



Public Records Act 1958

CHAPTER 51

PUBLIC RECORDS ACT 1958

- 1 General responsibility of the Secretary of State for public records.
- 2 The Public Record Office.
- 3 Selection and preservation of public records.
- 4 Place of deposit of public records.
- 5 Access to public records.
- 6 Destruction of public records in Public Record Office or other place of deposit.
- 7 Records for which Master of the Rolls remains responsible.
- 8 Court records.
- 9 Legal validity of public records and authenticated copies.
- 10 Interpretation.
- 11 Public Record Office Acts to cease to have effect.
- 12 Northern Ireland.
- 13 Short title, repeals and commencement.

SCHEDULES

FIRST SCHEDULE — Definition of Public Records

- 1 The provisions of this Schedule shall have effect for determining...

Departmental records

- 2 (1) Subject to the provisions of this paragraph, administrative and...
- 3 (1) Without prejudice to the generality of sub-paragraph (1) of...
- 3A (1) Her Majesty may by Order in Council amend the...

Changes to legislation: Public Records Act 1958 is up to date with all changes known to be in force on or before 05 February 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) View outstanding changes

Records of courts and tribunals

- 4 (1) Subject to the provisions of this paragraph, records of...

Records of the Chancery of England

- 5 The records of the Chancery of England , other than...

Records in Public Record Office

- 6 Without prejudice to the foregoing provisions of this Schedule, public...

Power to add further categories of records and to determine cases of doubt

- 7 (1) Without prejudice to the Lord Chancellor's power of making...

Interpretation

- 8 It is hereby declared that any description of government department,...

SECOND —
SCHEDULE

THIRD SCHEDULE —

FOURTH SCHEDULE —

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Changes and effects yet to be applied to :

- Sch. 1 para. 3 Table Pt. 2 entries inserted by [1990 c. 41 Sch. 18 para. 1\(1\)](#) (This amendment not applied to [legislation.gov.uk](#). The insertion was repealed (31.3.2009) by [Legal Services Act 2007 \(c. 29\)](#), ss. 210, 211, Sch. 23 (with ss. 29 , 192 , 193); S.I. 2009/503 , art. 2)
- Sch. 1 para. 3 Table Pt. 2 entry inserted by [1997 c. 48 Sch. 1 para. 1](#) (This amendment not applied to [legislation.gov.uk](#). The insertion was repealed (30.9.1998) by [1998 c. 37](#), ss. 119 , 120(2) , Sch. 8 para. 141(1), Sch. 10; S.I. 1998/2327 , art. 2)
- Sch. 1 para. 3 Table Pt. 2 entry repealed by [1998 c. 38 Sch. 18 Pt. 2](#)
- Sch. 1 para. 3 Table Pt. 2 words inserted by [2009 c. 13 Sch. 2 para. 11](#) (This amendment not applied to [legislation.gov.uk](#). Sch. 2 substituted (19.4.2010) by [2010 c. 25](#), Sch. 3; S.I. 2010/1277, art. 2)
- Sch. 1 para. 3 Table Pt. 2 words inserted by [2021 c. 10 Sch. 6 para. 1](#)
- Sch. 1 para. 3 Table Pt. 2 words repealed by [2000 c. 14 Sch. 6](#)