



Town and Country Planning Act 1990

1990 CHAPTER 8

PART VII

ENFORCEMENT

Enforcement notices

[^{F1}179 Offence where enforcement notice not complied with.

- (1) Where, at any time after the end of the period for compliance with an enforcement notice, any step required by the notice to be taken has not been taken or any activity required by the notice to cease is being carried on, the person who is then the owner of the land is in breach of the notice.
- (2) Where the owner of the land is in breach of an enforcement notice he shall be guilty of an offence.
- (3) In proceedings against any person for an offence under subsection (2), it shall be a defence for him to show that he did everything he could be expected to do to secure compliance with the notice.
- (4) A person who has control of or an interest in the land to which an enforcement notice relates (other than the owner) must not carry on any activity which is required by the notice to cease or cause or permit such an activity to be carried on.
- (5) A person who, at any time after the end of the period for compliance with the notice, contravenes subsection (4) shall be guilty of an offence.
- (6) An offence under subsection (2) or (5) may be charged by reference to any day or longer period of time and a person may be convicted of a second or subsequent offence under the subsection in question by reference to any period of time following the preceding conviction for such an offence.
- (7) Where—

Changes to legislation: Town and Country Planning Act 1990, Section 179 is up to date with all changes known to be in force on or before 21 April 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

- (a) a person charged with an offence under this section has not been served with a copy of the enforcement notice; and
- (b) the notice is not contained in the appropriate register kept under section 188,
- it shall be a defence for him to show that he was not aware of the existence of the notice.
- (8) A person guilty of an offence under this section shall be liable [^{F2}on summary conviction, or on conviction on indictment, to a fine].
- (9) In determining the amount of any fine to be imposed on a person convicted of an offence under this section, the court shall in particular have regard to any financial benefit which has accrued or appears likely to accrue to him in consequence of the offence.]

Textual Amendments

- F1** S. 179 substituted (2.1.1992) by [Planning and Compensation Act 1991 \(c. 34, SIF 123:1\)](#), [s.8](#) (with [s. 84\(5\)](#)); [S.I. 1991/2905](#), [art.3](#) (subject to [art. 5](#))
- F2** Words in s. 179(8) substituted (12.3.2015) by [The Legal Aid, Sentencing and Punishment of Offenders Act 2012 \(Fines on Summary Conviction\) Regulations 2015 \(S.I. 2015/664\)](#), [reg. 1\(1\)](#), [Sch. 4 para. 18\(3\)](#) (with [reg. 5\(1\)](#))

Modifications etc. (not altering text)

- C1** S. 179: power to modify conferred (11.3.1992 so far as to confer on the Secretary of State a power or impose on him a duty to make regulations, or make provision with respect to the exercise of any such power or duty, 1.6.1992 so far not already in force) by [Planning \(Hazardous Substances\) Act 1990 \(c. 10, SIF 123:1\)](#), [s. 25\(1\)\(c\)](#); [S.I. 1992/725](#), [arts. 2, 3](#)
- S. 179 applied (with modifications) (1.6.1992) by [S.I. 1992/656](#), [reg. 20\(1\)](#), [Sch. 4 Pt. 2](#)
- S. 179 applied (with modifications) (27.7.1992) by [S.I. 1992/1562](#), [reg. 2](#), [Sch.](#)
- S. 179: power to apply conferred (10.11.1993) by [1993 c. 28](#), [s. 171\(4\)\(a\)](#); [S.I. 1993/2762](#), [art. 3](#)
- S. 179 restricted (E.) (13.4.2001) by [S.I. 2001/1478](#), [reg. 3\(a\)](#)
- C2** Ss. 178-181 applied (with modifications) (E.) (1.6.2015) by [The Planning \(Hazardous Substances\) Regulations 2015 \(S.I. 2015/627\)](#), [regs. 1\(1\), 15](#), [Sch. 4 Pt. 2](#) (with [reg. 34](#))
- C3** Ss. 178-181 applied (with modifications) (W.) (4.9.2015) by [The Planning \(Hazardous Substances\) \(Wales\) Regulations 2015 \(S.I. 2015/1597\)](#), [regs. 1\(1\), 18](#), [Sch. 4 Pt. 2](#) (with [reg. 36](#))
- C4** S. 179 amendment to earlier affecting provision [S.I. 1992/656](#), [Sch. 4 Pt. 2](#) (12.3.2015) by [The Legal Aid, Sentencing and Punishment of Offenders Act 2012 \(Fines on Summary Conviction\) Regulations 2015 \(S.I. 2015/664\)](#), [reg. 1\(1\)](#), [Sch. 4 para. 50](#) (with [reg. 5\(1\)](#))

Changes to legislation:

Town and Country Planning Act 1990, Section 179 is up to date with all changes known to be in force on or before 21 April 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.

View outstanding changes

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

- Act applied by 2023 asc 3 s. 79(2)
- Act applied by 2023 asc 3 s. 83(4)
- Act excluded by 2023 asc 3 s. 140(4)(b)

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

- s. 7(3) inserted by 2023 c. 55 Sch. 17 para. 2(2)
- s. 7A(6) inserted by 2023 c. 55 Sch. 17 para. 2(4)
- s. 7ZA inserted by 2023 c. 55 Sch. 17 para. 2(3)
- s. 58B and cross-heading inserted by 2023 c. 55 s. 102(1)
- s. 59A(3)(ba) inserted by 2023 c. 55 Sch. 8 para. 4(b)
- s. 62(2A)(za) inserted by 2023 c. 55 s. 124(2)
- s. 62B(5)(ca) inserted by 2023 c. 55 Sch. 17 para. 2(5)
- s. 70(2)(azb) inserted by 2023 c. 55 Sch. 6 para. 3(a)
- s. 70(3)(ca) inserted in earlier affecting provision 2016 c. 22, s. 5(8) by 2023 asc 3 Sch. 13 para. 194
- s. 70(3A) inserted by 2017 c. 20 Sch. 3 para. 2
- s. 70A(5A) inserted by 2023 c. 55 Sch. 6 para. 4(a)
- s. 70A(10)(11) inserted by 2023 c. 55 s. 110(4)(b)
- s. 70B(5A)(5B) inserted by 2023 c. 55 s. 110(5)(b)
- s. 73B inserted by 2023 c. 55 s. 110(2)
- s. 74(1C)(aa) inserted by 2023 c. 55 Sch. 6 para. 5(b)
- s. 75ZA and cross-heading inserted by 2016 c. 22 s. 155
- s. 83(1A)-(1C) amendment to earlier affecting provision 2004 c. 5, s. 45(2) by 2011 c. 20 Sch. 8 para. 14(4)(5) Sch. 25 Pt. 16
- s. 83(1A)-(1C) inserted by 2004 c. 5 s. 45(2)
- s. 83(2)-(2B) amendment to earlier affecting provision 2004 c. 5, s. 45(3) by 2011 c. 20 Sch. 8 para. 14(4)(5) Sch. 25 Pt. 16
- s. 83(2)-(2B) substituted for s. 83(2) by 2004 c. 5 s. 45(3)
- s. 83(4) inserted by 2004 c. 5 s. 45(4)
- s. 85(1A) inserted by 2004 c. 5 s. 45(6)
- s. 93(5)(6) inserted by 2017 c. 20 Sch. 3 para. 6
- s. 94(1)(e) and word inserted by 2023 c. 55 Sch. 9 para. 1(15)
- s. 102(1A) inserted by 2023 c. 55 Sch. 6 para. 9(b)
- s. 106A(9A) inserted by 2023 c. 55 s. 125
- s. 106ZA inserted by 2016 c. 22 s. 158(1)
- s. 106ZB inserted by 2016 c. 22 s. 159(1)
- s. 106ZB(2)(a) omitted by 2023 c. 55 s. 130(3)(b)
- s. 108(1A)(1B) inserted by 2015 c. 7 Sch. 4 para. 15(4)
- s. 108(3A) inserted by 2004 c. 5 Sch. 6 para. 6
- s. 108(3B)(ba) inserted by 2015 c. 7 Sch. 4 para. 15(6)
- s. 108(3B)(ba) word omitted by 2023 c. 55 Sch. 9 para. 1(16)(d)(i)
- s. 108(3B)(bb) inserted by 2023 c. 55 Sch. 9 para. 1(16)(d)(ii)
- s. 108(3DA) inserted by 2015 c. 7 Sch. 4 para. 15(7)
- s. 108(3DB) inserted by 2023 c. 55 Sch. 9 para. 1(16)(e)
- s. 141(6) inserted by 2017 c. 20 Sch. 3 para. 7
- s. 169(1)(a) words renumbered as s. 169(1)(a) by 2017 c. 20 s. 26(5)(a)
- s. 169(1)(b) inserted by 2017 c. 20 s. 26(5)(b)
- s. 170(8BA) inserted by 2017 c. 20 s. 26(6)
- s. 171A(2)(za) inserted by 2023 c. 55 s. 117(2)(a)

- s. 171B(1)(a)(b) substituted for words by 2023 c. 55 s. 115(1)
- s. 171B(2)(a)(b) substituted for words by 2023 c. 55 s. 115(2)
- s. 171E(8) inserted by 2023 c. 55 s. 116(3)
- s. 172ZA inserted by 2023 c. 55 s. 117(3)
- s. 174(2AA)(b) words substituted by 2023 c. 55 s. 113(6)
- s. 176(6) inserted by 2023 c. 55 s. 119(2)
- s. 188(1)(zb) inserted by 2023 c. 55 s. 117(4)(a)
- s. 195(3A) inserted by 2023 c. 55 s. 119(3)
- s. 196(1A) inserted by 2008 c. 29 Sch. 10 para. 8(2)
- s. 208(5A) inserted by 2008 c. 29 Sch. 10 para. 9(2)
- s. 216(2)(a)(b) substituted for words by 2023 c. 55 s. 120(2)(a)
- s. 216(6A) inserted by 2023 c. 55 s. 120(2)(c)
- s. 303(1ZZA) inserted by 2023 asc 3 Sch. 13 para. 87
- s. 303(10A) inserted by 2015 c. 7 Sch. 4 para. 19(3)
- s. 303(12) inserted by 2015 c. 7 Sch. 4 para. 19(4)
- s. 303A(1A)(za) inserted by 2023 c. 55 Sch. 8 para. 7(2)(a)
- s. 303A(9B) inserted by 2023 c. 55 Sch. 8 para. 7(4)
- s. 303A(10)(za) inserted by 2023 c. 55 Sch. 8 para. 7(5)
- s. 303A(12) inserted by 2023 c. 55 Sch. 8 para. 7(6)
- s. 303ZB inserted by 2023 c. 55 s. 134
- s. 314A inserted by 2023 asc 3 Sch. 13 para. 90
- s. 324(1A)(a) words in s. 324(1A) renumbered as s. 324(1A)(a) by 2023 c. 55 Sch. 9 para. 1(20)(a)
- s. 324(1A)(b) and word inserted by 2023 c. 55 Sch. 9 para. 1(20)(b)
- s. 327ZA applied (with modifications) by 1990 c. 10, s. 37 (as amended) by 2023 c. 55 s. 124(7)(a)
- s. 327ZA applied by 1990 c. 9, s. 89(1) (as amended) by 2023 c. 55 s. 124(5)(a)
- s. 327ZA inserted by 2023 c. 55 s. 124(1)
- s. 327ZA modified by 1990 c. 9, s. 89(1ZC) (as inserted) by 2023 c. 55 s. 124(5)(b)
- s. 333(3ZZAA) inserted by 2023 c. 55 Sch. 9 para. 1(21)(b)
- s. 333(3ZB) inserted by 2016 c. 22 s. 159(2)
- s. 333(3ZZA) inserted by 2023 c. 55 Sch. 9 para. 1(21)(a)
- Sch. 1 para. 5(4) inserted by 2023 c. 55 Sch. 17 para. 2(7)(c)
- Sch. 1 para. 7(10)(10A) substituted for Sch. 1 para. 7(10) by 2023 c. 55 Sch. 8 para. 11(2)
- Sch. 4B para. 11(3)-(5) inserted by 2017 c. 20 s. 7
- Sch. 4B para. 8(2)(fa) inserted by 2023 c. 55 s. 99(1)(b)
- Sch. 4B para. 8(2)(ca) inserted by 2023 c. 55 s. 102(2)(a)(ii)
- Sch. 4B para. 8(4A)(4B) inserted by 2023 c. 55 s. 102(2)(b)
- Sch. 4B para. 5(5)(za) inserted by 2023 c. 55 Sch. 6 para. 12(a)
- Sch. 4B para. 8(2)(da) inserted by 2023 c. 55 Sch. 6 para. 12(b)
- Sch. 4B para. 8(2)(ea) substituted for Sch. 4B para. 8(2)(e) by 2023 c. 55 s. 99(1)(a)
- Sch. 7 para. 12(1)-(1C) amendment to earlier affecting provision 2004 c. 5 s. 45(9) by 2011 c. 20 Sch. 8 para. 14(7)
- Sch. 7 para. 12(1)-(1C) substituted for Sch. 7 para. 12(1) by 2004 c. 5 s. 45(9)
- Sch. 7A para. 14(4) inserted by 2023 c. 55 s. 124(3)
- Sch. 9 para. 1(1A) inserted by 2023 c. 55 Sch. 6 para. 13(b)
- Sch. 9A inserted by 2016 c. 22 Sch. 13
- Sch. 13 para. 24A inserted by 2017 c. 20 s. 26(7)