

Public Libraries and Museums Act 1964

1964 CHAPTER 75

The public library service

3 Regional councils for inter-library co-operation

- (1) As soon as may be after the commencement of this Act, the Secretary of State shall by order designate as library regions areas together extending to the whole of England and Wales.
- (2) The Secretary of State, after consultation with the library authorities within the region, shall make a scheme for each library region providing—
 - (a) for the constitution, incorporation and functioning of a library council for the region consisting of persons representing each of those authorities and such other persons as may be provided for by the scheme, and having a duty to make and supervise the working of arrangements for facilitating the co-operation of those authorities with one another and with other bodies within or outside the region having functions in relation to libraries; and
 - (b) for the observance by each of those authorities of any requirements made by the library council, including requirements as to the payment by the authority of contributions towards the expenses of the council,

and containing such other provisions directed to the promotion of inter-library cooperation within and outside the region as may appear to the Secretary of State to be expedient.

- (3) At least a majority of the library council for a region shall consist of members of library authorities within the region, and an authority none of whose members is included in the library council shall be represented on the council by such of the persons so included as may be determined in accordance with the scheme establishing the council.
- (4) A power conferred by this section to make an order or scheme shall be exercisable by statutory instrument, which shall be subject to annulment in pursuance of a resolution of either House of Parliament; and an order or scheme made under this section may be varied or revoked by a further order or scheme thereunder:

Provided that before varying or revoking a scheme the Secretary of State shall consult the library council in question as well as the relevant library authorities.

(5) The Secretary of State may, with a view to improving the efficiency of the public library service or promoting its development, require any library council established under this section to enter into and carry into effect arrangements with another such council or with any other body having functions in relation to libraries.