



# Local Government Act 1972

## 1972 CHAPTER 70

### PART VII

#### MISCELLANEOUS POWERS OF LOCAL AUTHORITIES

##### *Miscellaneous*

#### **139 Acceptance of gifts of property.**

- (1) Subject to the provisions of this section a local authority may accept, hold and administer—
- (a) for the purpose of discharging any of their functions, gifts of property, whether real or personal, made for that purpose; or
  - (b) for the benefit of the inhabitants of their area or of some part of it, gifts made for that purpose;
- and may execute any work (including works of maintenance or improvement) incidental to or consequential on the exercise of the powers conferred by this section.
- (2) Where any such work is executed in connection with a gift made for the benefit of the inhabitants of the area of a local authority or of some part of that area, the cost of executing the work shall be added to any expenditure under section 137 above in computing the limit imposed on that expenditure by subsection (4) of that section.
- (3) This section shall not authorise the acceptance by a local authority of property which, when accepted, would be held in trust for an ecclesiastical charity or for a charity for the relief of poverty.
- (4) Nothing in this section shall affect any powers exercisable by a local authority under or by virtue of [<sup>F1</sup>the Education Act 1996].

#### **Textual Amendments**

- F1** Words in s. 139(4) substituted (1.11.1996) by 1996 c. 56, ss. 582(1), 583(2), **Sch. 37 Pt. 1 para. 24** (with s. 1(4))

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**Changes to legislation:** Local Government Act 1972, Section 139 is up to date with all changes known to be in force on or before 25 April 2024. 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. (See end of Document for details) View outstanding changes

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**Modifications etc. (not altering text)**

- C1** S. 139 extended (19.9.1995) by 1995 c. 25, ss. 65(7), 125(2), **Sch. 8 para. 3(1)(d)** (with ss. 7(6), 115, 117, **Sch. 8 para. 7**)  
S. 139: certain functions transferred (*temp.* from 4.5.1995 to 31.3.1996) by S.I. 1995/1042, **art. 3(3)**
- C2** S. 139 modified (22.7.2004) by The Cotswolds Area of Outstanding Natural Beauty (Establishment of Conservation Board) Order 2004 (2004/1777), {art. 29(1)(d)}  
S. 139 modified (22.7.2004) by The Chilterns Area of Outstanding Natural Beauty (Establishment of Conservation Board) Order 2004 (2004/1778), {art. 29(1)(d)}

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**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. 80(3B) omitted by [2021 asc 1 Sch. 2 para. 1\(3\)\(c\)](#)
- s. 101(6ZA) inserted by [2023 c. 55 Sch. 12 para. 2](#)
- s. 123(2C) inserted by [2023 c. 55 s. 75](#)
- s. 131(2)(n) and word inserted by [2023 asc 3 Sch. 13 para. 16](#)