



# Local Government Act 1972

## 1972 CHAPTER 70

### PART IX

#### FUNCTIONS

##### *The environment*

#### **181 Water and sewerage.**

(1) For the purposes of the following enactments, that is to say—

- (a) Part IV of the <sup>M1</sup>Public Health Act 1936 and Part XII of that Act, so far as relating to the said Part IV;
- (b) the <sup>M2</sup>Rural Water Supplies and Sewerage Act 1944, so far as relating to water;
- (c) section 12 of the <sup>M3</sup>Local Government (Miscellaneous Provisions) Act 1953;
- (d) the <sup>M4</sup>Water Acts 1945 <sup>M5</sup> and 1948 and the <sup>M6</sup>Water Act 1958;

the local authority shall, for any district, be the district council, and for any London borough, be the borough council [<sup>F1</sup>and for any principal area in Wales, be the principal council].

(2) For the purposes of the following enactments, that is to say—

- (a) [<sup>F2</sup>sections 15, 17–24, 27, 29–34, 36 and 42] of the <sup>M7</sup>Public Health Act 1936 and sections 90 and Part XII of that Act, so far as relating to those sections;
- (b) the <sup>M8</sup>Public Health (Drainage of Trade Premises) Act 1937;
- (c) the <sup>M9</sup>Rural Water Supplies and Sewerage Act 1944, so far as relating to sewerage and the disposal of sewage;
- (d) section 13 of the <sup>M10</sup>Local Government (Miscellaneous Provisions) Act 1953;
- (e) sections 12 to 15 and Part V of, and Schedule 2 to, the <sup>M11</sup>Public Health Act 1961;

the local authority shall for any area outside Greater London be the district council.

<sup>F3</sup>(3) .....

*Changes to legislation: Local Government Act 1972, Section 181 is up to date with all changes known to be in force on or before 20 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*

(9) An order under section 6 of the <sup>M12</sup>Public Health Act 1936 or under subsection (3) above or an order amending any such order may confer on a joint board constituted for the exercise of sewerage functions any of the sewerage functions of the constituent members and may confer such functions—

- (a) subject to any limitation or condition specified in the order (whether or not the limitation or condition applies to the discharge of the functions by the constituent member); or
- (b) free from any limitation or condition so specified which applies to the discharge of those functions by the constituent member.

<sup>X1</sup>(10) Schedule 15 to this Act shall have effect for making amendments and modifications to the enactments relating to water and sewerage.

(11) In this section—

“sewerage functions” means functions under any of the enactments mentioned in subsection (2) above; and

F4

**Editorial Information**

**X1** The text of ss. 181(10), 186(4) is in the form in which it was originally enacted: it was not reproduced in Statutes in Force and does not reflect any amendments or repeals which may have been made prior to 1.2.1991.

**Textual Amendments**

- F1** Words in s. 181(1) added (1.4.1996) by 1994 c. 19, s. 66(5), **Sch. 15 para. 36** (with ss. 54(5)(7), 55(5), Sch. 17 paras. 22(1), 23(2)); S.I. 1996/396, art. 4, **Sch. 2**
- F2** Words substituted by **Building Act 1984** (c. 55, SIF 15), ss. 133, 135, **Sch. 6 para. 14**
- F3** Ss. 177(1)(b), 181(3)–(8) repealed by **Water Act 1973** (c. 37), **Sch. 9**
- F4** Definition repealed by **Local Government Act 1985** (c. 51, SIF 81:1), ss. 1, 102, **Sch. 17**

**Marginal Citations**

- M1** 1936 c. 49.
- M2** 1944 c. 26.
- M3** 1953 c. 26.
- M4** 1945 c. 42.
- M5** 1948 c. 22.
- M6** 1958 c. 67.
- M7** 1936 c. 49.
- M8** 1937 c. 40.
- M9** 1944 c. 26.
- M10** 1953 c. 26.
- M11** 1961 c. 64.
- M12** 1936 c. 49.

**Changes to legislation:**

Local Government Act 1972, Section 181 is up to date with all changes known to be in force on or before 20 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.

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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](#)