



Births and Deaths Registration Act 1926

1926 CHAPTER 48 16 and 17 Geo 5

12 Definitions.

In this Act, unless the context otherwise requires—

“Prescribed” means prescribed by the Registrar-General with the concurrence of [^{F1}the Secretary of State];

“Registrar” means, with respect to any death or birth the registrar who is the registrar for the sub-district in which the death or birth takes place;

[^{F2}“approved electronic form” means any form of electronic communication or electronic storage (including an electronic signature) approved by the Registrar General pursuant to section 9(2) of this Act;]

“disposal” means disposal by burial, cremation or any other means, and “disposed of” has a corresponding meaning;

[^{F3}“electronic communication” has the meaning given in section 15(1) of the Electronic Communications Act 2000;

“electronic signature” has the meaning given in section 7(2) of the Electronic Communications Act 2000;]

“person effecting the disposal” means the person by whom or whose officer the register of burials in which the disposal is to be registered is kept, except that in the case of a burial under the ^{M1}Burial Laws Amendment Act 1880 in the churchyard or graveyard of a parish or ecclesiastical district the expression “person effecting the disposal” shall be construed as referring to the relative, friend, or legal representative having charge of or being responsible for the burial of the deceased person;

“still-born” and “still-birth” shall apply to any child which has issued forth from its mother after the [^{F4} twenty-fourth week] of pregnancy and which did not at any time after being completely expelled from its mother, breathe or show any other signs of life.

Textual Amendments

- F1** Words in s. 12 substituted (3.4.2008) by [Transfer of Functions \(Registration\) Order 2008 \(S.I. 2008/678\)](#), art. 1(2), [Sch. 2 para. 3\(3\)](#) (with art. 4)

Changes to legislation: There are currently no known outstanding effects for the Births and Deaths Registration Act 1926, Section 12. (See end of Document for details)

- F2** Words in s. 12 inserted (1.12.2021) by The Births and Deaths Registration (Electronic Communications and Electronic Storage) Order 2021 (S.I. 2021/1231), arts. 1(2), **2(6)**
- F3** Words in s. 12 inserted (1.12.2021) by The Births and Deaths Registration (Electronic Communications and Electronic Storage) Order 2021 (S.I. 2021/1231), arts. 1(2), **2(7)**
- F4** Words in s. 12 substituted (1.10.1992) by Still-Birth (Definition) Act 1992 (c. 29), **ss. 1(1)**, 4(2)

Modifications etc. (not altering text)

- C1** S. 12 transfer of functions (3.4.2008) by Transfer of Functions (Registration) Order 2008 (S.I. 2008/678), art. 1(2), **Sch. 1 para. 3(b)** (with art. 4)

Marginal Citations

- M1** 1880 c. 41.

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