

# Commonhold and Leasehold Reform Act 2002

# **2002 CHAPTER 15**

#### PART 2

LEASEHOLD REFORM

### **CHAPTER 5**

OTHER PROVISIONS ABOUT LEASES

Service charges, administration charges etc.

# 151 Consultation about service charges

For section 20 of the 1985 Act (limitation of service charges: estimates and consultation) substitute—

# "20 Limitation of service charges: consultation requirements

- (1) Where this section applies to any qualifying works or qualifying long term agreement, the relevant contributions of tenants are limited in accordance with subsection (6) or (7) (or both) unless the consultation requirements have been either—
  - (a) complied with in relation to the works or agreement, or
  - (b) dispensed with in relation to the works or agreement by (or on appeal from) a leasehold valuation tribunal.
- (2) In this section "relevant contribution", in relation to a tenant and any works or agreement, is the amount which he may be required under the terms of his lease to contribute (by the payment of service charges) to relevant costs incurred on carrying out the works or under the agreement.

Changes to legislation: There are currently no known outstanding effects for the Commonhold and Leasehold Reform Act 2002, Section 151. (See end of Document for details)

- (3) This section applies to qualifying works if relevant costs incurred on carrying out the works exceed an appropriate amount.
- (4) The Secretary of State may by regulations provide that this section applies to a qualifying long term agreement—
  - (a) if relevant costs incurred under the agreement exceed an appropriate amount, or
  - (b) if relevant costs incurred under the agreement during a period prescribed by the regulations exceed an appropriate amount.
- (5) An appropriate amount is an amount set by regulations made by the Secretary of State; and the regulations may make provision for either or both of the following to be an appropriate amount—
  - (a) an amount prescribed by, or determined in accordance with, the regulations, and
  - (b) an amount which results in the relevant contribution of any one or more tenants being an amount prescribed by, or determined in accordance with, the regulations.
- (6) Where an appropriate amount is set by virtue of paragraph (a) of subsection (5), the amount of the relevant costs incurred on carrying out the works or under the agreement which may be taken into account in determining the relevant contributions of tenants is limited to the appropriate amount.
- (7) Where an appropriate amount is set by virtue of paragraph (b) of that subsection, the amount of the relevant contribution of the tenant, or each of the tenants, whose relevant contribution would otherwise exceed the amount prescribed by, or determined in accordance with, the regulations is limited to the amount so prescribed or determined.

#### 20ZA Consultation requirements: supplementary

- (1) Where an application is made to a leasehold valuation tribunal for a determination to dispense with all or any of the consultation requirements in relation to any qualifying works or qualifying long term agreement, the tribunal may make the determination if satisfied that it is reasonable to dispense with the requirements.
- (2) In section 20 and this section—

"qualifying works" means works on a building or any other premises, and

"qualifying long term agreement" means (subject to subsection (3)) an agreement entered into, by or on behalf of the landlord or a superior landlord, for a term of more than twelve months.

- (3) The Secretary of State may by regulations provide that an agreement is not a qualifying long term agreement—
  - (a) if it is an agreement of a description prescribed by the regulations, or
  - (b) in any circumstances so prescribed.
- (4) In section 20 and this section "the consultation requirements" means requirements prescribed by regulations made by the Secretary of State.

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- (5) Regulations under subsection (4) may in particular include provision requiring the landlord
  - to provide details of proposed works or agreements to tenants or the recognised tenants' association representing them,
  - to obtain estimates for proposed works or agreements,
  - to invite tenants or the recognised tenants' association to propose the names of persons from whom the landlord should try to obtain other estimates,
  - to have regard to observations made by tenants or the recognised tenants' association in relation to proposed works or agreements and estimates, and
  - (e) to give reasons in prescribed circumstances for carrying out works or entering into agreements.
- (6) Regulations under section 20 or this section
  - may make provision generally or only in relation to specific cases, and
  - may make different provision for different purposes.
- (7) Regulations under section 20 or this section shall be made by statutory instrument which shall be subject to annulment in pursuance of a resolution of either House of Parliament."

## **Commencement Information**

S. 151 wholly in force at 30.3.2004; s. 151 not in force at Royal Assent see s. 181(1); s. 151 in force for specified purposes at 26.7.2002 for E. by S.I. 2002/1912, art. 2(c); s. 151 in force for specified purposes at 1.1.2003 for W. by S.I. 2002/3012, art. 2(c); s. 151 in force so far as not already in force at 31.10.2003 for E. by S.I. 2003/1986, art. 3 (with savings); s. 151 in force so far as not already in force at 30.3.2004 for W. by S.I. 2004/669, art. 2(d) (with savings)

# **Changes to legislation:**

There are currently no known outstanding effects for the Commonhold and Leasehold Reform Act 2002, Section 151.