



# Acquisition of Land Act 1981

## CHAPTER 67

### ACQUISITION OF LAND ACT 1981

#### PART I

##### GENERAL

1 Application of Act.

*Compulsory purchase*

- 2 Procedure for authorisation.
- 2A Tunnels etc
- 3 Minerals.
- 4 Assessment of compensation.

*Supplemental*

- 5 Local inquiries.
- 5A Power to require information
- 5B Offences relating to information
- 6 Service of documents.

*Interpretation*

- 7 Interpretation.
- 8 Statutory undertakers.
- 9 Land held inalienably.

#### PART II

##### PURCHASES BY LOCAL AND OTHER AUTHORITIES

- 10 Preliminary.

*Status: Point in time view as at 31/03/2024.*

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*Notices prior to submission of order to confirming authority*

- 11 Public notices
- 12 Notices to owners, lessees, occupiers and others.
- 12A Final day for making objections

*Confirmation of order*

- 13 Confirmation of order: no objections
- 13A Confirmation of order: remaining objections
- 13B Written representations procedure: supplementary
- 13BA Conditional confirmation
- 13C Confirmation in stages
- 13D Power to extend time limit for implementation
- 14 Land not originally included in order.
- 14A Confirmation by acquiring authority
- 14B Timetables for confirmation of CPOs except by Welsh Ministers
- 14C Timetables for confirmation of CPOs by Welsh Ministers
- 14D Power to appoint inspector
- 15 Notices after confirmation of order

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- 15A Directions applying section 14A of the Land Compensation Act 1961

**PART III**

SPECIAL KINDS OF LAND

- 16 Statutory undertakers' land excluded from compulsory purchase.

*Orders subject to special parliamentary procedure*

- 17 Local authority and statutory undertakers' land.
- 18 National Trust land.
- 19 Commons, open spaces etc.
- 20 Ancient monuments.
- 21 Land within more than one provision in Part III.

*Supplemental*

- 22 Notice of giving of certificate.

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- 23 Grounds for application to High Court.
- 24 Powers of the court.
- 25 Restriction on other court proceedings.
- 26 Date of operation.
- 27 Exclusion of orders confirmed by Act of Parliament.

**PART V**

PROCEDURE IN SPECIAL CASES

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*Compulsory acquisition of rights over land*

- 28 Acquisition of rights over land by the creation of new rights.
- 29 Compulsory rights orders under Opencast Coal Act 1958.
- 30 Acquisition of rights in connection with underground storage of gas.

*Statutory undertakers' land*

- 31 Acquisition under certain Acts of statutory undertakers' land without a certificate.

**PART VI**

FOOTPATHS AND BRIDLEWAYS

- 32 Power to extinguish certain public rights of way.
- 33 Land acquired before commencement of this Act.

**PART VII**

SUPPLEMENTAL

- 34 Consequential amendments, transitionals and repeals.
- 35 Short title, commencement and extent.

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**SCHEDULES**

SCHEDULE 1 — Purchases by Ministers

- 1 (1) This Schedule has effect where a Minister is the...

*Public notices*

- 2 (1) The Minister shall— (a) in two successive weeks publish...

*Notices to owners, lessees, occupiers and others*

- 3 (1) The Minister shall serve on every qualifying person a...

*Final day for making objections*

- 3A (1) For the purposes of paragraphs 2 and 3, the...

*Making of order*

- 4 (1) The Minister may make a compulsory purchase order with...
- 4A (1) This paragraph applies to the making of a compulsory...
- 4AA (1) The Minister may make a compulsory purchase order conditionally....
- 4B (1) The Minister may make an order (with or without...

*Land not included in draft order*

- 5 The order, as made by the Minister, shall not, unless...

*Notices after making of order*

- 6 (1) After the order has been made, the Minister must—...

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## SCHEDULE 2 — Minerals

### Part I

1 (1) A compulsory purchase order may, as respects all or...

### Part II

2 (1) The acquiring authority shall not be entitled to any...

### Part III

3 (1) If the owner of any underlying mines or minerals...

4 (1) If before the expiration of 30 days from the...

### *Severed mines*

5 (1) If underlying mines in which any protected minerals are...

6 (1) If underlying mines extend on both sides of the...

7 (1) Where works carried out under paragraph 5 above cause...

### *Powers of entry*

8 (1) For the purpose of ascertaining whether underlying mines have...

### *Remedial works*

9 (1) If it appears that mines have been worked contrary...

## Schedule 2A — Enactments eligible for directions applying section 14A of the Land Compensation Act 1961

1 Enactments authorising acquisitions for purposes including housing

2 Section 142 of the Local Government, Planning and Land Act...

3 Section 17 of the Housing Act 1985 (acquisition by local...

4 Section 226 of the Town and Country Planning Act 1990...

5 Section 333ZA of the Greater London Authority Act 1999 (acquisition...

6 Section 9 of the Housing and Regeneration Act 2008 (acquisition...

7 Section 207 of the Localism Act 2011 (acquisition by mayoral...

8 Enactments authorising acquisitions for purposes of the NHS

9 Paragraph 27 of Schedule 4 to the National Health Service...

10 In the National Health Service (Wales) Act 2006—

11 Enactment authorising acquisitions for educational purposes

## SCHEDULE 3 — Acquisition of Rights over Land by the Creation of New Rights

### Part I

1 In this Schedule “right” means a right to which section...

### *General modifications*

2 (1) This Act shall have effect with the modifications necessary...

### Part II — ACQUISITION OF NEW RIGHTS OVER SPECIAL KINDS OF LAND

### *Statutory undertakers land*

3 (1) This paragraph applies where the land over which a...

### *Orders subject to special parliamentary procedure*

### *Local authority and statutory undertakers' land*

4 (1) This paragraph applies to land which—

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*National Trust land*

5 (1) This paragraph applies to land belonging to the National...

*Commons, open spaces etc.*

6 (1) In so far as a compulsory purchase order authorises...

*Ancient monuments*

7 .....

*Land within more than one provision in this Schedule*

8 In the case of land falling within more than one...

*Notice of giving of certificate*

9 As soon as may be after the giving of a...

SCHEDULE 4 — CONSEQUENTIAL AMENDMENTS

*Translation of references to the Act of 1946*

1 In the enactment specified in the Table below for “Acquisition...

*Land Settlement Facilities Act 1919 (c. 59)*

2 (1) In section 2(1) of the Land Settlement Facilities Act...

*Agriculture Act 1947 (c. 48)*

3 (1) The Agriculture Act 1947 shall be amended as follows....

4 .....

5 .....

6 .....

*Coast Protection Act 1949 (c. 74)*

7 (1) In section 14(2) of the Coast Protection Act 1949...

*National Parks and Access to the Countryside Act 1949 (c. 97)*

8 In section 103 of the National Parks and Access to...

*Housing Repairs and Rents Act 1954 (c. 53)*

9 For section 50 of the Housing Repairs and Rents Act...

10 .....

*Opencast Coal Act 1958 (c. 69)*

11 (1) The Opencast Coal Act 1958 shall be amended as...

12 .....

*Police Act 1964 (c. 48)*

13 In section 9(2) of the Police Act 1964 for the...

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*Compulsory Purchase Act 1965 (c. 56)*

14 (1) The Compulsory Purchase Act 1965 shall be amended as...

*Agriculture Act 1967 (c. 22)*

15 (1) The Agriculture Act of 1967 shall be amended as...

*Leasehold Reform Act 1967 (c. 88)*

16 (1) Schedule 4 to the Leasehold Reform Act 1967 shall...

*Countryside Act 1968 (c. 41)*

17 (1) In the Countryside Act 1968 paragraph 3 of Schedule...

*Transport Act 1968 (c. 73)*

18 (1) Section 10 of the Transport Act 1968 shall be...

*Courts Act 1971 (c. 23)*

19 In paragraph 3 of Schedule 3 to the Courts Act...

20 .....

21 .....

22 .....

*Gas Act 1972 (c. 60)*

23 In Schedule 2 to the Gas Act 1972 for paragraph...

24 .....

25 .....

*Local Government (Miscellaneous Provisions) Act 1976 (c. 57)*

26 For subsection (5) of section 13 of the Local Government...

*Development of Rural Wales Act 1976 (c. 75)*

27 (1) The Development of Rural Wales Act 1976 shall be...

*National Health Service Act 1977 (c. 49)*

28 For section 87(4) of the National Health Service Act 1977...

*Ancient Monuments and Archaeological Areas Act 1979 (c. 46)*

29 In Schedule 5 to the Ancient Monuments and Archaeological Areas...

*Local Government, Planning and Land Act 1980 (c. 65)*

30 (1) The Local Government, Planning and Land Act 1980 shall...

*Highways Act 1980 (c. 66)*

31 (1) The Highways Act 1980 shall be amended as follows....

*Animal Health Act 1981 (c. 22)*

32 At the end of section 55(2) of the Animal Health...

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*New Towns Act 1981 (c. 64)*

33 In section 72(2) of the New Towns Act 1981 for...

SCHEDULE 5 — Transitional

*References to old law to include new law*

1 (1) This paragraph is without prejudice to section 17(2)(a) of...

*References to new law to include old law*

2 Any reference, whether express or implied, in any enactment, instrument...

*Periods of time*

3 Where a period of time specified in any enactment repealed...

*Successor authorities*

4 (1) Any reference in this Act (whether express or implied)...

*Construction of enactments applying the 1946 Act*

5 Section 1(1)(a) of this Act includes in particular a compulsory...

*Local authority and statutory undertakers land excluded from compulsory purchase*

6 Section 17(3) and paragraph 4(3) of Schedule 3 above—

*Extinguishment of certain public rights of way*

7 The repeal by this Act of section 3 of the...

SCHEDULE 6 — REPEALS

PART I

PART II — SPENT PROVISIONS

PART III — STATUTORY INSTRUMENTS

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