



Post Office Act 1953

1953 CHAPTER 36

Land

46 Holding of land by Postmaster-General

- (1) For the purpose of acquiring and holding land the Postmaster-General for the time being shall be a corporation sole by the name of Her Majesty's Postmaster-General, and by that name shall have perpetual succession and an official seal.
- (2) All land vested in the Postmaster-General shall be held in trust for Her Majesty for the purposes of the Post Office.
- (3) In this and the three next following sections the expression "land" -includes any estate or interest in or over land and in the application of the said sections to Scotland—
 - (a) any reference to the acquisition or disposal of land includes a reference to the acquisition or disposal of land by feu;
 - (b) any reference to exchange includes a reference to excamb or excambion;
 - (c) for any reference to an easement there shall be substituted a reference to a servitude.

47 Power of Postmaster-General to acquire land

- (1) The Postmaster-General may, with the consent of the Treasury, acquire land for the purposes of the Post Office by purchase, exchange, lease, gift or in any other manner whatsoever.
- (2) The provisions of the First Schedule to this Act shall have effect with respect to any acquisition of land in the United Kingdom under the foregoing subsection.
- (3) The Chancellor and Council of the Duchy of Lancaster may, if they think fit, agree with the Postmaster-General for the sale, and absolutely make sale, for such sum of money as appears to the said Chancellor and Council to be sufficient consideration for the same, of any land belonging to Her Majesty in right of the said duchy which the Postmaster-General may deem it expedient, with the consent of the Treasury, to purchase for the purposes of the Post Office, and the land may be assured to the

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Postmaster-General and the money shall be paid and dealt with as if the land had been sold under the authority of the Duchy of Lancaster Lands Act, 1855.

- (4) In the application of this section to the Isle of Man, any question as to whether any other land is injuriously affected by the use by the Postmaster-General of any land acquired by him thereunder, or as to the amount of compensation payable in respect of any such injurious affection, shall, notwithstanding that the land acquired may not have been compulsorily acquired, be determined by arbitration under and in accordance with the Public Authorities Acquisition of Land Acts, 1923 to 1948 (being Acts of the legislature of the Isle of Man) unless the parties agree on some other method of determination.
- (5) Nothing in this section shall prejudice any right conferred on the Postmaster-General by the Requisitioned Land and War Works Act, 1945, the Town and Country Planning Act, 1947, or the Town and Country Planning (Scotland) Act, 1947, to acquire land compulsorily.

48 Power of Postmaster-General to dispose of land

- (1) The Postmaster-General may, with the consent of the Treasury, sell, exchange, lease, or surrender on any terms, any land for the time being vested in him, or may dedicate any such land by deed for the use of the public (whether as a highway or otherwise), and on any such exchange may give or receive any money for equality of exchange, and may sell either by public auction or by private contract, and may make any stipulations, as to title or otherwise, in any conditions of sale or contract for sale or exchange, and may buy in at any auction, and may rescind or vary any contract for sale or exchange, and may resell or re-exchange any such land.
- (2) On any sale, exchange, lease, surrender or dedication, the Postmaster-General may stipulate for, create or reserve all such rights or easements as may be deemed proper.

49 Consent of Treasury to acquisition or disposal of land

- (1) The consent of the Treasury to the acquisition, sale, exchange, lease, surrender or dedication of land by the Postmaster-General may be given either generally for any class of case or for any particular transaction.
- (2) A person dealing with the Postmaster-General in respect of land or rights in or over land, whether as vendor, lessor, purchaser, lessee or otherwise, shall not be bound or entitled to enquire whether the consent of the Treasury has been given to that or any other dealing, or whether that or any other dealing is in fact authorised by any Act relating to the Post Office.