



New Roads and Street Works Act 1991

1991 CHAPTER 22

PART III

STREET WORKS IN ENGLAND AND WALES

Duties and liabilities of undertakers with respect to apparatus

81 Duty to maintain apparatus.

- (1) An undertaker having apparatus in the street shall secure that the apparatus is maintained to the reasonable satisfaction of—
 - (a) the street authority, as regards the safety and convenience of persons using the street (having regard, in particular, to the needs of people with a disability), the structure of the street and the integrity of apparatus of the authority in the street, and
 - (b) any other relevant authority, as regards any land, structure or apparatus of theirs;and he shall afford reasonable facilities to each such authority for ascertaining whether it is so maintained.
- (2) For this purpose maintenance means the carrying out of such works as are necessary to keep the apparatus in efficient working condition (including periodic renewal where appropriate); and includes works rendered necessary by other works in the street, other than major highway, bridge or transport works (as to which, see sections 84 and 85 below).
- (3) If an undertaker fails to give a relevant authority the facilities required by this section—
 - (a) the street authority may in such cases as may be prescribed, and
 - (b) any other relevant authority may in any case,execute such works as are needed to enable them to inspect the apparatus in question, including any necessary breaking up or opening of the street.

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- (4) If an undertaker fails to secure that apparatus is maintained to the reasonable satisfaction of a relevant authority in accordance with this section—
- (a) the street authority may in such cases as may be prescribed, and
 - (b) any other relevant authority may in any case,
- execute any emergency works needed in consequence of the failure.
- (5) The provisions of this Part apply in relation to works executed by a relevant authority under subsection (3) or (4) as if they were executed by the undertaker; and the undertaker shall indemnify the authority in respect of the costs reasonably incurred by them in executing the works.
- (6) A relevant authority who execute or propose to execute any works under subsection (3) or (4) shall give notice to any other relevant authority as soon as reasonably practicable stating the general nature of the works.
- (7) Nothing in subsection (3) or (4) shall be construed as excluding any other means of securing compliance with the duties imposed by subsection (1).

Modifications etc. (not altering text)

- C1** Pt. 3 applied (with modifications) (9.4.2013) by [The Hinkley Point C \(Nuclear Generating Station\) Order 2013 \(S.I. 2013/648\)](#), arts. 1, **9** (with arts. 48, 68, 79)
- C2** Pt. 3 restricted (6.8.2014) by [The Rampion Offshore Wind Farm Order 2014 \(S.I. 2014/1873\)](#), art. 1, **Sch. 12 Pt. 2 para. 3** (with arts. 12, 13, Sch. 12 Pt. 1 paras. 6(3), 19, Pt. 2 paras. 3, 6, 13, Pt. 3 para. 5, Pt. 4 para. 4, Pt. 5 para. 4)
- C3** Pt. 3 modified (24.9.2014) by [The Thames Water Utilities Limited \(Thames Tideway Tunnel\) Order 2014 \(S.I. 2014/2384\)](#), arts. 1, **10(5)**, 11(4)
- C4** Pt. 3 applied (with modifications) (2.8.2016) by [The Midland Metro \(Wolverhampton City Centre Extension\) Order 2016 \(S.I. 2016/684\)](#), arts. 1, **5(1)(2)** (with arts. 46, 47, Sch. 8 para. 2(7), Sch. 9 para. 4, Sch. 10 para. 12(2))
- C5** Pt. 3 modified (23.9.2016) by [The M4 Motorway \(Junctions 3 to 12\) \(Smart Motorway\) Development Consent Order 2016 \(S.I. 2016/863\)](#), arts. 1, **9(2)**
- C6** Pt. 3 modified (29.3.2017) by [The Glyn Rhonwy Pumped Storage Generating Station Order 2017 \(S.I. 2017/330\)](#), arts. 1, **12(1)** (with art. 31)
- C7** Pt. 3 applied (with modifications) (27.2.2020) by [The A30 Chiverton to Carland Cross Development Consent Order 2020 \(S.I. 2020/121\)](#), arts. 1, **12(1)(2)** (with art. 3(1))
- C8** Pt. 3 modified (11.6.2020) by [The M42 Junction 6 Development Consent Order 2020 \(S.I. 2020/528\)](#), arts. 1, **13(1)(2)** (with art. 37)
- C9** Pt. 3 modified (9.2.2021) by [The A1 Birtley to Coal House Development Consent Order 2021 \(S.I. 2021/74\)](#), arts. 1, **10(1)(2)** (with art. 5, Sch. 27 para. 36)
- C10** Pt. 3 modified (11.8.2022) by [The Sizewell C \(Nuclear Generating Station\) Order 2022 \(S.I. 2022/853\)](#), arts. 1, **15(1)** (with arts. 62, 76, 87)
 Pt. 3 modified (2.9.2022) by [The A47 North Tuddenham to Easton Development Consent Order 2022 \(S.I. 2022/911\)](#), arts. 1, **10(1)(2)** (with arts. 4, 53)
- C11** Pt. 3 modified (7.12.2022) by [The A57 Link Roads Development Consent Order 2022 \(S.I. 2022/1206\)](#), arts. 1, **11(1)(2)** (with art. 5)
- C12** Pt. 3 modified (7.12.2022) by [The A417 Missing Link Development Consent Order 2022 \(S.I. 2022/1248\)](#), arts. 1, **12(1)(2)** (with art. 4)
- C13** Pt. 3 modified (10.3.2023) by [The A47 Wansford to Sutton Development Consent Order 2023 \(S.I. 2023/218\)](#), arts. 1, **11(1)(2)** (with arts. 4, 50)
- C14** Pt. 3 modified (27.7.2023) by [The Boston Alternative Energy Facility Order 2023 \(S.I. 2023/778\)](#), arts. 1, **11(2)** (with arts. 5, 53, Sch. 8 paras. 6, 64)

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- C15** Pt. 3 modified (7.9.2023) by The A38 Derby Junctions Development Consent Order 2023 (S.I. 2023/923), arts. 1, **12(1)(2)** (with arts. 4, 45, Sch. 9 paras. 6, 46, 54(1))
- C16** S. 81: functions of a local authority made exercisable by, or by employees of, such person as may be authorised in that behalf by the local highway authority whose function it is (23.7.1999) by S.I. 1999/2106, art. 2, Sch. 2 paras. 1(o), **3(a)**
- C17** Ss. 54-106 applied (28.2.2013) by The Rookery South (Resource Recovery Facility) Order 2011 2013 (S.I. 2013/680), **art. 10(3)**
- C18** Ss. 54-106 applied (9.4.2013) by The Lancashire County Council (Torrisholme to the M6 Link (A683 Completion of Heysham to M6 Link Road)) Order 2013 (S.I. 2013/675), arts. 1, **9(2)**
- C19** Ss. 54-106 applied (15.6.2013) by The Galloper Wind Farm Order 2013 (S.I. 2013/1203), arts. 1, **13(3)** (with arts. 11, 12)
- C20** Ss. 54-106 applied (15.8.2013) by The North Blyth Biomass Power Station Order 2013 (S.I. 2013/1873), arts. 1, **9(3)** (with art. 30)
- C21** Ss. 54-106 applied (7.7.2014) by The East Anglia ONE Offshore Wind Farm Order 2014 (S.I. 2014/1599), arts. 1, **8(3)** (with arts. 37, 38, Sch. 9 para. 19)
- C22** Ss. 54-106 applied (6.8.2014) by The Rampion Offshore Wind Farm Order 2014 (S.I. 2014/1873), arts. 1, **15(3)** (with arts. 7(6), 12, 13, Sch. 12 Pt. 1 para. 19, Sch. 12 Pt. 2 para. 6, sch. 12 Pt. 3 para. 5, Sch. 12 Pt. 4 para. 4, Sch. 12 Pt. 5 para. 4)
- C23** Ss. 54-106 applied (24.9.2014) by The Thames Water Utilities Limited (Thames Tideway Tunnel) Order 2014 (S.I. 2014/2384), arts. 1, **10(4)**, 11(5) (with arts. 55, 56)
- C24** Ss. 54-106 applied (2.10.2014) by The North Killingholme (Generating Station) Order 2014 (S.I. 2014/2434), arts. 1, **9(3)** (with arts. 6, 9(4), 13, Sch. 8 Pt. 1 para. 6, Sch. 8 Pt. 3 paras. 4(3), 6, 17, Sch. 8 Pt. 5 para. 9)
- C25** Ss. 54-106 applied (29.10.2014) by The Able Marine Energy Park Development Consent Order 2014 (S.I. 2014/2935), **art. 15(3)** (with arts. 30(4), 53)
- C26** Ss. 54-106 applied (28.11.2014) by The Walney Extension Offshore Wind Farm Order 2014 (S.I. 2014/2950), arts. 1, **10(3)** (with arts. 38, 39)
- C27** Ss. 54-106 applied (7.1.2015) by The Willington C Gas Pipeline Order 2014 (S.I. 2014/3328), arts. 1, **10(3)**
- C28** Ss. 54-106 applied (2.2.2015) by The Northumberland County Council (A1 – South East Northumberland Link Road (Morpeh Northern Bypass)) Development Consent Order 2015 (S.I. 2015/23), arts. 1, **9(2)**
- C29** Ss. 54-106 applied (26.2.2015) by The Cornwall Council (A30 Temple to Higher Carblake Improvement) Order 2015 (S.I. 2015/147), arts. 1, **9(3)**
- C30** Ss. 54-106 applied (11.3.2015) by The Dogger Bank Creyke Beck Offshore Wind Farm Order 2015 (S.I. 2015/318), arts. 1, **13(3)** (with arts. 8(5), 35, 40, 41, **Sch. 12 Pt. 1 paras. 4, 9(2), 10, Pt. 2 paras. 4(2)(3), 19, Pt. 4 paras. 3, 4, 16**)
- C31** Ss. 54-106 applied (1.4.2015) by The Knottingley Power Plant Order 2015 (S.I. 2015/680), arts. 1, **10(3)** (with art. 7(6), Sch. 8 para. 10)
- C32** Ss. 54-106 applied (23.6.2015) by The Norfolk County Council (Norwich Northern Distributor Road (A1067 to A47(T))) Order 2015 (S.I. 2015/1347), arts. 1, **9(2)**
- C33** Ss. 54-106 applied (30.6.2015) by The Swansea Bay Tidal Generating Station Order 2015 (S.I. 2015/1386), arts. 1, **9(3)** (with arts. 51, 53)
- C34** Ss. 54-106 applied (7.8.2015) by The Preesall Underground Gas Storage Facility Order 2015 (S.I. 2015/1561), arts. 1, **9(3)** (with art. 44)
- C35** Ss. 54-106 applied (14.8.2015) by The Progress Power (Gas Fired Power Station) Order 2015 (S.I. 2015/1570), arts. 1, **10(3)**
- C36** Ss. 54-106 applied (26.8.2015) by The Dogger Bank Teesside A and B Offshore Wind Farm Order 2015 (S.I. 2015/1592), arts. 1, **14(3)** (with arts. 35, 40, 41)
- C37** Ss. 54-106 applied (19.11.2015) by The Ferrybridge Multifuel 2 Power Station Order 2015 (S.I. 2015/1832), arts. 1(2), **9(3)**
- C38** Ss. 54-106 applied (30.12.2015) by The Port Talbot Steelworks Generating Station Order 2015 (S.I. 2015/1984), arts. 1, **9(3)** (with art. 26)

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- C39 Ss. 54-106 applied (with modifications) (25.3.2016) by The Thorpe Marsh Gas Pipeline Order 2016 (S.I. 2016/297), arts. 1, **12(3)** (with art. 39)
- C40 Ss. 54-106 applied (2.8.2016) by The Meaford Gas Fired Generating Station Order 2016 (S.I. 2016/779), arts. 1, **11(3)**
- C41 Ss. 54-106 applied (10.8.2016) by The York Potash Harbour Facilities Order 2016 (S.I. 2016/772), arts. 1, **10(3)** (with arts. 35, 36)
- C42 Ss. 54-106 applied (19.8.2016) by The North Wales Wind Farms Connection Order 2016 (S.I. 2016/818), arts. 1, **10(5)** (with art. 35)
- C43 Ss. 54-106 applied (with modifications) (15.9.2016) by The River Humber Gas Pipeline Replacement Order 2016 (S.I. 2016/853), arts. 1, **11(3)** (with art. 43)
- C44 Ss. 54-106 applied (23.9.2016) by The M4 Motorway (Junctions 3 to 12) (Smart Motorway) Development Consent Order 2016 (S.I. 2016/863), arts. 1, **11(3)**
- C45 Ss. 54-106 applied (27.9.2016) by The Triton Knoll Electrical System Order 2016 (S.I. 2016/880), arts. 1(2), **8(3)** (with arts. 39, 40, Sch. 8 para. 19)
- C46 Ss. 54-106 applied (18.3.2017) by The North London Heat and Power Generating Station Order 2017 (S.I. 2017/215), arts. 1, **10(3)**
- C47 Ss. 54-106 applied (29.3.2017) by The Glyn Rhonwy Pumped Storage Generating Station Order 2017 (S.I. 2017/330), arts. 1, **10(3)** (with art. 31)
- C48 Ss. 54-106 applied (5.4.2017) by The Keuper Underground Gas Storage Facility Order 2017 (S.I. 2017/433), arts. 1, **10(4)**
- C49 Ss. 54-106 applied (8.8.2017) by The Wrexham Gas Fired Generating Station Order 2017 (S.I. 2017/766), arts. 1, **10(3)**
- C50 Ss. 54-106 applied (29.8.2017) by The East Anglia THREE Offshore Wind Farm Order 2017 (S.I. 2017/826), arts. 1, **8(3)** (with arts. 5(9), 36, 37, Sch. 8 para. 34)
- C51 Ss. 54-106 applied (12.10.2018) by The Eggborough Gas Fired Generating Station Order 2018 (S.I. 2018/1020), arts. 1, **8(3)** (with arts. 6, 42)
- C52 Ss. 54-106 applied (3.4.2019) by The Millbrook Gas Fired Generating Station Order 2019 (S.I. 2019/578), arts. 1, **9(3)**
- C53 Ss. 54-106 applied (10.10.2019) by The Abergelli Power Gas Fired Generating Station Order 2019 (S.I. 2019/1268), arts. 1, **9(3)**
- C54 Ss. 54-106 applied (25.10.2019) by The Drax Power (Generating Stations) Order 2019 (S.I. 2019/1315), arts. 1, **9(3)**
- C55 Ss. 54-106 applied (27.2.2020) by The A30 Chiverton to Carland Cross Development Consent Order 2020 (S.I. 2020/121), arts. 1, **11(3)** (with art. 3(1))
- C56 Ss. 54-106 applied (14.4.2020) by The Reinforcement to the North Shropshire Electricity Distribution Network Order 2020 (S.I. 2020/325), arts. 1, **10(4)** (with art. 7)
- C57 Ss. 54-106 applied (1.5.2020) by The Riverside Energy Park Order 2020 (S.I. 2020/419), arts. 1, **11(3)** (with art. 7)
- C58 Ss. 54-106 applied (11.6.2020) by The M42 Junction 6 Development Consent Order 2020 (S.I. 2020/528), arts. 1, **12(3)** (with art. 37)
- C59 Ss. 54-106 applied (1.9.2020) by The Immingham Open Cycle Gas Turbine Order 2020 (S.I. 2020/847), arts. 1, **9(3)** (with Sch. 9 para. 144)
- C60 Ss. 54-106 applied (9.2.2021) by The A1 Birtley to Coal House Development Consent Order 2021 (S.I. 2021/74), arts. 1, **12(3)** (with art. 5, Sch. 27 para. 36)
- C61 Ss. 54-106 applied (22.12.2021) by The Morlais Demonstration Zone Order 2021 (S.I. 2021/1478), arts. 1, 7, **Sch. 10 para. 2** (with arts. 15, 50, Sch. 11 para. 29)
- C62 Ss. 54-106 applied (10.3.2022) by The Thurrock Flexible Generation Plant Development Consent Order 2022 (S.I. 2022/157), arts. 1, **11(3)** (with Sch. 8 Pt. 6 para. 19)
- C63 Ss. 54-106 applied (11.8.2022) by The Sizewell C (Nuclear Generating Station) Order 2022 (S.I. 2022/853), arts. 1, **14(4)** (with arts. 15, 62, 76, 87)
- C64 Ss. 54-106 applied (2.9.2022) by The A47 North Tuddenham to Easton Development Consent Order 2022 (S.I. 2022/911), arts. 1, **14(3)** (with arts. 4, 53)

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- C65** Ss. 54-106 applied (with modifications) (4.11.2022) by The A47/A11 Thickthorn Junction Development Consent Order 2022 (S.I. 2022/1070), arts. 1, **15(3)** (with arts. 4, 52, Sch. 9 para. 82)
- C66** Ss. 54-106 applied (7.12.2022) by The A57 Link Roads Development Consent Order 2022 (S.I. 2022/1206), arts. 1, **10(3)** (with arts. 5, 11)
- C67** Ss. 54-106 applied (7.12.2022) by The A417 Missing Link Development Consent Order 2022 (S.I. 2022/1248), arts. 1, **11(3)** (with arts. 4, 12)
- C68** Ss. 54-106 applied (29.12.2022) by The Keadby 3 (Carbon Capture Equipped Gas Fired Generating Station) Order 2022 (S.I. 2022/1396), arts. 1, **9(3)** (with art. 32, Sch. 10 paras. 26(2), 68)
- C69** Ss. 54-106 applied (10.3.2023) by The A47 Wansford to Sutton Development Consent Order 2023 (S.I. 2023/218), arts. 1, **15(3)** (with arts. 4, 50)
- C70** Ss. 54-106 applied (18.7.2023) by The Longfield Solar Farm Order 2023 (S.I. 2023/734), arts. 1, **8(3)**
- C71** Ss. 54-106 applied (27.7.2023) by The Boston Alternative Energy Facility Order 2023 (S.I. 2023/778), arts. 1, **10(3)** (with arts. 5, 53, Sch. 8 paras. 6, 64)
- C72** Ss. 54-106 applied (7.9.2023) by The A38 Derby Junctions Development Consent Order 2023 (S.I. 2023/923), arts. 1, **11(3)** (with arts. 4, 45, Sch. 9 paras. 6, 46, 54(1))
- C73** Ss. 54-106 applied (7.2.2024) by The Drax Power Station Bioenergy with Carbon Capture and Storage Extension Order 2024 (S.I. 2024/70), arts. 1, **9(3)** (with art. 43, Sch. 12 paras. 5, 24)

Commencement Information

- I1** S. 81 wholly in force: s. 81(1)(2)(5)-(7) in force at 1.1.1993, see s. 170(1) and S.I. 1992/2984, art. 2(2), **Sch. 2**; s. 81(3)(4) in force at 14.7.1992 by S.I. 1992/1686, art. 3, **Sch.**

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