



Housing Grants, Construction and Regeneration Act 1996

1996 CHAPTER 53

PART I

GRANTS, &C. FOR RENEWAL OF PRIVATE SECTOR HOUSING

CHAPTER V

SUPPLEMENTARY PROVISIONS

Contributions by Secretary of State

92 Contributions by the Secretary of State

- (1) The Secretary of State may pay contributions to local housing authorities towards such expenditure incurred by them under this Part as he may determine.
- (2) The rate or rates of the contributions, the calculation of the expenditure to which they relate and the manner of their payment shall be such as may be determined by the Secretary of State with the consent of the Treasury.
- (3) A determination under subsection (1) or (2)—
 - (a) may be made generally or with respect to a particular local housing authority or description of authority, including a description framed by reference to authorities in a particular area, and
 - (b) may make different provision in relation to different cases or descriptions of case.
- (4) Contributions under this section shall be payable subject to such conditions as to records, certificates, audit or otherwise as the Secretary of State may, with the approval of the Treasury, impose.

Status: This is the original version (as it was originally enacted).

- (5) If, before the declaration of a renewal area, a local housing authority are satisfied that the rate of contributions which, in accordance with a determination under subsection (2), would otherwise be applicable to the authority will not be adequate, bearing in mind the action they propose to take with regard to the area, they may, before making the declaration, apply to the Secretary of State for contributions at a higher rate in respect of that area.
- (6) An application under subsection (5) shall be made in such form and shall contain such particulars as the Secretary of State may determine; and, if such an application is made, the authority shall not declare the area concerned to be a renewal area until the application is approved, refused or withdrawn.
- (7) If an application under subsection (5) is approved, the Secretary of State may pay contributions under subsection (1) in respect of the area concerned at such higher rate as he may determine under subsection (2).

93 Recovery of contributions

- (1) Where the Secretary of State has paid contributions under section 92 to a local housing authority, he may recover from the authority such amount as he determines to be appropriate in respect of repayments of grant under this Part.
- (2) For the purposes of this section—
 - (a) a “grant” includes the cost of scheme works for a group repair scheme (see section 62(1)), and
 - (b) “repayment of grant” includes the payment to the authority of the balance of the cost (see section 69(3)) by assisted participants in such a scheme.
- (3) The amount shall be calculated by reference to the amount appearing to the Secretary of State to represent his contribution to—
 - (a) grants in respect of which repayments have been made to the authority, or
 - (b) grants in respect of which repayments could have been recovered if reasonable steps had been taken by the authority,together with an appropriate percentage of any interest received by the authority, or which would have been received if reasonable steps had been taken by the authority.
- (4) The question what steps it would have been reasonable for the authority to take shall be determined by the Secretary of State.

In determining whether the authority took reasonable steps, the Secretary of State may consider whether the authority properly exercised its discretion not to demand repayment of grant or to demand payment of a lesser sum.