



# Housing Act 1996

## 1996 CHAPTER 52

### PART I

[<sup>F1</sup>SOCIAL RENTED SECTOR [<sup>F1</sup>REGULATED BY THE WELSH MINISTERS]]

### CHAPTER IV

GENERAL POWERS OF THE [<sup>F1</sup>RELEVANT AUTHORITY]

#### *Information*

#### **30 General power to obtain information.**

- (1) The [<sup>F1</sup>Relevant Authority] may for any purpose connected with the discharge of any of its functions in relation to registered social landlords serve a notice on a person requiring him—
  - (a) to give to [<sup>F2</sup>the Welsh Ministers], at a time and place and in the form and manner specified in the notice, such information relating to the affairs of a registered social landlord as may be specified or described in the notice, or
  - (b) to produce to [<sup>F2</sup>the Welsh Ministers] or a person authorised by [<sup>F2</sup>the Welsh Ministers], at a time and place specified in the notice, any documents relating to the affairs of the registered social landlord which are specified or described in the notice and are in his custody or under his control.
- (2) A notice under this section may be served on—
  - (a) a registered social landlord,
  - (b) any person who is, or has been, an officer, member, employee or agent of a registered social landlord,
  - (c) a subsidiary or associate of a registered social landlord,
  - (d) any person who is, or has been, an officer, member, employee or agent of a subsidiary or associate of a registered social landlord, or

*Status: Point in time view as at 05/07/2021.*

*Changes to legislation: Housing Act 1996, Section 30 is up to date with all changes known to be in force on or before 21 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)*

- (e) any other person whom [<sup>F2</sup>the Welsh Ministers] has reason to believe is or may be in possession of relevant information.

In this section “agent” includes banker, solicitor and auditor.

- (3) No notice shall be served on a person within paragraphs (b) to (e) of subsection (2) unless—
- (a) a notice has been served on the registered social landlord and has not been complied with, or
  - (b) [<sup>F2</sup>the Welsh Ministers] believes that the information or documents in question are not in the possession of the landlord.
- (4) Nothing in this section authorises [<sup>F2</sup>the Welsh Ministers] to require—
- (a) the disclosure of anything which a person would be entitled to refuse to disclose on grounds of legal professional privilege in proceedings in the High Court, or
  - (b) the disclosure by a banker of anything in breach of any duty of confidentiality owed by him to a person other than a registered social landlord or a subsidiary or associate of a registered social landlord.
- [<sup>F3</sup>(5) A notice under this section—
- <sup>F4</sup>(a) .....
  - (b) if given by the [<sup>F5</sup>Welsh Ministers] , shall be given in writing.]
- (6) References in this section to a document are to anything in which information of any description is recorded; and in relation to a document in which information is recorded otherwise than in legible form, references to producing it are to producing it in legible form.
- (7) Where by virtue of this section documents are produced to any person, he may take copies of or make extracts from them.

#### Textual Amendments

- F1** Words in Pt. I substituted (1.11.1998) by 1998 c. 38, s. 140, **Sch. 16 para. 82(1)(2)** (with ss. 139(2), 141(1), 143(2)); S.I. 1998/2244, **art.5**.
- F2** Words in Pt. I substituted (1.4.2010) by Housing and Regeneration Act 2008 (c. 17), **ss. 61(7), 325(1)**; S.I. 2010/862, **art. 2** (with Sch.)
- F3** S. 30(5) substituted (1.11.1998) by 1998 c. 38, s. 140, **Sch. 16 para.86** (with ss. 139(2), 141(1), 143(2)); S.I. 1998/2244, **art.5**.
- F4** S. 30(5)(a) repealed (1.4.2010) by The Housing and Regeneration Act 2008 (Consequential Provisions) Order 2010 (S.I. 2010/866), art. 1(2), Sch. 2 para. 89, **Sch. 4** (with art. 6, Sch. 3)
- F5** Words in s. 30(5)(b) substituted (1.4.2010) by Housing and Regeneration Act 2008 (c. 17), **ss. 62(a), 325(1)**; S.I. 2010/862, **art. 2** (with Sch.)

#### Modifications etc. (not altering text)

- C1** S. 30 extended (16.9.1996) by S.I. 1996/2402, art. 3, **Sch. para. 1**
- C2** S. 30(2) applied (with modifications) (23.12.2011) by The Legal Services Act 2007 (Designation as a Licensing Authority) (No. 2) Order 2011 (S.I. 2011/2866), art. 1(2), **Sch. 2**
- C3** S. 30(5) modified (1.12.2008) by The Transfer of Housing Corporation Functions (Modifications and Transitional Provisions) Order 2008 (S.I. 2008/2839), arts. 1(1), 3, **Sch. para. 5** (with art. 6)

**Status:**

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