



Registration of Births, Deaths and Marriages (Scotland) Act 1965

1965 CHAPTER 49

PART V

GENERAL

Miscellaneous

56 Interpretation.

(1) In this Act, except where the context otherwise requires, the following expressions have the meanings respectively assigned to them, that is to say—

[^{F1} “the 2011 Act” means the Certification of Death (Scotland) Act 2011 (asp 11);]

“birth”, except in relation to registers of births, includes a still-birth;

“district registrar” has the meaning assigned to it in section 7(12) of this Act;

“function” includes power and duty;

[^{F2} “local authority” means a council constituted under section 2 of the Local Government etc. (Scotland) Act 1994;]

[^{F3} “medical reviewer” means a person appointed under paragraph 7A(1) of Schedule 5A to the National Health Service (Scotland) Act 1978 (c. 29);]

^{F4} . . .

..... ^{F5}

“name” means Christian name or forename;

“occupier”, in relation to any institution, includes the governor, keeper, matron, superintendent, or other person in charge thereof, and, in relation to a house, includes any person residing therein;

Changes to legislation: There are currently no known outstanding effects for the Registration of Births, Deaths and Marriages (Scotland) Act 1965, Section 56. (See end of Document for details)

[^{F6} “parentage” has the meaning assigned to it in section 8 of the Law Reform (Parent and Child) (Scotland) Act 1986, and “non-parentage” shall be construed accordingly;]

[^{F7} “parental responsibilities” has the meaning given in section 1(3) of the Children (Scotland) Act 1995;]

“prescribed” means prescribed by regulations made under section 54 of this Act;

“qualified informant”, in relation to any birth or death, means a person who is by this Act required or stated to be qualified to give information concerning that birth or death;

“relative” includes a relative by marriage, . . . ^{F8}[^{F9}, a civil partner and anyone related to the civil partner of the person as regards whom the expression is being construed];

[^{F10} “senior medical reviewer” means a person appointed under paragraph 7A(2) of Schedule 5A to the National Health Service (Scotland) Act 1978 (c. 29);]

“still-born child” means a child which has issued forth from its mother after the [^{F11}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, and the expression “still-birth” shall be construed accordingly;

^{F4}
. . .

(2) Except in so far as the context otherwise requires, any reference in this Act to any other enactment shall be construed as a reference to that enactment as amended by or under any other enactment, including this Act.

[^{F12}(3) Section 1(1) (legal equality of children) of the Law Reform (Parent and Child) (Scotland) Act 1986 shall apply to this Act; and any reference (however expressed) in this Act to a relative shall, unless the contrary intention appears, be construed accordingly.]

Subordinate Legislation Made

P1 S. 56: s. 54(1) (with ss. 28A(4), 37(2)(3), 38(2)(3), 40(1), 43(8), 47 and 56) power exercised by [S.I. 1991/2817](#).

Textual Amendments

F1 Words in s. 56(1) inserted (13.5.2015) by [Certification of Death \(Scotland\) Act 2011 \(asp 11\)](#), s. 32(3), [Sch. 2 para. 6\(a\)](#); [S.S.I. 2015/115](#), art. 3

F2 Definition of “local authority” in s. 56(1) inserted (1.4.1996) by [1994 c. 39](#), s. **51(5)** (with s. 7(2)); [S.I. 1996/323](#), art. 4(1)(a), [Sch. 1](#)

F3 Words in s. 56(1) inserted (13.5.2015) by [Certification of Death \(Scotland\) Act 2011 \(asp 11\)](#), s. 32(3), [Sch. 2 para. 6\(b\)](#); [S.S.I. 2015/115](#), art. 3

F4 Definitions in s. 56(1) repealed (25.9.1991) by [Age of Legal Capacity \(Scotland\) Act 1991 \(c. 50, SIF 49:8\)](#), ss. 10(2), 11(2), [Sch. 2](#)

F5 Definition repealed by [Local Government \(Scotland\) Act 1973 \(c. 65\)](#), [Sch. 29](#)

F6 Definitions inserted by [Law Reform \(Parent and Child\) \(Scotland\) Act 1986 \(c. 9, SIF 49:8\)](#), s. 10(1), [Sch. 1 para. 8\(9\)](#)

F7 Definition in s. 56(1) inserted (1.11.1995) by [1995 c. 36](#), s. 105(4), [Sch. 4 para. 12\(5\)](#); [S.I. 1995/2787](#), art. 3, [Sch.](#)

F8 Words repealed by [Children Act 1975 \(c. 72\)](#), [Sch. 4 Pt. I](#)

Changes to legislation: There are currently no known outstanding effects for the Registration of Births, Deaths and Marriages (Scotland) Act 1965, Section 56. (See end of Document for details)

- F9** Words in s. 56(1) inserted (14.9.2005) by [Civil Partnership Act 2004 \(c. 33\)](#), **ss. 136**, 263(3); S.S.I. 2005/428, art. 2, Sch.
- F10** Words in s. 56(1) inserted (13.5.2015) by [Certification of Death \(Scotland\) Act 2011 \(asp 11\)](#), s. 32(3), **Sch. 2 para. 6(c)**; S.S.I. 2015/115, art. 3
- F11** Words in s. 56(1) substituted (1.10.1992) by [Still-Birth \(Definition\) Act 1992 \(c. 29\)](#), **ss. 1(2)**, 4(2).
- F12** S. 56(3) added by [Law Reform \(Parent and Child\) \(Scotland\) Act 1986 \(c. 9, SIF 49:8\)](#), s. 10(1), **Sch. 1 para. 8(10)**

Changes to legislation:

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