



Weights and Measures Act 1985

1985 CHAPTER 72

PART I

UNITS AND STANDARDS OF MEASUREMENT

3 Department of Trade and Industry secondary, tertiary and coinage standards.

- (1) The Secretary of State shall maintain secondary, tertiary and coinage standards in accordance with the provisions of this section, which shall be known collectively as the [^{F1}[^{F2}Department for Business and Trade] standards].
- (2) The secondary standards shall consist of standards of all the measures set out in Parts I and IV and all weights set out in Part V of Schedule 3 to this Act other than capacity measures of more than [^{F3}8 pints] or ten litres; and any such standard shall be constructed and, while it remains in use, from time to time at intervals not exceeding five years have its value or values redetermined, by reference to such one or more of the United Kingdom primary standards or any authorised copies of those standards as may appear to the Secretary of State to be appropriate.
- (3) The tertiary standards shall consist of such standards of such of the measures or weights set out in Parts I, IV and V of Schedule 3 to this Act as may from time to time appear to the Secretary of State to be necessary or expedient; and any such standard shall be constructed and, while it remains in use, from time to time at intervals not exceeding two years have its value or values redetermined, by reference to such one or more of the secondary standards as may appear to the Secretary of State to be appropriate.
- (4) The coinage standards shall consist of such standards of the weight of each coin of the realm for the time being authorised by or under the enactments relating to the coinage as may from time to time appear to the Secretary of State to be necessary or expedient; and any such standard shall be constructed and, while it remains in use, from time to time at intervals not exceeding two years have its value redetermined, by reference to such one or more of the secondary standards as may appear to the Secretary of State to be appropriate.

*Changes to legislation: There are currently no known outstanding effects for the
Weights and Measures Act 1985, Section 3. (See end of Document for details)*

- (5) [^{F4}[^{F5}Department for Business and Trade] standards] shall be provided or replaced by the Secretary of State from time to time as may appear to him necessary or expedient and shall be in such form and of such material, and be kept under his control at such place or places, as he may think fit.
- (6) A secondary or tertiary standard of any linear or capacity measure may—
- (a) be provided either as a separate standard or by means of divisions marked on a standard of a larger measure, and
 - (b) either be marked in whole or in part with subdivisions representing any smaller unit of measurement or multiples or fractions of such a unit or have no such markings,
- as the Secretary of State thinks fit.

Textual Amendments

- F1** Words in s. 3(1) substituted (9.11.2016) by The Secretaries of State for Business, Energy and Industrial Strategy, for International Trade and for Exiting the European Union and the Transfer of Functions (Education and Skills) Order 2016 (S.I. 2016/992), art. 1(2), **Sch. para. 5(2)** (with art. 13)
- F2** Words in s. 3(1) substituted (3.5.2023) by The Secretaries of State for Energy Security and Net Zero, for Science, Innovation and Technology, for Business and Trade, and for Culture, Media and Sport and the Transfer of Functions (National Security and Investment Act 2021 etc) Order 2023 (S.I. 2023/424), art. 1(2), **Sch. para. 6(2)** (with art. 17)
- F3** Words in s. 3(2) substituted (1.10.1995) by S.I. 1994/2867, **reg. 6(3)**
- F4** Words in s. 3(5) substituted (9.11.2016) by The Secretaries of State for Business, Energy and Industrial Strategy, for International Trade and for Exiting the European Union and the Transfer of Functions (Education and Skills) Order 2016 (S.I. 2016/992), art. 1(2), **Sch. para. 5(2)** (with art. 13)
- F5** Words in s. 3(5) substituted (3.5.2023) by The Secretaries of State for Energy Security and Net Zero, for Science, Innovation and Technology, for Business and Trade, and for Culture, Media and Sport and the Transfer of Functions (National Security and Investment Act 2021 etc) Order 2023 (S.I. 2023/424), art. 1(2), **Sch. para. 6(2)** (with art. 17)

Changes to legislation:

There are currently no known outstanding effects for the Weights and Measures Act 1985, Section 3.