

Control of Pollution Act 1974

CHAPTER 40

CONTROL OF POLLUTION ACT 1974

PART I

WASTE ON LAND

Waste disposal arrangements

1 Arrangements for disposing of controlled waste.

Waste disposal plans

2 Preparation and revision of waste disposal plans.

Licensing of disposal of controlled waste.

- 3 Prohibition of unlicensed disposal of waste.
- 4 Provisions supplementary to s. 3.
- 5 Licences to dispose of waste.
- 6 Provisions supplementary to s. 5.
- 7 Variation of conditions and revocation of licences.
- 8 Transfer and relinquishment of licences.
- 9 Supervision of licensed activities.
- 10 Appeals to Secretary of State from decisions with respect to licences.
- 11 Special provisions for land occupied by disposal authorities.

Collection and disposal of controlled waste

- 12 Collection of waste.
- 13 Dustbins etc.
- 14 Disposal of waste in England and Wales.
- 15 Disposal of waste in Scotland.

Changes to legislation: Control of Pollution Act 1974 is up to date with all changes known to be in force on or before 02 July 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)

- 16 Removal of waste deposited in breach of licensing provisions.
- 17 Special provisions with respect to certain dangerous or intractable waste.

Waste other than controlled waste

- 18 Application of preceding provisions to other waste.
- 19 Powers of disposal authorities as respects other waste.

Reclamation etc. of waste

- 20 Reclamation of waste.
- 21 Production of heat and electricity from waste etc.

Street cleaning and litter

- 22 Street cleaning etc.
- 23 Prohibition of parking to facilitate street cleaning.
- 24 Litter.

Supplemental

- 25 Disposal of waste underground by Coal Board etc.
- 26 Outfall pipes for sewage disposal works.
- 27 Interference with refuse tips and dustbins etc.
- 28 Supplementary provisions relating to pipes.
- 29 Modification of Parts I and II to avoid duplication of control.
- 30 Interpretation etc. of Part I.

PART IA

ABANDONED MINES

- 30Y Introductory.
- 30Z Mine operators to give SEPA six months' notice of any proposed abandonment.

PART II

POLLUTION OF WATER

General provisions

- 30A Waters to which Part II applies.
- 30B Classification of quality waters.
- 30C Water quality objectives.
- 30D General duties to achieve and maintain objectives etc.
- 30E Consultation and collaboration.

Control of entry of polluting matter and effluents into water

- 30F Pollution offences.
- 30G Prohibition of certain discharges by notice or regulations.
- 30H Discharges into and from sewers etc.
- 30I Defence to principal offences in respect of authorised discharges.
- 30J Other defences to principal offences.

Changes to legislation: Control of Pollution Act 1974 is up to date with all changes known to be in force on or before 02 July 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)

Control of entry of polluting matter and effluents into water

- 31 Control of pollution of rivers and coastal waters etc.
- 31A Requirements to take precautions against pollution.
- 31B Nitrate sensitive areas.
- 31C Registering of agreement.
- 31D Pollution of water
 - 32 Pollution of water
 - 33 Control of sanitary appliances on vessels.

Consents for discharges

- 34 Consents for discharges of trade and sewage effluent etc.
- 35 Reference to Secretary of State of certain applications for consent.
- 36 Provisions supplementary to ss. 34 and 35.
- 37 Revocation of consents and alteration and imposition of conditions.
- 38 Restriction on variation and revocation of consent and of previous variation.
- 38A General review of consents.
 - 39 Appeals to the Secretary of State.
 - 40 Transitional provisions relating to consent.

Ancillary provisions relating to control of discharges

- 41 Registers.
- 42A Exclusion from registers of information affecting national security.
- 42B Exclusion from registers of certain confidential information.

Control of discharges of trade effluent into public sewers

- 43 Pollution of water
- 44 Pollution of water
- 45 Pollution of water

Miscellaneous

- 46 Operations by river purification authorities to remedy or forestall pollution of water.
- 46A Notices requiring persons to carry out anti-pollution operations.
- 46B Grant of, and compensation for, rights of entry etc.
- 46C Appeals against works notices.
- 46D Consequences of not complying with a works notice.
 - 47 Duty of water authorities to deal with waste from vessels etc.
 - Power of water authorities to exclude unregistered vessels from rivers etc
 - 49 Deposits and vegetation in rivers etc.
- 49A Enforcement notices as respects discharge consents.
- 49B Appeals against enforcement notices.
 - 50 Investigation of water pollution problems arising from closure of mines.
 - 51 Codes of good agricultural practice.
 - 52 Charges in respect of certain discharges in England and Wales.
 - 53 Miscellaneous
 - 54 Miscellaneous

Changes to legislation: Control of Pollution Act 1974 is up to date with all changes known to be in force on or before 02 July 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)

Supplemental

- 55 Pollution of water
- 55A Regulations under this Part.
- 56 Interpretation etc. of Part II.

PART III

Noise

Periodical inspections by local authorities

57 Periodical inspections by local authorities.

Summary proceedings to deal with noise

- 58 Summary proceedings by local authorities.
- Service of notice in respect of anticipated road noise or road noise from unattended vehicles, machinery or equipment.
- Actings where notice in respect of road noise not complied with.
 - 59 Summary proceedings by occupier of premises.
- 59A Supplementary provisions in relation to road noise.

Construction sites

- 60 Control of noise on construction sites.
- 61 Prior consent for work on construction sites.

Noise in streets

Noise in streets.

Noise abatement zones

- 63 Designation of zones.
- 64 Register of noise levels.
- 65 Noise exceeding registered level.
- 66 Reduction of noise levels.
- 67 New buildings etc.

Noise from plant or machinery

68 Noise from plant or machinery.

Supplemental

- 69 Execution of works by local authority.
- 70 Appeals to Secretary of State and magistrates' court.
- 71 Codes of practice for minimising noise.
- 72 "Best practicable means".
- 73 Interpretation and other supplementary provisions.
- 74 Penalties.

PART IV

Prevention of atmospheric pollution

75 Regulations about motor fuel.

Status: Point in time view as at 01/04/2015.

Changes to legislation: Control of Pollution Act 1974 is up to date with all changes known to be in force on or before 02 July 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)

76 77 78	Regulations about sulphur content of oil fuel for furnaces or engines Provisions supplementary to ss. 75 and 76. Cable burning.
	Information about atmospheric pollution
79 80 81 82 83	Research and publicity. Notices requiring information about air pollution. Appeals against notices. Regulations about research and publicity. Provision by local authorities of information for Secretary of State.
	Interpretation
84	Interpretation of Part IV.
	PART V
	SUPPLEMENTARY PROVISIONS
	Legal proceedings
85	Appeals to Crown Court or Court of Session against decisions of magistrates' court or sheriff.
86 87 88	Miscellaneous provisions relating to legal proceedings. Civil liability for contravention of s. 3(3).
	Financial provisions
89 90	Expenses and receipts of Secretary of State etc. Establishment charges and interest in respect of certain expenses of authorities.
	Miscellaneous
91 92 93 94 95 96 97 98	Rights of entry and inspection etc. Provisions supplementary to s. 91. Power of authorities to obtain information. Prohibition of disclosure of information. Service of documents on and by certain undertakers. Local inquiries. Default powers. Interpretation of Part V.
	PART VI
	MISCELLANEOUS AND GENERAL
	Miscellaneous
99	Alteration of penalties.
100 101 102 103	Disposal of waste etc by Atomic Energy Authority. Power to give effect to international agreements. Adaptation of enactments to metric units.

Changes to legislation: Control of Pollution Act 1974 is up to date with all changes known to be in force on or before 02 July 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)

General

- 104 Orders and regulations.
- 105 Interpretation etc—general.
- 106 General application to Scotland.
- 107 Application to Isles of Scilly.
- 108 Minor and consequential amendments of enactments, and repeals.
- 109 Short title, commencement and extent.

SCHEDULES

SCHEDULE 1 — Noise Abatement Zones

- 1 Before making a noise abatement order the local authority—
- 2 The requirements referred to in the preceding paragraph are that...
- 3 (1) If an objection is duly made to the local...
- 4 (1) Subject to paragraph 5 below, an order shall come...
- 5 If, before the date on which the order is to...

SCHEDULE 1A — Orders Designating Nitrate Sensitive Areas: Scotland Part I — APPLICATIONS BY SEPA FOR DESIGNATION ORDERS

Orders made only on application

1 (1) Subject to sub-paragraph (2) below, the Secretary of State...

Procedure for applications

2 (1) SEPA shall not, for the purposes of paragraph 1...
Part II — ORDERS CONTAINING MANDATORY PROVISIONS ETC.

Publication of proposal for order containing mandatory provisions

3 (1) This paragraph applies where the Secretary of State proposes...

Supply of copies of proposed orders

4 The Secretary of State shall, at the request of any...

Modifications of proposals

5 (1) Where notices with respect to any proposed order have...

Consideration of objections et ceteralaetc.

6 Without prejudice to section 96 of this Act, where notices...

Consent of Treasury for payment provisions

- 7 The consent of the Treasury shall be required for the...
- 8 In this Part, "local authority" means a council constituted under...

SCHEDULE 2 — Alteration of penalties

The Public Health (Scotland) Act 1897

Status: Point in time view as at 01/04/2015.

Changes to legislation: Control of Pollution Act 1974 is up to date with all changes known to be in force on or before 02 July 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)

2 3	
	The Alkali, &c. Works Regulation Act 1906
4	
5	
	The Public Health Act 1936
6	In section 19(3) of the Public Health Act 1936 (under
7 8	In section 27 of that Act (which provides that certain In section 34(5) of that Act (under which a person
9	In section 36(1) of that Act (under which a person
10	In section 41(3) of that Act (under which a person
11	In section 94(2) of that Act (under which a person
12	In section 95(1) of that Act (under which a person
	The Public Health (Drainage of Trade Premises Act 1937
13	In section 2 of the Public Health (Drainage of Trade
14	In section 9 of that Act (under which a person
	The Water Act 1945
15 16	In section 19(3) of the Water Act 1945 (under which In section 21 of that Act (under which a person
17, 18	
	The Channel Air Art 1050
10	The Clean Air Act 1956
19	The Clean Air Act 1956
19	
19 20	
	The Radioactive Substances Act 1960
20 21	The Radioactive Substances Act 1960 The Sewerage (Scotland) Act 1968 In section 12(8) of the Sewerage (Scotland) Act 1968 (under
20 21 22	The Radioactive Substances Act 1960 The Sewerage (Scotland) Act 1968 In section 12(8) of the Sewerage (Scotland) Act 1968 (under In section 14(6) of that Act (under which a person
20 21 22 23	The Radioactive Substances Act 1960 The Sewerage (Scotland) Act 1968 In section 12(8) of the Sewerage (Scotland) Act 1968 (under In section 14(6) of that Act (under which a person In section 24(2) of that Act (under which an occupier
20 21 22 23 24	The Radioactive Substances Act 1960 The Sewerage (Scotland) Act 1968 In section 12(8) of the Sewerage (Scotland) Act 1968 (under In section 14(6) of that Act (under which a person In section 24(2) of that Act (under which an occupier In section 45(2) of that Act (under which a person
20 21 22 23	The Radioactive Substances Act 1960 The Sewerage (Scotland) Act 1968 In section 12(8) of the Sewerage (Scotland) Act 1968 (under In section 14(6) of that Act (under which a person In section 24(2) of that Act (under which an occupier In section 45(2) of that Act (under which a person In section 46 of that Act (which provides that certain
20 21 22 23 24	The Radioactive Substances Act 1960 The Sewerage (Scotland) Act 1968 In section 12(8) of the Sewerage (Scotland) Act 1968 (under In section 14(6) of that Act (under which a person In section 24(2) of that Act (under which an occupier In section 45(2) of that Act (under which a person
20 21 22 23 24 25	The Radioactive Substances Act 1960 The Sewerage (Scotland) Act 1968 In section 12(8) of the Sewerage (Scotland) Act 1968 (under In section 14(6) of that Act (under which a person In section 24(2) of that Act (under which an occupier In section 45(2) of that Act (under which a person In section 46 of that Act (which provides that certain The Clean Air Act 1968
20 21 22 23 24 25	The Radioactive Substances Act 1960 The Sewerage (Scotland) Act 1968 In section 12(8) of the Sewerage (Scotland) Act 1968 (under In section 14(6) of that Act (under which a person In section 24(2) of that Act (under which an occupier In section 45(2) of that Act (under which a person In section 46 of that Act (which provides that certain The Clean Air Act 1968
20 21 22 23 24 25 26 27	The Radioactive Substances Act 1960 The Sewerage (Scotland) Act 1968 In section 12(8) of the Sewerage (Scotland) Act 1968 (under In section 14(6) of that Act (under which a person In section 24(2) of that Act (under which an occupier In section 45(2) of that Act (under which a person In section 46 of that Act (which provides that certain The Clean Air Act 1968
20 21 22 23 24 25 26 27	The Radioactive Substances Act 1960 The Sewerage (Scotland) Act 1968 In section 12(8) of the Sewerage (Scotland) Act 1968 (under In section 14(6) of that Act (under which a person In section 24(2) of that Act (under which an occupier In section 45(2) of that Act (under which a person In section 46 of that Act (which provides that certain The Clean Air Act 1968
20 21 22 23 24 25 26 27 SC	The Radioactive Substances Act 1960 The Sewerage (Scotland) Act 1968 In section 12(8) of the Sewerage (Scotland) Act 1968 (under In section 14(6) of that Act (under which a person In section 24(2) of that Act (under which an occupier In section 45(2) of that Act (under which a person In section 46 of that Act (which provides that certain The Clean Air Act 1968 The Clean Air Act 1968 The Clean Air Act 1968
20 21 22 23 24 25 26 27 SC	The Radioactive Substances Act 1960 The Sewerage (Scotland) Act 1968 In section 12(8) of the Sewerage (Scotland) Act 1968 (under In section 14(6) of that Act (under which a person In section 24(2) of that Act (under which an occupier In section 45(2) of that Act (under which a person In section 46 of that Act (which provides that certain The Clean Air Act 1968 The Clean Air Act 1968 The Clean Air Act 1968

Status: Point in time view as at 01/04/2015.

Changes to legislation: Control of Pollution Act 1974 is up to date with all changes known to be in force on or before 02 July 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)

4 5	
	The Public Health Act 1936
6 7	In section 3(1)(b) of the Public Health Act 1936 (under Sections 79 and 80 of that Act (which relate to
	The Public Health (Drainage of Trade Premises) Act 1937
8 9 10	Sections 2(4) and 3(2) of the Public Health (Drainage of In section 4(5) of that Act (under which disputes arising In section 10(1) of that Act (which authorises the taking
	The Salmon and Freshwater Fisheries (Protection) (Scotland) Act 195
11	
	The Rivers (Prevention of Pollution) (Scotland) Act 1951
12 13 14 15	Minor and consequential amendments of enactments Minor and consequential amendments of enactments In section 18 of that Act (which relates to the In section 19 of that Act (which empowers river purification
	The Clean Air Act 1956
6	Minor and consequential amendments of enactments
	The Rivers (Prevention of Pollution) Act 1961
17	In section 10(1) of the Rivers (Prevention of Pollution) Act
	The Public Health Act 1961
8	At the end of section 34(5) of the Public Health
	The London Government Act 1963
9	In section 41(1)(b) of the London Government Act 1963 (which
	The Water Resources Act 1963
20 21 22	In section 77(2) of the Water Resources Act 1963 (which In section 113(1) of that Act (which authorises water authorities Minor and consequential amendments of enactments
	The Spray Irrigation (Scotland) Act 1964
23	In section 9(2) of the Spray Irrigation (Scotland) Act 1964
	The Rivers (Prevention of Pollution) (Scotland) Act 1965
24 25	In section 10(1) of the Rivers (Prevention of Pollution) (Scotland) Minor and consequential amendments of enactments
	The Hovercraft Act 1968

In section 1(1)(g) of the Hovercraft Act 1968 for the...

26

Changes to legislation: Control of Pollution Act 1974 is up to date with all changes known to be in force on or before 02 July 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)

The Water Act 1973

- 27 For the purposes of section 14 of the Water Act...
- 28 In subsection (12) of section 24 of that Act (which...
- 29 In section 36(3) of that Act (which among other things...
- 30 In paragraph 17(2) of Schedule 7 to that Act (which...

The Local Government (Scotland) Act 1973

31 Minor and consequential amendments of enactments

SCHEDULE 4 — Repeals

Status:

Point in time view as at 01/04/2015.

Changes to legislation:

Control of Pollution Act 1974 is up to date with all changes known to be in force on or before 02 July 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.