

## Local Government Act 1894

### 1894 CHAPTER 73 56 and 57 Vict

An Act to make further provision for Local Government in England and Wales. [5th March 1894]

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

- C1 Councils of administrative counties, boroughs (except those in rural districts), urban districts, rural districts and urban parishes outside Greater London and Isles of Scilly together with municipal corporations of boroughs outside Greater London now abolished and councils of metropolitan counties, non-metropolitan counties and districts constituted by Local Government Act 1972 (c. 70), ss. 1, 2, Sch. 1
- C2 Act amended with the substitution for any reference to a rural parish or its council or meeting of a reference to (E.) a parish or its council or meeting and (W.) a community or its council by Local Government Act 1972 (c. 70), s. 179 subject as in that section mentioned
- C3 Functions of Local Government Board now exercisable by Secretary of State: Ministry of Health Act 1919 (c. 21), s. 3(1)(a), S.I. 1951/142, 1900 (1951 I, pp. 1348, 1347), S.I. 1965/319 and 1970/1681 Act: transfer of functions (W.) (1.7.1999) by S.I. 1999/672, art. 2, Sch. 1
- C4 Words of enactment omitted under authority of Statute Law Revision Act 1948 (c. 62), s. 3

### PART I

### PARISH MEETINGS AND PARISH COUNCILS

1—4 ......<sup>F1</sup>

### **Textual Amendments**

F1 Ss. 1–4 repealed by Local Government Act 1933 (c. 51), Sch. 11 Pt. IV

### Powers and Duties of Parish Councils and Parish Meetings

5	†Parish	council to appoint overseers.
	(1)	F2
	(a)	F3 F2
	(b)	references in any Act to the churchwardens and overseers shall, as respects any rural parish, except so far as those references relate to the affairs of the church, be construed as references to the overseers,
	(c)	F4
Text	ual Amend	ments
F2		(a) repealed by Rating and Valuation Act 1925 (c. 90), Sch. 8
F3		pealed by Statute Law Revision Act 1908 (c. 49)
F4	-	repealed by Local Government Act 1933 (c. 51), Sch. 11 Pt. IV
		etc. (not altering text)
C5		e margin note
<b>C6</b>		of churchwardens and overseers now generally exercisable in City of London by Common
		nd elsewhere by rating authorities: City of London (Union of Parishes) Act 1907 (c. xl), s.
		on Government Act 1899 (c. 14), <b>s. 11(1)</b> , Rating and Valuation Act 1925 (c. 90), <b>s. 62(1)</b> , 1927/55 (Rev. XIX, p. 599: 1927, p. 964), London Government Act 1963 (c. 33), <b>s. 63(1)</b>
		ral Rate Act 1967 (c. 9), <b>s. 1(1)</b>
6	Transfe	r of certain powers of vestry and other authorities to parish council.
		he parish council of a rural parish coming into office, there shall be transferred council:—
	(a)	The powers, duties, and liabilities of the vestry of the parish except—
	. ,	(i) so far as relates to the affairs of the church or to ecclesiastical charities; and
		(ii) any power, duty, or liability transferred by this Act from the vestry to any other authority:
	(b)	The powers, duties, and liabilities of the churchwardens of the parish, excep so far as they relate to the affairs of the church or to charities, or are powers and duties of overseers <sup>F5</sup>
	(c)	The powers, duties, and liabilities of the overseers or of the churchwardens and overseers of the parish with respect to—
		<ul> <li>(i)</li></ul>
		(iii) The holding or management of parish property, not being property relating to affairs of the church or held for an ecclesiastical charity and the holding or management of village greens, or of allotments

whether for recreation grounds or for gardens or otherwise for the

benefit of the inhabitants or any of them;

(d)

	(a)
(	) <sup>F10</sup>
F5 F6 F7 F8 F9 F10	Words repealed by Local Government Act 1933 (c. 51), Sch. 11 Pt. IV S. 6(1)(c)(i) repealed by Rating and Valuation Act 1925 (c. 90), Sch. 8 Words repealed by Local Government Act 1933 (c. 51), Sch. 11 Pt. IV and Fire Brigades Act 1938 (c. 72), Sch. 3 Pt. I S. 6(1)(d) repealed by Local Government Act 1929 (c. 17), Sch. 12 Pt. VII S. 6(2) repealed by Housing Act 1925 (c. 14), Sch. 6 S. 6(3)(4) repealed by Small Holdings and Allotments Act 1908 (c. 36), Sch. 3  Sections etc. (not altering text) Functions of churchwardens and overseers now generally exercisable in City of London by Common Council and elsewhere by rating authorities: City of London (Union of Parishes) Act 1907 (c. xl), s. 11, London Government Act 1899 (c. 14), s. 11(1), Rating and Valuation Act 1925 (c. 90), s. 62(1), S.R. & O. 1927/55 (Rev. XIX, p. 599: 1927, p. 964), London Government Act 1963 (c. 33), s. 63(1) and General Rate Act 1967 (c. 9), s. 1(1)
7	F11
Textu F11	al Amendments S. 7 repealed by Local Government Act 1972 (c. 70), Sch. 30
F11	S. 7 repealed by Local Government Act 1972 (c. 70), Sch. 30  Additional powers of parish council.
F11	S. 7 repealed by Local Government Act 1972 (c. 70), Sch. 30

	(k)	to contribute towards the expense of doing any of the things above mentioned, or to agree or combine with any other parish council to do or contribute towards the expense of doing any of the things above mentioned.
(:	2)	F18
		F19
Textu	al Amend	ments
F12		repealed by Local Government Act 1933 (c. 51), <b>Sch. 11 Pt. IV</b>
F13	. , . ,	repealed by Local Government Act 1972 (c. 70), Sch. 30
F14	S. 8(1)(c)	repealed (22.7.2004) by Statute Law (Repeals) Act 2004 (c. 14), Sch. 1 Pt. 10 Group 3
F15	_	ealed by Local Government Act 1972 (c. 70), Sch. 30
F16		f) repealed by Public Health Act 1936 (c. 49), s. 346, Sch. 3 Pt. V
F17		repealed so far as it applies to a highway within the meaning of the Highways Act 1959 by
F10		Act 1959 (c. 25), Sch. 25
F18 F19		(2) repealed by Local Government Act 1933 (c. 51), Sch. 11 Pt. IV
F20		pealed by Public Health Act 1936 (c. 49), s. 346, <b>Sch. 3 Pt. V</b> pealed (22.7.2004) by Statute Law (Repeals) Act 2004 (c. 14), <b>Sch. 1 Pt. 10</b> Group 3
1.20	5. 6(4) ICI	icalcu (22.7.2004) by Statute Law (Repeals) Act 2004 (c. 14), Sch. 11 t. 10 Gloup 5
		tc. (not altering text)
C8		of Board of Agriculture now exercisable by Minister of Agriculture, Fisheries and Food:
		Agriculture and Fisheries Act 1903 (c. 31), <b>s. 1(1)</b> , Ministry of Agriculture and Fisheries Act
-		1), <b>s. 1</b> and S.I. 1955/554 (1955 I, p. 1200)
<b>C9</b>	S. 8(1)(1)	extended by Local Government Act 1929 (c. 17), s. 115(3)
Marg	inal Citati	ons
M1	1875 c. 55	
9	•••••	F21
	al Amend	
F21	S. 9 repea	led by Local Government Act 1933 (c. 51), Sch. 11 Pt. IV
		F22
10	•••••	
Textu	al Amend	ments
F22		aled by Small Holdings and Allotments Act 1907 (c. 54), Sch. 2
11, 12.		F23

Textu F23	Ial Amendments Ss. 11, 12 repealed by Local Government Act 1933 (c. 51), Sch. 11 Pt. IV
13	F24
Textu F24	Ial Amendments S. 13 repealed by Highways Act 1959 (c. 25), s. 312(2), Sch. 25
14	F25
Textu F25	Ial Amendments S. 14 repealed by Charities Act 1960 (c. 58), Sch. 7 Pt. I
15	F26
	Ial Amendments S. 15 repealed by Local Government Act 1933 (c. 51), Sch. 11 Pt. IV
16	F27
Textu F27	ss. 16, 19(8) repealed by S.I. 1979/1123, art. 3(1)
17, 18	F28
	Ial Amendments Ss. 17, 18, 19(1)–(3) repealed by Local Government Act 1933 (c. 51), Sch. 11 Pt. IV
19	Provisions as to small parishes.
	In a rural parish not having a separate parish council, the following provisions shall, F29 subject to provisions made by a grouping order, if the parish is grouped with some other parish or parishes, have effect:—
(	(1)

(4	4) All powers, duties, and liabilities of the vestry shall, except so far as they relate to the affairs of the Church or to ecclesiastical charities, or are transferred by this Act to any
	other authority, be transferred to the parish meeting;
	0)
	5)
(8	S)
(9	9)
Textu	al Amendments
F29	Words repealed by Statute Law Revision Act 1908 (c. 49)
F30	Ss. 17, 18, 19(1)–(3) repealed by Local Government Act 1933 (c. 51), <b>Sch. 11 Pt. IV</b>
F31	S. 19(5) repealed by Rating and Valuation Act 1925 (c. 90), Sch. 8 and Charities Act 1960 (c. 58), Sch. 7 Pt. I
F32 F33	S. 19(6)(7)(9)–(11) repealed by Local Government Act 1933 (c. 51), <b>Sch. 11 Pt. IV</b> Ss. 16, 19(8) repealed by S.I. 1979/1123, <b>art. 3(1)</b>
Textu	1) Nothing in this Part affects any powers, duties or liabilities conferred on a parish council by or under any other enactment (whenever passed or made).  2) This section does not apply in relation to community councils (see section 179(4) of the Local Government Act 1972).]  al Amendments  S. 19A inserted (26.12.2023) by Levelling-up and Regeneration Act 2023 (c. 55), ss. 82, 255(2)(s) (with s. 247)
	PART II
	GUARDIANS AND DISTRICT COUNCILS
20	F35
Textu	al Amendments
F35	S. 20 repealed by Poor Law Act 1927 (c. 14), <b>Sch. 11</b>
21	Names of county districts and district councils.
(	1)

(2	(2)	
(3	(3) In this [F38] and every other] Act of Parliament, unless the context of expression "district council" shall include the council of every ur a borough or not, and of every rural district, and the expression "conclude every urban and rural district whether a borough or not.	ban district, whether
	tual Amendments	
F36 F37	· · · · · · · · · · · · · · · · · · ·	7
F38		
150	Government Act 1933 (c. 51), <b>Sch. 11 Pt. IV</b> and so far as they apply to Rating	
	1925 (c. 90) by London Government Act 1963 (c. 33), Sch. 18 Pt. II	
22—	F39	
24.	•••••	
Textu	tual Amendments	
F39		7
25	†Powers of district council with respect to sanitary and highw	av matters.
		ay matters.
`	(1)	
(2	(2)	
(4	(4)	
	(5)	
(7	(7)	
Textue	tual Amendments	
F40		XII
F41		
	1963 (c. 33), s. 16(2), <b>Sch. 6 para. 70</b>	
F42		
F43		
F44	4 S. 25(7) repealed by Statute Law (Repeals) Act 1976 (c. 16), s. 1(1), Sch. 1 Pt. 1	VIII
	lifications etc. (not altering text)	
C10	Unreliable margin note	
26	†Duties and powers of district council as to rights of way, righ roadside wastes.	ts of common, and
(1	(1)	

(2)	A district council may with the consent of the county council for the county within
	which any common land is situate aid persons in maintaining rights of common where,
	in the opinion of the council, the extinction of such rights would be prejudicial to the
	inhabitants of the district; F46

	inhabitants of the district; F40		
(3) A district council may, for the purpose of carrying into effect this section defend any legal proceedings, and generally take such steps as they decomposed to the council may, for the purpose of carrying into effect this section.			
(	4)		
F47(	F47(7)		
Textu	al Amendments		
F45	S. 26(1)(4)–(6) repealed by Highways Act 1959 (c. 25), s. 312(2), <b>Sch. 25</b> and London Government Act 1963 (c. 33), s. 16(2), <b>Sch. 6 para. 70</b>		
F46	Words in s. 26(2) repealed (22.7.2004) by Statute Law (Repeals) Act 2004 (c. 14), <b>Sch. 1 Pt. 10</b> Group 3		
F47	S. 26(7) repealed (22.7.2004) by Statute Law (Repeals) Act 2004 (c. 14), Sch. 1 Pt. 10 Group 3		
Modi	fications etc. (not altering text)		
C11	Unreliable margin note		
C12	Functions of Board of Agriculture under s. 26(2) now exercisable by Secretary of State: Board of Agriculture and Fisheries Act 1903 (c. 31), s. 1(1), Ministry of Agriculture and Fisheries Act 1919		

(c. 91), s. 1 and S.I. 1955/554 (1955 I, p. 1200), 1965/143, 319, 1967/156, 1970/1681

### 27 Transfer of certain powers of justices to district councils.

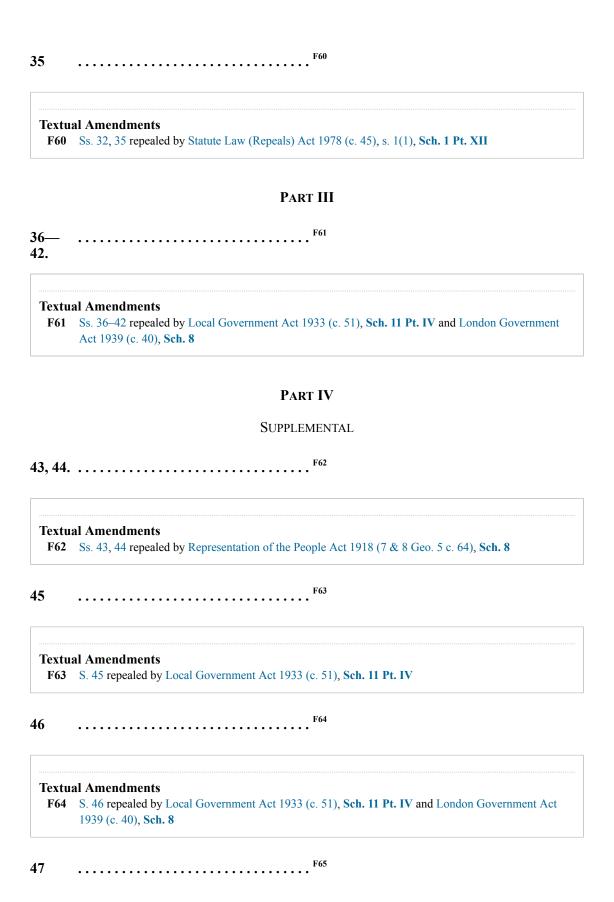
$(1)\ldots$	
out of	session in relation to any of the matters following, that is to say,—
(a)	F49
	F50
(d)	F52
(e)	the abolition of fairs and alteration of days for holding fairs;
(f)	F52
when a distric	arising within a county district, shall be transferred to the district council of the t.
(2)	

(3) All fees payable in respect of the powers, duties, and liabilities transferred by this section shall be payable to the district council.

### **Textual Amendments**

- **F48** Words repealed by Statute Law Revision Act 1908 (c. 49)
- **F49** S. 27(1)(a) repealed by Statute Law (Repeals) Act 1989 (c. 43), s. 1(1), **Sch. 1 Pt. IV**
- **F50** S. 27(1)(b) repealed by Consumer Credit Act 1974 (c. 39), s. 192(4), Sch. 5
- **F51** S. 27(1)(c) repealed (1.8.2007) by Regulatory Reform (Game) Order 2007 (S.I. 2007/2007), art. 1(1), **Sch. para. 1(e)**

	E54
28, 29.	F54
	al Amendments Ss. 27(1)( <i>d</i> )( <i>f</i> ), 28, 29 repealed by Local Government Act 1933 (c. 51), Sch. 11 Pt. IV
30	F55
Tevtu	al Amendments
	S. 30 repealed by Poor Law Act 1927 (c. 14), Sch. 11
31	F56
	al Amendments
F56	S. 31 repealed by London Government Act 1939 (c. 40), Sch. 8
32	F57
Textu F57	al Amendments Ss. 32, 35 repealed by Statute Law (Repeals) Act 1978 (c. 45), s. 1(1), Sch. 1 Pt. XII
33	F58
Textu F58	al Amendments S. 33 repealed by Local Government Act 1933 (c. 51), Sch. 11 Pt. IV and S.I. 1965/654
4	F59



Tex	tual Amendments
F6	S. 47 repealed by Local Government Act 1933 (c. 51), Sch. 11 Pt. IV
48	F66
Tev	tual Amendments
	S. 48 repealed by Local Government Act 1933 (c. 51), Sch. 11 Pt. IV and London Government Act 1939 (c. 40), Sch. 8
49	F67
Tex	tual Amendments
	57 S. 49 repealed by Local Government Act 1933 (c. 51), <b>Sch. 11 Pt. IV</b>
50	F68
Tex F6	tual Amendments  8 S. 50 repealed by Rating and Valuation Act 1925 (c. 90), Sch. 8
	Parish and District Councils
51	F69
Tow	tual Amendments
F6	
52	†Supplemental provisions as to transfer of powers.
	(1)
	(2)
	(3)
	(4)
	(5) All enactments in any Act, whether general or local and personal, relating to any powers, duties, or liabilities transferred by this Act to a parish council or parish meeting from justices or the vestry or overseers or church wardens and overseers shall,

subject to the provisions of this Act and so far as circumstances admit, be construed as if any reference therein to justices or to the vestry, or to the overseers, or to the churchwardens and overseers, referred to the parish council or parish meeting as the case requires, and the said enactments shall be construed with such modifications as may be necessary for carrying this Act into effect.

## **Textual Amendments F70** S. 52(1) repealed by Local Government Act 1929 (c. 17), Sch. 12 Pt. VII F71 S. 52(2) repealed by Statute Law Revision Act 1908 (c. 49) **F72** S. 52(3) repealed by Local Government Act 1933 (c. 51), **Sch. 11 Pt. IV** F73 S. 52(4) repealed by Charities Act 1960 (c. 58), Sch. 7 Pt. I **Modifications etc. (not altering text)** C13 Unreliable margin note C14 Functions of churchwardens and overseers now generally exercisable in City of London by Common Council and elsewhere by rating authorities: City of London (Union of Parishes) Act 1907 (c. xl), s. 11, London Government Act 1899 (c. 14), s. 11(1), Rating and Valuation Act 1925 (c. 90), s. 62(1), S.R. & O. 1927/55 (Rev. XIX, p. 599: 1927, p. 964), London Government Act 1963 (c. 33), s. 63(1) and General Rate Act 1967 (c. 9), s. 1(1) F74 53 **Textual Amendments** F74 S. 53 repealed by Local Government Act 1972 (c. 70), Sch. 30 54–59 ..... F75 **Textual Amendments** F75 Ss. 54–61 repealed by Local Government Act 1933 (c. 51), Sch. 11 Pt. IV Miscellaneous **Textual Amendments F76** Ss. 54–61 repealed by Local Government Act 1933 (c. 51), **Sch. 11 Pt. IV**

F77

**62** 

# Textual Amendments F77 S. 62 repealed by Local Government Act 1972 (c. 70), Sch. 30

63 .....<sup>F78</sup>

**Textual Amendments F78** S. 63 repealed by S.I. 1979/1123, **art. 3(1)** 

64 ......<sup>F79</sup>

### **Textual Amendments**

F79 S. 64 repealed by Local Government Act 1933 (c. 51), Sch. 11 Pt. IV

### 65 Saving for harbour powers.

Where any improvement commission affected by this Act have any powers, duties, property, debts, or liabilities in respect of any harbour, the improvement commission shall continue to exist and be elected for the purpose thereof, and shall continue as a separate body, as if this Act had not passed, and the property, debts, and liabilities shall be apportioned between the district council for the district and the commission so continuing, and the adjustment arising out of the apportionment shall be determined in manner provided by this Act.

66 .....<sup>F80</sup>

### **Textual Amendments**

**F80** Ss. 66, 71 repealed by Statute Law (Repeals) Act 1978 (c. 45), s. 1(1), **Sch. 1 Pt. XII** 

### 67 Transfer of property and debts and liabilities.

Where any powers and duties are transferred by this Act from one authority to another authority—

- (1) All property held by the first authority for the purpose or by virtue of such powers and duties shall pass to and vest in the other authority, subject to all debts and liabilities affecting the same; and
- (2) The latter authority shall hold the same for the estate, interest, and purposes, and subject to the covenants, conditions, and restrictions for and subject to which the property would have been held if this Act had not passed, so far as the same are not modified by or in pursuance of this Act; and

68,

**70** 

71

72,

**74** 

Changes to legislation: There are currently no known outstanding effects for the Local Government Act 1894. (See end of Document for details)

(3	3) All debts and liabilities of the first authority incurred by virtue of such powers and duties shall become debts and liabilities of the latter authority, and be defrayed out of the like property and funds out of which they would have been defrayed if this Achad not passed.
8, 69.	F81
Textu: F81	Al Amendments Ss. 68, 69 repealed by Local Government Act 1933 (c. 51), Sch. 11 Pt. IV and London Government Act 1939 (c. 40), Sch. 8
0	F82
	al Amendments S. 70 repealed by Local Government Act 1958 (c. 55), Sch. 9 Pt. V
1	F83
	Al Amendments Ss. 66, 71 repealed by Statute Law (Repeals) Act 1978 (c. 45), s. 1(1), Sch. 1 Pt. XII
2, 73.	F84
	Al Amendments Ss. 72, 73 repealed by Local Government Act 1933 (c. 51), Sch. 11 Pt. IV and London Government Act 1939 (c. 40), Sch. 8
<b>'4</b>	F85
	Al Amendments Ss. 74. 78 repealed by Local Government Act 1933 (c. 51). Sch. 11 Pt. IV

#### **75 Construction of Act.**

(1) The definition of "parish" in section one hundred of the M2Local Government Act, 1888, shall not apply to this Act, but, save as aforesaid, expressions used in this Act shall, unless the context otherwise requires, have the same meaning as in the said Act.

(2) In th	nis Act, unless the context otherwise req	uires—
	·	F86
		F87
		F87
		F87
	The expression "ecclesiastical charity whereof is held for some one or more	•

The expression "ecclesiastical charity" includes a charity, the endowment whereof is held for some one or more of the following purposes:—

- (a) for any spiritual purpose which is a legal purpose; or
- (b) for the benefit of any spiritual person or ecclesiastical officer as such; or
- (c) for use, if a building, as a church, chapel, mission room, or Sunday school, or otherwise by any particular church or denomination; or
- (d) for the maintenance, repair, or improvement of any such building as aforesaid, or for the maintenance of divine service therein; or
- (e) otherwise for the benefit of any particular church or denomination, or of any members thereof as such.

Provided that where any endowment of a charity, other than a building held for any of the purposes aforesaid, is held in part only for some of the purposes aforesaid, the charity, so far as that endowment is concerned, shall be an ecclesiastical charity within the meaning of this Act; and the [F88 Charity Commission] shall, on application by any person interested, make such provision for the apportionment and management of that endowment as seems to [F89 it] necessary or expedient for giving effect to this Act.

The expression shall also include any building which in the opinion of the [F90 Charity Commission] has been erected or provided within forty years before the passing of this Act mainly by or at the cost of members of any particular church or denomination.

The expression "affairs of the church" shall include the distribution of offertories or other collections made in any church.

F87

The expression "vestry" in relation to a parish means the inhabitants of the parish whether in vestry assembled or not, and includes any select vestry either by statute or at common law.

																																F9
																													•			F8
•	•	•	•	٠	٠	•	٠	•	•	•	•	•	•	•	•	•	•	•	•	•	•	•	•	•	٠	•	٠	٠	•	•	•	F8

The expression "local and personal Act" includes a Provisional Order confirmed by an Act and the Act confirming the Order.

F87

### **Textual Amendments**

- F86 Definition of "population" repealed by Local Government Act 1958 (c. 55), Sch. 9 Pt. V
- F87 Definition repealed by Statute Law (Repeals) Act 1978 (c. 45), s. 1(1), Sch. 1 Pt. XII
- **F88** Words in s. 75(2) substituted (27.2.2007) by Charities Act 2006 (c. 50), s. 79(2), **Sch. 8 para. 9(2)(a)**; S.I. 2007/309, art. 2, Sch.
- F89 Word in s. 75(2) substituted (27.2.2007) by Charities Act 2006 (c. 50), s. 79(2), Sch. 8 para. 9(2)(b); S.I. 2007/309, art. 2, Sch.
- **F90** Words in s. 75(2) substituted (27.2.2007) by Charities Act 2006 (c. 50), s. 79(2), **Sch. 8 para. 9(3)**; S.I. 2007/309, art. 2, Sch.

M2	inal Citations 1888 c. 41.
<b>'</b> 6	Extent of Act.
	This Act shall not extend to Scotland or Ireland.
77	Short title.
	This Act may be cited as the Local Government Act, 1894.
	PART V
	TRANSITORY PROVISIONS
78	F92
Textu F93	
	S 79 repealed by Statute Law Revision Act 1908 (c. 49)
30	S. 79 repealed by Statute Law Revision Act 1908 (c. 49)  F94
30	S. 79 repealed by Statute Law Revision Act 1908 (c. 49)

**Textual Amendments** 

Act 1939 (c. 40), Sch. 8

**Changes to legislation:** There are currently no known outstanding effects for the Local Government Act 1894. (See end of Document for details)

82	F96
Textu	al Amendments
F96	S. 82 repealed by Highways Act 1959 (c. 25), s. 312(2), <b>Sch. 25</b>
83	F97
Textu	al Amendments
F97	S. 83 repealed by Local Government Act 1933 (c. 51), Sch. 11 Pt. IV and London Government Act 1939 (c. 40), Sch. 8
84	F98
Textu F98	al Amendments S. 84 repealed by Statute Law (Repeals) Act 1978 (c. 45), s. 1(1), Sch. 1 Pt. XII
85— 89.	F99

F99 Ss. 85–89 repealed by Local Government Act 1933 (c. 51), Sch. 11 Pt. IV and London Government

### SCHEDULES

## F100F100FIRST SCHEDULE

F100						
	F101F101SECOND SCHEDULE					
extual Amendmen						
	y Statute Law Revision Act 1908 (c. 49)					

### **Changes to legislation:**

There are currently no known outstanding effects for the Local Government Act 1894.