



Public Health (Control of Disease) Act 1984

1984 CHAPTER 22

PART II

CONTROL OF DISEASE

Infected premises

31 Disinfection of premises

(1) If, on a certificate of the proper officer of the local authority for a district, the local authority are satisfied that the cleansing and disinfection of any premises, and the disinfection or destruction of any articles there likely to retain infection, would tend to prevent the spread of any infectious disease, the authority shall give notice to the occupier of the premises that they will at his cost—

- (a) cleanse and disinfect the premises, and
- (b) disinfect or, as the case may require, destroy any such articles,

unless, within 24 hours after the receipt of the notice, he informs them that within a time to be fixed by the notice he will take such steps as are specified in it.

(2) If—

- (a) within 24 hours after receipt of the notice the person to whom it is given does not so inform the authority, or
- (b) having so informed the authority, he fails to take the specified steps to the satisfaction of the proper officer within the time fixed by the notice,

the authority may cause the premises to be cleansed and disinfected and the articles to be disinfected or destroyed, as the case may require, and may, if they think fit, recover from him the expenses reasonably incurred by them in doing so; and any such expenses may be so recovered as a simple contract debt in any court of competent jurisdiction.

Status: This is the original version (as it was originally enacted).

- (3) Where the occupier of any premises is in the opinion of the local authority unable effectually to take such steps as they consider necessary, they may, without giving such notice but with his consent, take the necessary steps at their own cost.
- (4) Where a local authority have under this section disinfected any premises or article or destroyed any article, they may if they think fit pay compensation to any person who has suffered damage by their action.
- (5) For the purposes of this section, the owner of unoccupied premises shall be deemed to be in occupation of them.