



New Towns Act 1981

1981 CHAPTER 64

PART I

NEW TOWNS AND THEIR DEVELOPMENT CORPORATIONS

Disposal of land by development corporation

17 Conditions as to disposal.

- (1) In relation to any land acquired by a development corporation, and—
 - (a) subject to this section and to any direction given by the Secretary of State under this Act, and
 - (b) whether or not, in the case of land within the area of the new town, the development of that particular land has been proposed or approved under section 7(1) above,the development corporation may dispose of that land—
 - (i) to such persons,
 - (ii) in such manner,
 - (iii) subject to such covenants or conditions,as they consider expedient for securing the development of the new town in accordance with proposals approved by the Secretary of State under that section 7(1), or for purposes connected with the development of the new town.
- (2) A development corporation has no power, except with the Secretary of State's consent (given generally or specially)—
 - (a) to transfer the freehold of any land, or
 - (b) to grant a lease of any land for a term of more than 99 years ^[^{F1}]or
 - (c) to dispose of any land by way of gift].
- (3) Where a development corporation purports to dispose of land by virtue of this section, then—

Changes to legislation: New Towns Act 1981, Section 17 is up to date with all changes known to be in force on or before 11 June 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) in favour of any person claiming under the corporation, the disposal so purporting to be made shall not be invalid by reason that any consent which is required under subsection (2) above has not been given; and
- (b) a person dealing with the corporation or a person claiming under the corporation shall not be concerned to see or enquire whether any such consent has been given.

[^{F2}(4) A development corporation has no power to dispose of land by way of mortgage or charge.]

Textual Amendments

- F1** Word “or” and s. 17(2)(c) added by [New Towns and Urban Development Corporations Act 1985 \(c. 5, SIF 123:3, 4\), s. 14\(1\), Sch. 3 para. 2\(a\)](#)
- F2** [S. 17\(4\)](#) substituted by [New Towns and Urban Development Corporations Act 1985 \(c. 5, SIF 123:3, 4\), s. 14\(1\), Sch. 3 para 2\(b\)](#)

Modifications etc. (not altering text)

- C1** [S. 17\(2\)](#) functions made exercisable (E.) (24.7.2018) by [The New Towns Act 1981 \(Local Authority Oversight\) Regulations 2018 \(S.I. 2018/891\), regs. 1, 3\(1\) \(with reg. 3\(2\)\)](#)

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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. 1A(1) omitted by [2023 c. 55 Sch. 16 para. 7\(3\)](#)
- s. 1A(2) omitted by [2023 c. 55 Sch. 16 para. 7\(3\)](#)
- s. 1A(4) word inserted by [2023 c. 55 Sch. 16 para. 7\(4\)\(b\)](#)
- s. 1A(4) words substituted by [2023 c. 55 Sch. 16 para. 7\(4\)\(a\)](#)
- s. 1A(5)(a) words substituted by [2023 c. 55 Sch. 16 para. 7\(5\)\(a\)](#)
- s. 1ZA1ZB inserted by [2023 c. 55 s. 172\(2\)](#)
- s. 2(1A) inserted by [2023 c. 55 Sch. 16 para. 8](#)
- s. 3(2B)-(2D) inserted by [2023 c. 55 s. 172\(3\)\(c\)](#)
- s. 3(2ZA)(2ZB) inserted by [2023 c. 55 s. 178\(2\)\(b\)](#)
- s. 7A7B inserted by [2023 c. 55 s. 175\(2\)](#)
- s. 60(1A) inserted by [2023 c. 55 s. 179\(2\)\(b\)](#)
- s. 77(3E) inserted by [2023 c. 55 Sch. 17 para. 1\(3\)](#)
- Sch. 3 para. 10A10B and cross-heading inserted by [2023 c. 55 s. 175\(3\)](#)