



Human Tissue Act 2004

2004 CHAPTER 30

PART 3

MISCELLANEOUS AND GENERAL

Miscellaneous

47 Power to de-accession human remains

- (1) This section applies to the following bodies—
 - The Board of Trustees of the Armouries
 - The Trustees of the British Museum
 - The Trustees of the Imperial War Museum
 - The Board of Governors of the Museum of London
 - The Trustees of the National Maritime Museum
 - The Board of Trustees of the National Museums and Galleries on Merseyside
 - The Trustees of the Natural History Museum
 - The Board of Trustees of the Science Museum
 - The Board of Trustees of the Victoria and Albert Museum.
- (2) Any body to which this section applies may transfer from their collection any human remains which they reasonably believe to be remains of a person who died less than one thousand years before the day on which this section comes into force if it appears to them to be appropriate to do so for any reason, whether or not relating to their other functions.
- (3) If, in relation to any human remains in their collection, it appears to a body to which this section applies—
 - (a) that the human remains are mixed or bound up with something other than human remains, and
 - (b) that it is undesirable, or impracticable, to separate them,

Changes to legislation: Human Tissue Act 2004, Section 47 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

the power conferred by subsection (2) includes power to transfer the thing with which the human remains are mixed or bound up.

(4) The power conferred by subsection (2) does not affect any trust or condition subject to which a body to which this section applies holds anything in relation to which the power is exercisable.

(5) The power conferred by subsection (2) is an additional power.

Commencement Information

II S. 47 in force at 3.10.2005 by [S.I. 2005/2632](#), [art. 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. 29(7) inserted by [2013 anaw 5 s. 15\(4\)\(e\)](#)
- s. 43(5A) inserted by [2009 c. 25 Sch. 21 para. 50](#)