



Housing (Scotland) Act 1987

1987 CHAPTER 26

PART II

HOMELESS PERSONS

Supplementary provisions

40 False statements, withholding information and failure to disclose change of circumstances

- (1) If a person, with intent to induce a local authority to believe, in connection with the exercise of their functions under this Part, that he or another person—
 - (a) is homeless or threatened with homelessness, or
 - (b) has a priority need, or
 - (c) did not become homeless or threatened with homelessness intentionally,knowingly or recklessly makes a statement which is false in a material particular, or knowingly withholds information which the authority have reasonably required him to give in connection with the exercise of those functions, he shall be guilty of an offence.
- (2) If before an applicant receives notification of the local authority's decision on his application there is any change of facts material to his case, he shall notify the authority as soon as possible; and the authority shall explain to every applicant, in ordinary language, the duty imposed on him by this subsection and the effect of subsection (3).
- (3) A person who fails to comply with subsection (2) commits an offence unless he shows that he was not given the explanation required by that subsection or that he had some other reasonable excuse for noncompliance.
- (4) A person guilty of an offence under this section shall be liable on summary conviction to a fine not exceeding level 5 on the standard scale.

41 Meaning of accommodation available for occupation

For the purposes of this Part accommodation shall be regarded as available for a person's occupation only if it is available for occupation both by him and by any other person who might reasonably be expected to reside with him; and references to securing accommodation for a person's occupation shall be construed accordingly.

42 Application of this Part to cases arising in England or Wales

- (1) Sections 33 and 34 (referral of application to another local authority and duties to persons whose applications are referred) apply—
 - (a) to applications referred by a local authority in England or Wales in pursuance of section 67(1) of the Housing Act 1985, and
 - (b) to persons whose applications are so transferred,
 as they apply to cases arising under this Part.
- (2) Section 38 (duty of other authorities to co-operate with local authority) applies to a request by a local authority in England or Wales under section 72 of the Housing Act 1985 as it applies to a request by a local authority in Scotland.
- (3) In this Part, in relation to England and Wales—
 - (a) "local authority" means a local housing authority within the meaning of section 1(1) of the said Act of 1985 and references to the district of such an authority are to the area of the council concerned,
 - (b) "social work authority" means a social services authority for the purposes of the Local Authority Social Services Act 1970, as defined in section 1 of that Act;

and in section 38(a) (requests for co-operation) "development corporation" means a development corporation established by an order made or having effect as if made under the New Towns Act 1981 or the Commission for the New Towns.

43 Minor definitions

In this Part—

"accommodation available for occupation" has the meaning assigned to it by section 41;

"applicant (for housing accommodation)" has the meaning assigned to it by section 28(1);

"homeless" has the meaning assigned to it by section 24(1) to (3);

"homeless intentionally or threatened with homelessness intentionally" has the meaning assigned to it by section 26;

"local connection (in relation to the district of a local authority)" has the meaning assigned to it by section 27;

"priority need (for accommodation)" has the meaning assigned to it by section 25;

"relevant authority" means a local authority or social work authority;

"securing accommodation for a person's occupation" has the meaning assigned to it by section 41;

"social work authority" means a local authority for the purposes of the Social Work (Scotland) Act 1968, that is to say, a regional or islands council;

Status: This is the original version (as it was originally enacted).

"threatened with homelessness" has the meaning assigned to it by section 24(4);

"voluntary organisation" means a body, not being a public or local authority, whose activities are carried on otherwise than for profit.