



# Mental Health (Care and Treatment) (Scotland) Act 2003

## 2003 asp 13

### PART 2

#### THE MENTAL WELFARE COMMISSION FOR SCOTLAND

##### *Particular functions*

#### **20 Protection from actions of defamation**

- (1) For the purposes of the law of defamation, any statement made in pursuance of any of sections 6, 7 to 10 and 18(1) of this Act by the Commission, or any of its employees, shall be privileged unless such statement is shown to be made with malice.
- (2) In this section—
  - “statement” has the same meaning as in the Defamation Act 1996 (c. 31); and
  - “employees” shall be construed in accordance with paragraph 7 of schedule 1 to this Act.

#### **Commencement Information**

- II** S. 20 in force at 5.10.2005 by [S.S.I. 2005/161](#), **art. 3** (as substituted (1.7.2005) by [S.S.I. 2005/375](#), art. 2 and as amended (22.9.2005) by [S.S.I. 2005/459](#), art. 2)

**Changes to legislation:**

Mental Health (Care and Treatment) (Scotland) Act 2003, Section 20 is up to date with all changes known to be in force on or before 26 May 2023. 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:**

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

- s. 64(8A)(8B) inserted by [2015 asp 9 s. 1\(2\)](#)
- s. 65(7) inserted by [2015 asp 9 s. 1\(3\)](#)