



Transport Act 2000

2000 CHAPTER 38

PART I

AIR TRAFFIC

CHAPTER I

AIR TRAFFIC SERVICES

General duties

1 Secretary of State's general duty.

- (1) The Secretary of State must exercise his functions under this Chapter so as to maintain a high standard of safety in the provision of air traffic services; and that duty is to have priority over the application of subsections (2) to (5).
- (2) The Secretary of State must exercise his functions under this Chapter in the manner he thinks best calculated—
 - (a) to further the interests of operators and owners of aircraft, owners and managers of aerodromes, persons travelling in aircraft and persons with rights in property carried in them;
 - (b) to promote efficiency and economy on the part of licence holders;
 - (c) to secure that licence holders will not find it unduly difficult to finance activities authorised by their licences.
- (3) The only interests to be considered under subsection (2)(a) are interests regarding the range, availability, continuity, cost and quality of air traffic services.
- (4) The reference in subsection (2)(a) to furthering interests includes a reference to furthering them (where the Secretary of State thinks it appropriate) by promoting competition in the provision of air traffic services.

Changes to legislation: Transport Act 2000, Section 1 is up to date with all changes known to be in force on or before 17 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](#)

- (5) If in a particular case there is a conflict in the application of the provisions of subsections (2) to (4), in relation to that case the Secretary of State must apply them in the manner he thinks is reasonable having regard to them as a whole.
- (6) The Secretary of State must exercise his functions under this Chapter so as to impose on licence holders the minimum restrictions which are consistent with the exercise of those functions.
- (7) This section does not apply to the exercise of the Secretary of State's functions under section 38.

Commencement Information

- II** S. 1 wholly in force at 1.2.2001, see s. 275(1)(2) and [S.I. 2001/57, art. 3\(1\)](#), [Sch. 2 Pt. 1](#) (subject to the transitional provision and saving in [Sch. 2 Pt. II](#))

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

- Blanket amendment words substituted by [S.I. 2011/1043 art. 34](#)

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

- s. 146(1)(defn.)(a)(b) by [2000 c. 38 s. 274 Sch. 31 Pt. 2](#)
- s. 19(2)(aa) inserted by [S.I. 2019/93, Sch. 1 para. 9\(1C\)\(b\)](#) (as inserted) by [S.I. 2019/1245 reg. 25](#) (This amendment not applied to [legislation.gov.uk](#). The affecting statutory instrument has no legal effect. It was made under a procedure which meant that it ceased to have effect 28 days after signing unless it was debated and approved in Parliament within that time. It was not debated and approved within 28 days, so it has expired with no effect.)
- s. 131A(2)(a) words omitted by [2017 c. 21 Sch. 2 para. 13\(a\)\(i\)](#)
- s. 131A(2)(b) omitted by [2017 c. 21 Sch. 2 para. 13\(a\)\(ii\)](#)
- s. 131A(4) omitted by [2017 c. 21 Sch. 2 para. 13\(b\)](#)
- s. 131A(5)(b) words omitted by [2017 c. 21 Sch. 2 para. 13\(c\)\(i\)](#)
- s. 131A(5)(c) words omitted by [2017 c. 21 Sch. 2 para. 13\(c\)\(ii\)](#)
- s. 132B(1)(a) omitted by [2017 c. 21 Sch. 2 para. 19](#)
- [Sch. 16 para. 34\(4\)\(a\)para. 34\(4\)\(b\)\(c\)](#) repealed by [2005 c. 14 Sch. 13 Pt. 1](#)