

# Housing (Scotland) Act 2014

#### **PART 7**

#### **MISCELLANEOUS**

### Right to redeem heritable security after 20 years: power to exempt

- (1) In section 11 of the Land Tenure Reform (Scotland) Act 1974 (c.38) (right to redeem heritable security after 20 years where security subjects used as a private dwelling), after subsection (3C) insert—
  - "(3D) The right to redeem a heritable security conferred by this section does not apply to a heritable security which is in security of a debt of a description specified in an order made by the Scottish Ministers.
    - (3E) An order under subsection (3D) may—
      - (a) disapply the right to redeem conferred by this section subject to conditions or restrictions,
      - (b) restrict the disapplication of the right to redeem conferred by this section to—
        - (i) specified descriptions of debt,
        - (ii) specified creditors, or creditors of specified descriptions,
        - (ii) specified heritable securities, or heritable securities of specified descriptions,
      - (c) prescribe circumstances in which the disapplication of the right to redeem conferred by this section is to apply or cease to apply.
    - (3F) An order under subsection (3D) is subject to the negative procedure.".
- (2) In section 21 of the Land Tenure Reform (Scotland) Act 1974 (provisions for contracting out to be void), for "and 11(3A)" substitute ", 11(3A) and 11(3D)".

## 94 First-tier Tribunal: disqualification of members from exercise of certain functions

(1) This section applies to the following functions and jurisdictions of the First-tier Tribunal—

- (a) a function or jurisdiction of the sheriff transferred to the Tribunal under section 16 or by virtue of Part 1 of schedule 1,
- (b) a function conferred on the Tribunal, by virtue of Part 3 and Parts 2 to 4 of schedule 1, by—
  - (i) the 2004 Act,
  - (ii) the 2006 Act,
- (c) a function conferred on the Tribunal by or under Part 4.
- (2) A member of the First-tier Tribunal is disqualified from exercising a function or jurisdiction to which this section applies if the member is—
  - (a) a member of the House of Commons.
  - (b) a member of the Scottish Parliament,
  - (c) a member of the European Parliament,
  - (d) a Minister of the Crown,
  - (e) a member of the Scottish Government.
- (3) The Scottish Ministers may by order modify subsection (2) by—
  - (a) adding a disqualification to,
  - (b) varying the description of a disqualification for the time being mentioned in,
  - (c) removing a disqualification from,

that subsection.

#### 95 Private rented housing panel: disqualification from membership

In Schedule 4 to the Rent (Scotland) Act 1984, after paragraph 1 insert—

- "1A (1) A person is disqualified from appointment to, and from remaining a member of, the private rented housing panel if the person is or becomes—
  - (a) a member of the House of Commons.
  - (b) a member of the Scottish Parliament,
  - (c) a member of the European Parliament,
  - (d) a Minister of the Crown,
  - (e) a member of the Scottish Government.
  - (2) The Scottish Ministers may by order modify sub-paragraph (1) by—
    - (a) adding a disqualification to,
    - (b) varying the description of a disqualification for the time being mentioned in,
    - (c) removing a disqualification from,

that sub-paragraph.

(3) An order under sub-paragraph (2) is subject to the affirmative procedure.".

#### 96 Delegation of certain functions

- (1) In section 21 of the 2006 Act (panel and committees), after subsection (8) insert—
  - "(8A) The president may delegate the president's functions under section 23 to—
    - (a) the vice-president of the panel, or
    - (b) such other member of the panel as the president thinks fit.

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- (8B) A delegation under subsection (8A) does not affect the president's—
  - (a) responsibility for the carrying out of delegated functions, or
  - (b) ability to carry out delegated functions.".
- (2) In section 16 of the Property Factors (Scotland) Act 2011 (asp 8) (panel and committees), after subsection (7) insert—
  - "(8) The president may delegate the president's functions under section 18 to—
    - (a) the vice-president of the panel, or
    - (b) such other member of the panel as the president thinks fit.
  - (9) A delegation under subsection (8) does not affect the president's—
    - (a) responsibility for the carrying out of delegated functions, or
    - (b) ability to carry out delegated functions.".

#### 97 Scottish Housing Regulator: transfer of assets following inquiries

In section 67 of the 2010 Act (transfer of assets following inquiries)—

- (a) after subsection (4), insert—
  - "(4A) A duty on the Regulator to consult in accordance with paragraph (i) or (ii) of subsection (4)(a) does not apply where the Regulator considers that—
    - (a) the registered social landlord's viability is in jeopardy for financial reasons,
    - (b) a person could take a step in relation to the registered social landlord which would require to be notified to the Regulator under section 73.
    - (c) the direction would substantially reduce the likelihood of a person taking such a step, and
    - (d) there is insufficient time to comply with that duty and make a direction which would substantially reduce that likelihood.

#### (4B) The Regulator must—

- (a) issue guidance on subsection (4A), such guidance to include—
  - (i) the circumstances in which it considers that subsection (4A) is likely to apply,
  - (ii) the actions it expects to take in those circumstances, and
  - (iii) how, in those circumstances, it intends to communicate with any of the persons mentioned in paragraph (b) who are affected by its actions, and
- (b) before issuing or revising any guidance, consult—
  - (i) tenants of registered social landlords or their representatives,
  - (ii) registered social landlords or their representatives, and
  - (iii) secured creditors of registered social landlords or their representatives.
- (4C) Where the Regulator proposes to direct a transfer of some (but not all) of a registered social landlord's assets, the Regulator must—

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- (a) before making a direction, obtain an independent valuation of those assets, and
- (b) when making a direction, have regard to that valuation.",
- (b) in subsection (6), paragraph (a) and the word "and" immediately following it are repealed.

#### 98 Registered social landlord becoming a subsidiary of another body

(1) After section 104 of the 2010 Act insert—

"Registered social landlord becoming a subsidiary of another body

#### 104A Registered social landlord becoming a subsidiary of another body

- (1) This section applies to a registered social landlord which is—
  - (a) a registered society, or
  - (b) a registered company.
- (2) An arrangement under which the registered social landlord is to become a subsidiary of a body of which it is not currently a subsidiary has effect only if the Regulator consents to that arrangement before it is completed.
- (3) Chapter 3 of Part 10 makes provision for Regulator consent for the purpose of this section.".
- (2) After section 124 of the 2010 Act insert—

#### "CHAPTER 3

#### REGISTERED SOCIAL LANDLORD BECOMING A SUBSIDIARY OF ANOTHER BODY

#### 124A Regulator's consent

- (1) The special procedure set out in sections 114 to 121 of Chapter 1 applies in relation to an arrangement to which the Regulator's consent is required under section 104A as it applies in relation to a disposal to which Chapter 1 applies.
- (2) The Regulator must determine that the special procedure is not to apply or is to cease to apply where the Regulator considers that—
  - (a) the registered social landlord's viability is in jeopardy for financial reasons.
  - (b) a person could take a step in relation to the registered social landlord which would require to be notified to the Regulator under section 73, and
  - (c) the determination under this subsection would substantially reduce the likelihood of a person taking such a step.
- (3) Where the Regulator makes a determination under subsection (2), the Regulator may give or refuse consent to the arrangement.

CHAPTER 3 – REGISTERED SOCIAL LANDLORD BECOMING A SUBSIDIARY OF ANOTHER BODY

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#### 124B Purchaser protection

Failure by the Regulator or by a registered social landlord to comply with any provision of sections 114 to 121 of Chapter 1 in relation to an arrangement under which the registered social landlord is to become a subsidiary of a body of which it is not currently a subsidiary does not invalidate the Regulator's consent to the arrangement.".

- (3) In section 164 of the 2010 Act (connected bodies), the definition of "subsidiary" is repealed.
- (4) In section 165 of the 2010 Act (interpretation), after the definition of "social landlord" insert-

""subsidiary" has the same meaning as in the Companies Act 2006 (c.46) or, as the case may be, the Co-operative and Community Benefit Societies and Credit Unions Act 1968 (c.55),".

#### 99 Repeal of defective designation provisions

- (1) Part 14 of the 1987 Act (assistance for owners of defective housing) is repealed.
- (2) Schedule 20 to the 1987 Act (assistance by way of repurchase) is repealed.
- (3) Schedule 21 to the 1987 Act (dwellings included in more than one designation) is repealed.