



# New Towns Act 1981

## 1981 CHAPTER 64

An Act to consolidate certain enactments relating to new towns and connected matters, being (except for section 43 of the New Towns Act 1965 and sections 126 and 127 of the Local Government, Planning and Land Act 1980 and certain related provisions) enactments which apply only to England and Wales. [30th October 1981]

### Modifications etc. (not altering text)

- C1** Act extended by [Civil Aviation Act 1982](#) (c. 16, SIF 9), [Sch. 2 para. 5](#)  
Act extended (1.3.1996) by [1995 c. 45](#), ss. 16(1), 18(2), [Sch. 4 para. 2\(1\)\(xxx\)](#); S.I. 1996/218, [art. 2](#)
- C2** Power to delegate certain powers conferred by [Housing Act 1985](#) (c. 68, SIF 61), [s. 30\(2\)\(a\)](#)
- C3** Act modified by [Gas Act 1986](#) (c. 44, SIF 44:2), [s. 67\(1\)\(3\)](#), [Sch. 7 para. 2\(9\)\(j\)](#) (with [s. 67\(3\)](#), [Sch. 8 para. 33](#))
- C4** Act extended by [Gas Act 1986](#) (c. 44, SIF 44:2), [s. 67\(1\)\(3\)](#), [Sch. 7 para. 2\(1\)\(xli\)](#) (with [s. 67\(3\)](#), [Sch. 8 para. 33](#))
- C5** Act extended by [Airports Act 1986](#) (c. 31, SIF 9), [s. 58](#), [Sch. 2 para. 1\(1\)](#)
- C6** Act modified by [Airports Act 1986](#) (c. 31, SIF 9), [s. 58](#), [Sch. 2 para. 1\(2\)](#)  
Act modified (1.3.1996) by [1995 c. 45](#), ss. 16(1), 18(2), [Sch. 4 para. 2\(10\)\(g\)](#); S.I. 1996/218, [art. 2](#)
- C7** Act extended (E.W.) by [Water Act 1989](#) (c. 15, SIF 130), [s. 190\(1\)](#), [Sch. 25 para. 1\(2\)\(xxvi\)](#) (with ss. 58(7), 101(1), 141(6), 160(1)(2)(4), 163, 189(4)–(10), 190, 193(1), [Sch. 26 paras. 3\(1\)\(2\)](#), 17, 40(4), 57(6), 58)
- C8** Act modified by [Water Act 1989](#) (c. 15, SIF 130), [s. 190\(1\)](#), [Sch. 25 para. 1\(10\)\(viii\)](#) (with ss. 58(7), 101(1), 141(6), 160(1)(2)(4), 163, 189(4)–(10), 190, 193(1), [Sch. 26 paras. 3\(1\)\(2\)](#), 17, 40(4), 57(6), 58)
- C9** Act amended by [Water Act 1989](#) (c. 15, SIF 130), [s. 190\(1\)](#), [Sch. 25 para. 1\(11\)\(iv\)](#) (with ss. 58(7), 101(1), 141(6), 160(1)(2)(4), 163, 189(4)–(10), 190, 193(1), [Sch. 26 paras. 3\(1\)\(2\)](#), 17, 40(4), 57(6), 58)
- C10** Act amended by [Electricity Act 1989](#) (c. 29, SIF 44:1), [s. 112\(1\)](#), [Sch. 16 para. 2\(2\)\(f\)](#) (with [s. 112\(3\)](#), [Sch. 17 paras. 33](#), 35(1))
- C11** Act modified by [Electricity Act 1989](#) (c. 29, SIF 44:1), [s. 112\(1\)](#), [Sch. 16 para. 3\(1\)\(g\)](#) (with [s. 112\(3\)](#), [Sch. 17 paras. 33](#), 35(1))
- C12** Act: definition of "new town" applied (E.W.) (1.12.1991) by [Water Industry Act 1991](#) (c. 56, SIF 130), [ss. 97\(5\)](#), 98(2)(d), 223(2) (with [ss. 82\(3\)](#), 186(1), 222(1), [Sch. 14 para. 6](#))
- C13** Act ([s. 11](#) and the other provisions of the Act so far as they have effect for the purposes of [s. 11](#)) continued (temp.) (Telford) by [S.I. 1991/1980](#), [art. 5](#).

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**Changes to legislation:** *New Towns Act 1981, Introductory Text is up to date with all changes known to be in force on or before 27 May 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*

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- Act (except ss. 69(1), 78(3)(a)): transfer of functions (1.7.1999) by S.I. 1999/672, art. 2, **Sch. 1**
- C14** Act modified (E.) (24.7.2018) by [The New Towns Act 1981 \(Local Authority Oversight\) Regulations 2018 \(S.I. 2018/891\)](#), reg. 6, **Sch. 1**
- C15** Act: power to amend conferred (26.12.2023) by [Levelling-up and Regeneration Act 2023 \(c. 55\)](#), **ss. 132, 255(3)(a)** (with s. 247)

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**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. 1A(1) omitted by [2023 c. 55 Sch. 16 para. 7\(3\)](#)
- s. 1A(2) omitted by [2023 c. 55 Sch. 16 para. 7\(3\)](#)
- s. 1A(4) word inserted by [2023 c. 55 Sch. 16 para. 7\(4\)\(b\)](#)
- s. 1A(4) words substituted by [2023 c. 55 Sch. 16 para. 7\(4\)\(a\)](#)
- s. 1A(5)(a) words substituted by [2023 c. 55 Sch. 16 para. 7\(5\)\(a\)](#)
- s. 1ZA1ZB inserted by [2023 c. 55 s. 172\(2\)](#)
- s. 2(1A) inserted by [2023 c. 55 Sch. 16 para. 8](#)
- s. 3(2B)-(2D) inserted by [2023 c. 55 s. 172\(3\)\(c\)](#)
- s. 3(2ZA)(2ZB) inserted by [2023 c. 55 s. 178\(2\)\(b\)](#)
- s. 7A7B inserted by [2023 c. 55 s. 175\(2\)](#)
- s. 60(1A) inserted by [2023 c. 55 s. 179\(2\)\(b\)](#)
- s. 77(3E) inserted by [2023 c. 55 Sch. 17 para. 1\(3\)](#)
- Sch. 3 para. 10A10B and cross-heading inserted by [2023 c. 55 s. 175\(3\)](#)