3) A Board's report for any year under the last foregoing section shall set out any directions given by the appropriate Minister under subsection (1) of this section to the Board during that year, unless the appropriate Minister has notified the Board his opinion that it is against the interests of national security to do so.
- (4) It shall be the duty of the Board to comply with any directions given by the appropriate Minister under this section.
- (5) In this section "the appropriate Minister" means, in relation to Wales, the Minister of Agriculture, Fisheries and Food and the Secretary of State for Wales acting jointly.

Modifications etc. (not altering text)

- C24** [S. 54\(3\)](#) functions made exercisable concurrently or jointly with the Welsh Ministers by 2006 c. 32, Sch. 3A para. 1 (as inserted (1.4.2018) by [Wales Act 2017 \(c. 4\)](#), s. 71(4), [Sch. 4 para. 1](#) (with [Sch. 7 paras. 1, 6](#)); [S.I. 2017/1179](#), reg. 3(p))

55 Powers of entry and of obtaining information.

- (1) A person duly authorised in writing by a Rural Development Board may, on producing if so required a duly authenticated document showing his authority, enter on any land in the Board's area for the purpose of determining whether, and in what way, any of the functions of the Board should be exercised in relation to the land.

The right of entry under this subsection may be exercised at any reasonable time, but a person shall not demand admission as of right to any land which is occupied unless at least forty-eight hours' notice, or in the case of land occupied for residential purposes at least seven days' notice, of the intended entry has been given to the occupier.

A person who wilfully obstructs any person acting in the exercise of his powers under this subsection shall be liable on summary conviction to a fine not exceeding [^{F109}level 1 on the standard scale].

- (2) A person leaving any land which he has entered by virtue of the foregoing subsection shall, if the land is unoccupied or the occupier is temporarily absent, leave it as effectively secured against trespassers as he found it.
- (3) A Board may by notice served on the owner or occupier of any land in their area, require him to furnish them with such information as may be specified in the notice with regard to the land as the Board may reasonably require for the discharge of such of their functions in relation to the land as may be specified in the notice.

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A person who fails without reasonable cause, or neglects, to furnish to the Board within three months after service of the notice the information specified in the notice shall be liable on summary conviction to a fine not exceeding [^{F109}level 3 on the standard scale].

- (4) Information obtained under this section shall not be disclosed except—
- (a) with the consent of the person by whom the information was furnished, or
 - (b) to a member, officer or servant of the Board or to any person exercising functions on behalf of the Board, or
 - (c) to any Minister or to an officer or servant or other person appointed by or exercising functions on behalf of any Minister, or
 - (d) for the purpose of any proceedings pursuant to this Part of this Act, or of any criminal proceedings which may be taken whether pursuant to this Act or otherwise, or for the purpose of a report of any such proceedings,

and a person who discloses information in contravention of this subsection shall be liable on summary conviction to a fine not exceeding one hundred pounds or imprisonment for a term not exceeding three months or both, or on conviction on indictment to a fine or imprisonment for a term not exceeding two years, or both.

Textual Amendments

F109 Words substituted by virtue of (E.W.) [Criminal Justice Act 1982 \(c. 48, SIF 39:1\)](#), [ss. 38, 46](#) and (S.) [Criminal Procedure \(Scotland\) Act 1975 \(c. 21, SIF 39:1\)](#), [ss. 289F, 289G](#)

56 Application of Part III to Highlands and Islands of Scotland.

- (1) Sections 45 to 55 of this Act shall not apply in relation to the application of this Part of this Act to the Highlands and Islands, except as provided in this section.
- (2) Where the Secretary of State is satisfied that the special problems and needs referred to in the said section 45 exist in any area of the Highlands and Islands (including the whole area thereof), he may by order made (so far as applicable) in accordance with the provisions of that section and Part I of Schedule 5 to this Act apply to that area such of the provisions of section 27(1)(c) of this Act and the said sections 45 to 55 as he may think necessary for the purposes of this Part of this Act, and any powers and functions exercisable by a Rural Development Board by virtue of those provisions shall for the said purposes be conferred on the Highlands and Islands Development Board, but without prejudice to their existing powers and functions, and any reference in this Act to a Rural Development Board and to its area shall be construed accordingly.
- (3) On the making of an order under this section which applies any of the provisions of sections 49, 50 and 52 of this Act the Secretary of State shall cause such a notice as is mentioned in section 45(9) of this Act to be lodged and made available in accordance with that subsection.
- (4) “Highlands and Islands” in this section has the same meaning as in the ^{M28}Highlands and Islands Development (Scotland) Act 1965.

Marginal Citations

M28 [1965 c. 46](#).

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Supplemental

57 Interpretation of Part III.

- (1) In this Part of this Act, except where the context otherwise requires—
- “amalgamation”, “boundary adjustment”, “commercial unit”, “intermediate unit” and “uncommercial unit” have the same meanings as in Part II of this Act;
- [^{F110}“the appropriate forestry authority” means the Forestry Commission in relation to England [^{F111}, the Scottish Ministers in relation to] Scotland and the Natural Resources Body for Wales in relation to Wales;]
- “prescribed”, in relation to the contents of a scheme, means prescribed by the scheme;
- “woodland” includes all land used primarily for the growing of trees.
- (2) For the purposes of this Part of this Act land in the area of a Rural Development Board shall be regarded as having been within that area from the date when the Board is established except that, if included by an order varying the Board’s area, it shall be regarded as being within that area from the date when that order takes effect.
- (3) Section 107 of the ^{M29}Agriculture Act 1947 or, as the case may be, section 83 of the ^{M30}Agriculture (Scotland) Act 1948 (manner of service of notice) shall apply to notices required or authorised to be served by a Minister or a Rural Development Board under this Part of this Act.

Textual Amendments

- F110** Words in s. 57(1) inserted (1.4.2013) by [The Natural Resources Body for Wales \(Functions\) Order 2013 \(No. 755\)](#), art. 1(2), **Sch. 2 para. 86** (with Sch. 7)
- F111** Words in s. 57(1) substituted (S.) (1.4.2019) by [The Forestry and Land Management \(Scotland\) Act 2018 \(Consequential Amendments\) Regulations 2019 \(S.S.I. 2019/125\)](#), regs. 1(2), **3(3)** (and see also S.I. 2019/734, arts. 1, 6, Sch. para. 48)

Marginal Citations

- M29** 1947 c. 48.
- M30** 1948 c. 45.

^{F112}PART IV CO-OPERATIVE ACTIVITIES

Textual Amendments

- F112** Pt. 4 repealed (18.7.2014) by [The Public Bodies \(Abolition of Food from Britain\) Order 2014 \(S.I. 2014/1924\)](#), art. 1(3), **Sch.**

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PART V MISCELLANEOUS

63 Financial assistance for certain bodies making agricultural loans

- (1) ^{F113}
- ^{F114}(2)

Textual Amendments

F113 S. 63(1) repealed by [Agriculture \(Miscellaneous Provisions\) Act 1972 \(c. 62\), Sch. 6](#)

F114 S. 63(2) repealed by [Agriculture and Forestry \(Financial Provisions\) Act 1991 \(c. 33, SIF 2:2\), s. 1, Sch., Pt.III](#)

64 Grants towards fulfilling guarantees of bank loans to agriculture or horticulture businesses.

- (1) Section 9 of the ^{M31}Agriculture and Horticulture Act 1964 (grants towards fulfilling guarantees of bank loans to horticulture businesses) shall not apply in relation to any guarantee given after 31st March 1966 (but the provisions of this section shall apply in relation to such guarantees).
- (2) The Minister may, in such manner and subject to such conditions as he may with the approval of the Treasury determine, make a grant to any person in respect of expenditure incurred by that person in fulfilling a guarantee given by him as security for a loan made in the course of a banking business to a person requiring the loan for the purposes of an agriculture or horticulture business carried on by him, where—
- (a) the guarantee was given during the period of three years beginning on 1st April 1966, or
- (b) the guarantee was given in the year ending on 31st March 1966 and the grant could not be given under the said section 9 of that Act of 1964 and is given after the end of the said year.
- ^{F115}(3)
- (4) The aggregate of sums paid by way of grant under this section ^{F116}... in the year ending on 31st March 1968 or in any subsequent year shall be subject to a limit of three hundred thousand pounds increased, where the aggregate of sums so paid in the last preceding year falls short of the limit for that year (whether it be the limit under this or the last foregoing subsection), by the amount of the difference or six hundred thousand pounds, whichever is the less.
- ^{F117}(5)
- (6) ^{F118}
- ^{F119}(7)
- (8) In this section—
- “agriculture or horticulture business” means either—
- (a) a business which consists, or so much of a larger business as consists, of the producing in the United Kingdom of agricultural or horticultural produce for sale or of the producing in the United Kingdom of agricultural or horticultural produce for sale and its storage, preparation for market or transport, or

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- (b) the activities of any co-operative association so far as they consist of assisting members in the production in the United Kingdom of agricultural or horticultural produce for sale by the provision of buildings, equipment, facilities or services required in connection therewith, or
- (c) a co-operative marketing business;

“agricultural or horticultural produce” means anything (whether live or dead) produced in the course of agriculture and without prejudice to the generality of that definition the expression “agricultural or horticultural produce” shall include all horticultural produce as defined in section 8(1) of the ^{M32}Horticulture Act 1960;

“co-operative marketing business” means a business carried on by a co-operative association and consisting of, or so much of a larger business so carried on as consists of, the storage, preparation for market or marketing, for the sole or primary purpose of assisting members engaged in the production in the United Kingdom of agricultural or horticultural produce for sale, of agricultural or horticultural produce produced by members of the association;

“co-operative association” means—

- (a) a registered society as defined in section 74 of the ^{M33}Industrial and Provident Societies Act 1965 or a society registered under the Industrial and Provident Societies Acts (Northern Ireland) 1893 to 1963, or
- (b) any body which (whether incorporated or not) has a written constitution from which the Minister is satisfied, having regard to any provision as to the manner in which profits of the body are to be applied for the benefit of its members and all other relevant provisions, that the body is in substance a co-operative association;

“the Minister” means the Minister of Agriculture, Fisheries and Food;

“year” means a period of twelve calendar months.

[^{F120}(8A) For the purposes of the definitions in subsection (8) above of “co-operative marketing business” and “co-operative association”, the members of a co-operative association shall be deemed to include the members of any other co-operative association which—

- (a) is a member of the first mentioned association, or
- (b) is deemed to be such a member by virtue of paragraph (a) above or this paragraph.]

(9) This section extends to Northern Ireland.

Textual Amendments

F115 S. 64(3) repealed (22.7.2004) by Statute Law (Repeals) Act 2004 (c. 14), Sch. 1 Pt. 2 Group 1

F116 Words in s. 64(4) repealed (22.7.2004) by Statute Law (Repeals) Act 2004 (c. 14), Sch. 1 Pt. 2 Group 1

F117 S. 64(5) repealed (22.7.2004) by Statute Law (Repeals) Act 2004 (c. 14), Sch. 1 Pt. 2 Group 1

F118 Ss. 64(6), 65(5) repealed by European Communities Act 1972 (c. 68), Sch. 3 Pt. IV

F119 S. 64(7) repealed (22.7.2004) by Statute Law (Repeals) Act 2004 (c. 14), Sch. 1 Pt. 2 Group 1

F120 S. 64(8A) inserted by Agriculture (Amendment) Act 1984 (c. 20, SIF 2:1), s. 1

Modifications etc. (not altering text)

C25 S. 64(2)(a) amended by extension of period mentioned for a further additional period of 5 years beginning on 1.4.1984 by S.I. 1984/275, art. 2

C26 S. 64(2)(a) amended with the extension of period mentioned for additional five years by S.I. 1979/323

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Marginal Citations

- M31 1964 c. 28.
- M32 1960 c. 22.
- M33 1965 c. 12.

^{F121}**65 Grants for keeping farm business records.**

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Textual Amendments

F121 S. 65 repealed (22.7.2004) by Statute Law (Repeals) Act 2004 (c. 14), Sch. 1 Pt. 2 Group 1

Modifications etc. (not altering text)

C27 S. 65: Functions of the Secretary of State, the Secretary of State for Scotland or the Secretary of State for Wales transferred to the Minister of Agriculture, Fisheries and Food (27.12.1999) by S.I. 1999/3141, arts. 2(1)(5) Sch. (with art. 3)

66 ^{F122}

Textual Amendments

F122 S. 66 repealed by Animal Health Act 1981 (c. 22, SIF 4:4), s. 96, Sch. 6

67 Sick pay for agricultural workers.

[^{F123}(1) The minimum rates of wages for workers employed in agriculture which the Agricultural Wages Board has power to fix under section 3(1)(a) of the ^{M34}Agricultural Wages Act 1948 may include minimum rates of wages for periods when a worker so employed is absent in consequence of sickness or injury, and may include them notwithstanding that under the contract of employment no remuneration is payable in respect of any such period.

(2) In section 3(7) of the said Act, and paragraph 5 of Schedule 4 to that Act (which authorise—

- (a) the fixing of a minimum rate of wages so that remuneration received is calculated by reference to periods during the currency of employment, and
- (b) alternative provisions applying according to different circumstances arising during the currency of employment)

references to currency of employment shall, in accordance with subsection (1) of this section, include periods of sickness or injury.

(3) An order of the Agricultural Wages Board which fixes minimum rates of wages for periods when a worker is absent in consequence of sickness or injury—

- (a) may treat a period of sickness or injury as being during the currency of employment notwithstanding that the contract of employment has terminated, but not where the contract of employment is terminated by notice given before the commencement of the sickness or the occurrence of the injury,

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- (b) may limit the period or periods for which a minimum rate of wages is so fixed in any way, and in particular may relate the period or periods to the duration of the period for which the worker has worked for the employer,
 - (c) may make the right to the minimum rate of wages depend on compliance by the worker with any conditions, including in particular conditions as to the production of a medical certificate or other evidence of incapacity for work due to sickness or injury,
 - (d) may provide for the times at which, and conditions subject to which, the right to receive wages at the minimum rate is to accrue, and the wages are to become payable,
 - (e) may provide for account to be taken, in arriving at the minimum rate of wages, of any benefits [^{F124}payable under Parts II to V of the Social Security Contributions and Benefits Act 1992][^{F125}or Part II of the ^{M35}Social Security Pensions Act 1975].
- (4) Subsection (1) of this section shall not alter the construction of any order made under the said Act before the passing of this Act.
- (5) Section 17 of the said Act shall apply for the interpretation of this section.
- (6) In the application of this section to Scotland—
- (a) any reference to the Agricultural Wages Board shall be construed as a reference to the Scottish Agricultural Wages Board;
 - (b) any reference to the ^{M36}Agricultural Wages Act 1948 shall be construed as a reference to the ^{M37}Agricultural Wages (Scotland) Act 1949; and
 - (c) any reference to paragraph 5 of Schedule 4 to the said Act of 1948 shall be construed as a reference to paragraph 5 of Schedule 3 to the said Act of 1949.]

Textual Amendments

- F123** S. 67 repealed (E.W.) (25.6.2013) by [Enterprise and Regulatory Reform Act 2013 \(c. 24\), s. 103\(3\), Sch. 20 para. 2](#); S.I. 2013/1455, art. 2(c), Sch. 1 (with art. 4(2))
- F124** Words in s. 67(3)(e) substituted (1.7.1992) by [Social Security \(Consequential Provisions\) Act 1992 \(c. 6\), ss. 4, 7\(2\), Sch. 2 para. 4](#)
- F125** Words inserted by [Social Security Pensions Act 1975 \(c. 60\), Sch. 4 Pt. I para. 10](#)

Modifications etc. (not altering text)

- C28** S. 67 restricted (1.4.1999) by [1949 c. 30, s. 3\(14\)\(b\)](#) (as inserted (1.4.1999)) by [1998 c. 39, s. 47, Sch. 2 Pt. II para. 12\(3\)](#) (with s. 36); S.I. 1999/685, art. 2, [Sch.](#) (with art. 3)
- S. 67: power to amend conferred (1.4.1999) by [1998 c. 39, s. 47\(2\)\(c\)\(3\)](#) (with s. 36); S.I. 1999/685, art. 2, [Sch.](#) (with art. 3)

Marginal Citations

- M34** 1948 c. 47.
- M35** 1975 c. 60.
- M36** 1948 c. 47.
- M37** 1949 c. 30.

68 Application of capital money in payment of improvement rentcharges.

Section 73(1)(xiii) of the ^{M38}Settled Land Act 1925 (under which capital money arising under that Act may be applied in the redemption of improvement rentcharges) shall,

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in its application to any charge created under the ^{M39}Improvement of Land Act 1864 in respect of an improvement benefiting agricultural land, ^{F126} . . . have effect as if the reference to redemption included a reference to discharging as it falls due so much of any periodical payment as represents repayment of capital.

Textual Amendments

F126 Words in s. 68 repealed by [Agricultural and Forestry \(Financial Provisions\) Act 1991 \(c. 33, SIF 2:2\)](#), s. 1, [Sch.](#), Pt. II

Marginal Citations

M38 1925 c. 18.

M39 1864 c. 114.

69 False statements to obtain grants, etc.

(1) If any person, for the purpose of obtaining for himself or any other person—

- (a) any grant under this Act, . . . ^{F127}
- (b) ^{F128}
- (c) ^{F129}

or for the purpose of inducing the appropriate Minister or a Rural Development Board to make a loan or guarantee under section 28 or section 47 of this Act, knowingly or recklessly makes a false statement he shall be liable—

- (i) on summary conviction to a fine not exceeding [^{F130}level 3 on the standard scale] or imprisonment for a term not exceeding three months or both.
- (ii) ^{F131}

(2) This section extends to Northern Ireland.

Textual Amendments

F127 Words repealed by [Statute Law \(Repeals\) Act 1986 \(c. 12\)](#), s. 1(1), [Sch. 1 Pt. II](#)

F128 S. 69(1)(b) repealed by [Agriculture Act 1970 \(c. 40\)](#), ss. 29(6)(7), 113(3), [Sch. 5 Pt. I](#)

F129 S. 69(c)–(e) repealed by [Statute Law \(Repeals\) Act 1986 \(c. 12\)](#), s. 1(1), [Sch. 1 Pt. II](#)

F130 Words substituted by virtue of (E.W.) [Criminal Justice Act 1982 \(c. 48, SIF 39:1\)](#), ss. 38, 46, (S.) [Criminal Procedure \(Scotland\) Act 1975 \(c. 21, SIF 39:1\)](#), ss. 289F, 289G and (N.I.) S.I. 1984/703 (N.I. 3), [arts. 5, 6](#)

F131 S. 69(1)(ii) repealed by [Theft Act 1968 \(c. 60\)](#), [Sch. 3 Pt. I](#) and [Theft Act \(Northern Ireland\) 1969 \(c. 16\)](#), [Sch. 3 Pt. I](#)

70 Guaranteed prices: minor amendments as respects powers of entry and offences.

(1) In the application in Northern Ireland of section 5(1)(d) of the ^{M40}Agriculture Act 1957 (powers of entry in connection with guaranteed prices) and any order made thereunder before the coming into force of this section, references to authorised officers of the Minister shall include references to authorised officers of [^{F132}the Department of Agriculture for Northern Ireland].

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- (2) In section 7(3)(b) of that Act (penalty for altering, concealing or defacing a mark applied to produce) the word “removes” shall be added before the words “alters, conceals or defaces”.
- (3) This section extends to Northern Ireland.

Textual Amendments

F132 Words substituted by virtue of [Northern Ireland Constitution Act 1973 \(c.36\)](#), [Sch. 5 para.8\(1\)](#)

Modifications etc. (not altering text)

C29 The text of s. 70(2) is in the form in which it was originally enacted: it was not reproduced in Statutes in Force and does not reflect any amendments or repeals which may have been made prior to 1.2.1991.

Marginal Citations

M40 [1957 c. 57](#).

PART VI SUPPLEMENTAL AND GENERAL

71 Offences by bodies corporate.

Where a body corporate is guilty of an offence under this Act, and that offence is proved to have been committed with the consent or connivance of, or to be attributable to any neglect on the part of, any director, manager, secretary or other similar officer of the body corporate, or any person who was purporting to act in any such capacity, he, as well as the body corporate, shall be guilty of that offence and shall be liable to be proceeded against and punished accordingly.

In this section “director”, in relation to a body corporate established by or under any enactment for the purpose of carrying on under national ownership any industry or part of an industry or undertaking, being a body corporate whose affairs are managed by its members, means a member of that body corporate.

72 Application to Northern Ireland.

- (1) Parts I to V of this Act, so far as not expressly extended to Northern Ireland by any provision contained in this Act or by any Order in Council under the next following subsection, shall not extend to Northern Ireland; . . . ^{F133}
- (2) Her Majesty may, by Order in Council made under this subsection in pursuance of resolutions passed by the two Houses of the Parliament of Northern Ireland, direct that the provisions of Part III of this Act other than sections 41 to 44 shall extend to Northern Ireland; and any such Order in Council may be varied or revoked by a subsequent Order in Council made under this subsection in pursuance of such resolutions as aforesaid.
- (3) While any provisions of Part III of this Act extend to Northern Ireland by virtue of an Order in Council under subsection (2) above those provisions, and any other provision of this Act so far as it relates to those provisions, shall have effect subject to such exceptions, adaptations and modifications as may be specified in the Order.

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- (4) In the application of any provision of this Act to Northern Ireland any reference to an Act of the Parliament of the United Kingdom shall be construed as a reference to that Act as it applies to Northern Ireland.
- (5) Any reference to an enactment of the Parliament of Northern Ireland or to an enactment which that Parliament has power to amend shall be construed as including a reference to that enactment as amended by any Act of that Parliament, whether passed before or after this Act and to any Act of that Parliament passed after this Act and re-enacting that enactment whether with or without modifications.
- (6) In any provision of this Act under which a grant or subsidy under this Act may be reduced or withheld where some other relevant grant or subsidy is payable out of money provided by Parliament, references to any such other grant or subsidy shall include references to one payable out of money provided by the Parliament of Northern Ireland.
- (7) An Order in Council under this section may contain such transitional and other consequential provisions as appear to Her Majesty to be expedient.

Textual Amendments

F133 Words repealed by [Northern Ireland Constitution Act 1973 \(c. 36\)](#), [Sch. 6 Pt. I](#)

73 **F134**

Textual Amendments

F134 [S. 73](#) repealed by [House of Commons Disqualification Act 1975 \(c. 24\)](#), [Sch. 3](#) and [Northern Ireland Assembly Disqualification Act 1975 \(c. 25\)](#), [Sch. 3](#)

74 Expenses and receipts of Ministers.

- (1) Any expenses incurred by any Minister under this Act shall be defrayed out of money provided by Parliament.
- (2) Any sums received or recovered by any Minister in pursuance of this Act or any order made thereunder shall, except as otherwise expressly provided, be paid into the Exchequer.

75 Short title, interpretation, repeals and commencement.

- (1) This Act may be cited as the Agriculture Act 1967.
- (2) In this Act, unless the context otherwise requires,—
 - “the appropriate Minister” means, in relation to England and Wales or Northern Ireland, the Minister of Agriculture, Fisheries and Food and, in relation to Scotland, the Secretary of State;
 - “agriculture”, “agricultural land”, “agricultural unit” and cognate expressions and references to farming shall be construed except in relation to Scotland in accordance with section 109 of the ^{M41}Agriculture Act 1947, and

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in relation to Scotland, in accordance with section 86 of the ^{M42}Agriculture (Scotland) Act 1948;

“assignment”, in relation to Scotland, means assignment;

“heritable security” has the same meaning as in the ^{M43}Conveyancing (Scotland) Act 1924 except that it includes a security constituted by ex facie absolute disposition or assignment, and “heritable creditor” shall be construed accordingly;

“land” includes any estate or interest in land;

“local authority” means, in England ^{F135} . . . , the council of a county, of a . . . ^{F136} London borough, the Common Council of the City of London and an . . . ^{F136} district council, [^{F137} in Wales, the council of a county or county borough] and, in Scotland, a county council, joint county council of a combined county, town council or district council;

“pension”, in relation to any person, means a pension of any kind whatsoever, whether contributory or not, payable to or in respect of him, and includes a gratuity so payable on his retirement or death, and a return of contributions to a pension fund, with or without interest thereon or any other addition thereto.

- (3) In this Act references to England and Wales shall be construed as if Wales included Monmouthshire.
- (4) References in this Act to the duration of a scheme are references to the period within which applications for approval of proposals qualifying for grant under the scheme must be made ^{F138} . . . ; and the provisions of this Act limiting the duration of a scheme shall not prevent a scheme providing different periods for different purposes.
- (5) Any reference in this Act to any enactment shall be construed as a reference to that enactment as amended or extended by any other enactment, including this Act, and in this Act “enactment” includes an enactment of the Parliament of Northern Ireland.
- (6) Any power of giving directions conferred by this Act shall include a power, subject to the like conditions, to vary or revoke a direction so given.
- (7) The Acts mentioned in Schedule 7 to this Act shall be repealed to the extent specified in the third column of that Schedule, but subject to the provisions at the end of that Schedule.

^{F139}(8)

Textual Amendments

F135 Words in s. 75(2) repealed (1.4.1996) by 1994 c. 19, s. 66(6)(8), Sch. 16 para. 30, Sch. 18 (with ss. 54(5)(7), 55(5), Sch. 17 para. 22(1), 23(2)); S.I. 1996/396, art. 4, Sch. 2

F136 Words repealed by Local Government Act 1972 (c. 70), Sch. 30

F137 Words in s. 75(2) inserted (1.4.1996) by 1994 c. 19, s. 66(6), Sch. 16 para. 30 (with ss. 54(5)(7), 55(5), Sch. 17 para. 22(1), 23(2)); S.I. 1996/396, art. 4, Sch. 2

F138 Words in s. 75(4) repealed (22.7.2004) by Statute Law (Repeals) Act 2004 (c. 14), Sch. 1 Pt. 2 Group 1

F139 S. 75(8) repealed (22.7.2004) by Statute Law (Repeals) Act 2004 (c. 14), Sch. 1 Pt. 2 Group 1

Modifications etc. (not altering text)

C30 Power of appointment conferred by s. 75(8) fully exercised

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Marginal Citations

M41 1947 c. 48.

M42 1948 c. 45.

M43 1924 c. 27.

Changes to legislation:

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Changes and effects yet to be applied to :

- s. 6(4) words substituted by [2003 c. 44 Sch. 26 para. 19\(2\)](#)
- s. 6(9) words repealed by [2003 c. 44 Sch. 37 Pt. 9](#)
- s. 9(10) words substituted by [2003 c. 44 Sch. 27 para. 2\(2\)](#)
- s. 14(2) words repealed by [2003 c. 44 Sch. 37 Pt. 9](#)
- s. 19(3) words substituted by [S.I. 2008/948 Sch. 1 para. 1\(h\)](#)
- s. 21(11) words substituted by [2003 c. 44 Sch. 26 para. 19\(3\)](#)
- s. 69 words repealed by [2003 c. 44 Sch. 37 Pt. 9](#)

Changes and effects yet to be applied to the whole Act associated Parts and Chapters:

Whole provisions yet to be inserted into this Act (including any effects on those provisions):

- s. 9(10A) inserted by [2003 c. 44 Sch. 27 para. 2\(3\)](#)