



Water (Scotland) Act 1980

1980 CHAPTER 45

^{F1}^{F1}PART VIB

RAW WATER QUALITY

Textual Amendments

- F1** Pt. 6B inserted (10.6.2013 for specified purposes, 21.12.2013 in so far as not already in force) by [Water Resources \(Scotland\) Act 2013 \(asp 5\)](#), ss. **30(2)**, 56(1)(2); S.S.I. 2013/163, art. 3, sch., S.S.I. 2013/342, art. 2(b)

76M Power to enter

- (1) Scottish Water may—
 - (a) enter any premises for the purposes of—
 - (i) assessing or monitoring the quality of any raw water, or
 - (ii) investigating or isolating anything that appears to be affecting, or may affect, the quality of any raw water,
 - (b) take any steps at the premises which are reasonably required for those purposes.
- (2) Subsection (1)—
 - (a) authorises entry only if the occupier of the premises has been given at least 24 hours' notice of the intended entry for those purposes,
 - (b) does not authorise entry into a house.
- (3) Subsection (1) has effect whether the water or thing is located at the premises or elsewhere.
- (4) In subsection (1), the reference to affecting the quality of the water is to affecting its quality adversely (directly or indirectly).
- (5) In this section, “raw water”—

Changes to legislation: Water (Scotland) Act 1980, PART VIB is up to date with all changes known to be in force on or before 08 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

- (a) means water contained in any bodies of water—
 - (i) identified by an order made under section 6(1) of the Water Environment and Water Services (Scotland) Act 2003, or
 - (ii) specified by an order made under section 76R(1),
 - (b) also includes water that flows or drains into any bodies of water so identified or specified (or is capable of doing so).
- (6) But excluded from the definition given by subsection (5) is any water that is used or available as or for a private water supply within such meaning as the Scottish Ministers may by order prescribe for the purpose of this subsection.

76N Entry warrants

- (1) Scottish Water may apply to the sheriff for a warrant authorising it to—
 - (a) enter particular premises for the purposes mentioned in section 76M(1),
 - (b) take any steps at the premises which are reasonably required for those purposes.
- (2) The sheriff may grant the warrant sought if satisfied—
 - (a) that there are reasonable grounds for entering the premises for those purposes, and
 - (b) that—
 - (i) the first and second conditions are met, or
 - (ii) the third condition is met.
- (3) The first condition is that—
 - (a) admission to the premises has been refused,
 - (b) the taking of steps at the premises has been obstructed, or
 - (c) such refusal or obstruction may reasonably be expected.
- (4) The second condition is that notice of the intention to seek a warrant has been given to the occupier of the premises.
- (5) The third condition is that the premises are unoccupied.
- (6) A warrant under subsection (1)—
 - (a) remains valid until the purposes mentioned in section 76M(1) are fulfilled,
 - (b) allows the use of reasonable force (if required),
 - (c) does not authorise entry into a house.
- (7) Subsection (1) has effect whether the water or thing is located at the premises or elsewhere.

76O Approved persons

- (1) Subsection (2) applies to the authority conferred on Scottish Water by—
 - (a) section 76M(1), or
 - (b) a warrant under section 76N(1).
- (2) The authority is exercisable on behalf of Scottish Water by any person approved (in writing) by Scottish Water for the purposes mentioned in section 76M(1).

Changes to legislation: Water (Scotland) Act 1980, PART VIB is up to date with all changes known to be in force on or before 08 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

76P Taking steps

- (1) Subsections (2) to (6) apply in relation to the exercise of the authority mentioned in section 76O(1)(a) or (b).
- (2) An approved person must, if required by the occupier of the premises—
 - (a) produce evidence of the approved person's identity (and approval), and
 - (b) explain the nature of the authority by (as the case may be)—
 - (i) reference to section 76M, or
 - (ii) showing a copy of the warrant.
- (3) An approved person may take onto the premises—
 - (a) other persons acting under the approved person's direction,
 - (b) such equipment as is necessary in connection with the steps that may be taken there.
- (4) The steps that may be taken by an approved person at the premises include—
 - (a) inspecting or measuring any water found there,
 - (b) carrying out tests on or taking samples from any soil, water or other substance found there,
 - (c) installing or maintaining any measuring, testing or sampling equipment for use there.
- (5) An approved person may enter the premises only at a reasonable time.
- (6) If the premises are unoccupied, an approved person must leave them as effectively secured against entry as they were when that person entered them.
- (7) In subsections (2) to (6), “approved person” means person approved as mentioned in section 76O(2).

76Q Obstruction offence

- (1) A person commits an offence if the person intentionally obstructs an approved person in the exercise of the authority mentioned in section 76O(1)(b).
- (2) In subsection (1), “approved person” means person approved as mentioned in section 76O(2).
- (3) A person who commits an offence under subsection (1) is liable on summary conviction to a fine not exceeding level 3 on the standard scale.

76R Specifying bodies of water

- (1) For the purpose of section 76M(5)(a)(ii), the Scottish Ministers may by order specify any bodies of water that are—
 - (a) used for the abstraction of water intended for human consumption, or
 - (b) intended to be used as mentioned in paragraph (a).
- (2) An order under subsection (1) may specify any bodies of water by reference to a map prepared in connection with the order (and laid along with it).
- (3) The Scottish Ministers must send to the Scottish Environment Protection Agency a copy of—

Changes to legislation: Water (Scotland) Act 1980, PART VIB is up to date with all changes known to be in force on or before 08 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

- (a) an order made under subsection (1), and
- (b) any map prepared in pursuance of subsection (2).

76S Orders under this Part

An order under section 76M(6) or 76R(1) is subject to the negative procedure.]

Changes to legislation:

Water (Scotland) Act 1980, PART VIB is up to date with all changes known to be in force on or before 08 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.

[View outstanding changes](#)

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. 24(1A) inserted by [2003 asp 3 sch. 4 para. 3\(3\)](#)
- s. 110A certain functions transferred by [S.I. 1999/1750 art. 3Sch. 2](#) (This amendment not applied to legislation.gov.uk. The insertion of s. 110A by 1995 c. 25, Sch. 21 para. 5 has not yet been brought into force)
- s. 110A inserted by [1995 c. 25 Sch. 21 para. 5](#)
- s. 110A(7) words substituted by [1997 c. 11 Sch. 2 para. 30\(2\)\(a\)](#) (This amendment not applied to legislation.gov.uk. The insertion of s. 110A by 1995 c. 25, Sch. 21 para. 5 has not yet been brought into force)
- s. 110A(8) words substituted by [1997 c. 11 Sch. 2 para. 30\(2\)\(b\)](#) (This amendment not applied to legislation.gov.uk. The insertion of s. 110A by 1995 c. 25, Sch. 21 para. 5 has not yet been brought into force)
- Sch. 3 para. 4(3)(4) inserted by [2003 asp 3 sch. 4 para. 4\(2\)](#)
- Sch. 3 para. 6(1A) inserted by [2003 asp 3 sch. 4 para. 4\(3\)](#)
- Sch. 4 s. 34(3) inserted by [2003 asp 3 sch. 4 para. 5](#)