

# Levelling-up and Regeneration Act 2023

# **2023 CHAPTER 55**

## PART 9

COMPULSORY PURCHASE

#### Procedure

### **183** Conditional confirmation

- (1) The Acquisition of Land Act 1981 is amended as set out in subsections (2) and (3).
- (2) After section 13B insert—

#### "13BA Conditional confirmation

- (1) The confirming authority may confirm a compulsory purchase order conditionally.
- (2) The effect of conditional confirmation is that the order—
  - (a) does not become operative until the confirming authority has decided, on an application by the acquiring authority, that certain conditions have been met, and
  - (b) expires if the confirming authority—
    - (i) has not received an application for the purposes of subsection (2)(a) by a certain time, or
    - (ii) having received such an application by that time, decides that the conditions have not been met.
- (3) The conditions and the time are to be specified by the confirming authority when it confirms the order.
- (4) The procedure to be followed in relation to an application under this section is to be prescribed.

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- (5) The regulations prescribing the procedure must include provision for each relevant objector—
  - (a) to be given notice of the application (or for steps to be taken with a view to notifying them), and
  - (b) to have the opportunity to make written representations in response to the application.
- (6) In subsection (5), "relevant objector" means a person who made an objection to the order that—
  - (a) was a remaining objection for the purposes of section 13A, and
  - (b) had not been withdrawn by the time the order was confirmed.
- (7) The regulations may include provision as to the giving of reasons for the decision on the application.
- (8) Subsections (2) to (6) of section 13B apply to proceedings on an application under this section as they apply to the representations procedure."
- (3) In section 15 (notices after confirmation of compulsory purchase order)-
  - (a) in subsection (2)(b), for "date when the order becomes operative" substitute "day on which the authority takes the final step needed to comply with subsection (1)(a)";
  - (b) in subsection (3), at the beginning insert "Unless the order was confirmed conditionally,";
  - (c) in subsection (4), after paragraph (b) insert—
    - "(ba) if the order was confirmed conditionally, stating the conditions and time specified under section 13BA(3);";
  - (d) after subsection (4A) (inserted by section 181(6)) insert—
    - "(4B) If the order was confirmed conditionally and the confirming authority decides under section 13BA that the conditions have been met, the acquiring authority must serve—
      - (a) a copy of the order, and
      - (b) a fulfilment notice,

on each person on whom a notice was required to be served under section 12.

- (4C) Where subsection (4B) applies, the acquiring authority must also-
  - (a) affix a fulfilment notice to a conspicuous object or objects on or near the land comprised in the order, and
  - (b) publish a fulfilment notice—
    - (i) in one or more local newspapers circulating in the locality in which the land comprised in the order is situated, and
    - (ii) on an appropriate website, until the end of the period of 6 weeks beginning with the day on which the acquiring authority takes the final step needed to comply with subsection (4B).
- (4D) The acquiring authority must comply with subsections (4B) and (4C)(a) and (b)(i) before the end of—

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- (a) the period of 6 weeks beginning with the day on which the decision under section 13BA is made, or
- (b) such longer period beginning with that day as may be agreed in writing between the acquiring authority and the confirming authority.
- (4E) If the acquiring authority fails to comply with those provisions before the end of that period, or fails to comply with subsection (4C)(b)(ii), the confirming authority may—
  - (a) take any steps that the acquiring authority was required but has failed to take to comply, and
  - (b) recover the reasonable costs of doing so from the acquiring authority
- (4F) A fulfilment notice is a notice—
  - (a) stating that the conditions subject to which the order was confirmed have been met and that the order will therefore become operative, and
  - (b) annexing the information that was contained in the confirmation notice.";
- (e) in subsection (5), after "notice" insert "or fulfilment notice";
- (f) in subsection (6)—
  - (i) after "notice" insert ", and any fulfilment notice,";
  - (ii) for "it" substitute "each such notice".
- (4) Schedule 18 contains, and makes provision in connection with, amendments in consequence of this section and paragraph 3 of Schedule 19.

#### **Commencement Information**

- II S. 183 not in force at Royal Assent, see s. 255(7)
- I2 S. 183 in force at 31.3.2024 for specified purposes by S.I. 2024/389, reg. 2(j)

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#### Changes to legislation:

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