



Local Government Act 1972

1972 CHAPTER 70

PART VII

MISCELLANEOUS POWERS OF LOCAL AUTHORITIES

Miscellaneous

142 Provision of information, etc., relating to matters affecting local government.

(1) A local authority may make, or assist in the making of, arrangements whereby the public may on application readily obtain, either at premises specially maintained for the purpose or otherwise, information concerning the services available within the area of the authority provided either by the authority or by other authorities [^{F1}mentioned in subsection (1B) below] or by government departments or by charities and other voluntary organisations, and other information [^{F2}relating to the functions of the authority].

[^{F3}(1A) A local authority may arrange for the publication within their area of information as to the services available in the area provided by them or by other authorities mentioned in subsection (1B) below.

[A local authority may—

- ^{F4}(1AA) (a) for the purpose of broadcasting or distributing information falling within subsection (1AB), provide an electronic communications network or electronic communications service, or
- (b) arrange with the provider of such a network or service for the broadcasting or distribution of such information by means of the network or service.

(1AB) Information falls within this subsection, in relation to a local authority, if it is one or both of the following—

- (a) information concerning the services within the area of the authority that are provided either by the authority themselves or by other authorities mentioned in subsection (1B) below;
- (b) information relating to the functions of the authority.

Changes to legislation: Local Government Act 1972, Section 142 is up to date with all changes known to be in force on or before 21 April 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

(1AC) Nothing in subsection (1AA) entitles a local authority to do anything in contravention of a requirement or restriction imposed by or under—

- (a) [^{F5}Part 2 of the Wireless Telegraphy Act 2006],
- (b) the Broadcasting Act 1990,
- (c) the Broadcasting Act 1996, or
- (d) the Communications Act 2003,

and in that subsection “electronic communications network” and “electronic communications service” each has the same meaning as in the Communications Act 2003.]

(1B) The other authorities referred to above are any other local authority, ^{F6}... a joint authority established by Part IV of the Local Government Act 1985 [^{F7}, an economic prosperity board, a combined authority][^{F8}, a combined county authority] and any authority, board or committee which discharges functions which would otherwise fall to be discharged by two or more local or other such authorities.]

(2) A local authority may—

- (a) arrange for the publication within their area of information [^{F9}relating to the functions of the authority]; and
- (b) arrange for the delivery of lectures and addresses and the holding of discussions on such matters; and
- (c) arrange for the display of pictures, cinematograph films or models or the holding of exhibitions relating to such matters; and
- (d) prepare, or join in or contribute to the cost of the preparation of, pictures, films, models or exhibitions to be displayed or held as aforesaid.

[^{F10}(2A) A local authority may assist voluntary organisations to provide for individuals—

- (a) information and advice concerning those individuals’ rights and obligations; and
- (b) assistance, either by the making or receiving of communications or by providing representation to or before any person or body, in asserting those rights or fulfilling those obligations.]

(3) In this section “local authority” includes the Common Council and “voluntary organisation” means a body which is not a public body but whose activities are carried on otherwise than for profit.

(4) [^{F11}This section shall have effect as if any reference to a local authority included a reference to the London Fire Commissioner.]

Textual Amendments

- F1** Words inserted by [Local Government Act 1986 \(c. 10, SIF 81:1, 2\)](#), [s. 3\(1\)\(a\)](#)
- F2** Words substituted by [Local Government Act 1986 \(c. 10, SIF 81:1, 2\)](#), [s. 3\(1\)\(a\)](#)
- F3** S. 142(1A)(1B) inserted by [Local Government Act 1986 \(c. 10, SIF 81:1, 2\)](#), [s. 3\(1\)\(b\)\(2\)](#)
- F4** S. 142(1AA)-(1AC) inserted (29.12.2003) by [Communications Act 2003 \(c. 21\)](#), [ss. 349\(2\)](#), [411\(2\)\(3\)](#) (with [Sch. 18](#)); [S.I. 2003/3142](#), [art. 3](#), [Sch. 1](#)
- F5** Words in s. 142(1AC) substituted (8.2.2007) by [Wireless Telegraphy Act 2006 \(c. 36\)](#), [ss. 123](#), [126](#), [Sch. 7 para. 5](#)
- F6** Words repealed by [Education Reform Act 1988 \(c. 40, SIF 41:1\)](#), [ss. 231\(7\)](#), [235\(6\)](#), [237\(2\)](#), [Sch. 13 Pt. 1](#)

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- F7** Words in s. 142(1B) inserted (17.12.2009) by Local Democracy, Economic Development and Construction Act 2009 (c. 20), ss. 119, 148(6), **Sch. 6 para. 20**; S.I. 2009/3318, **art. 2(c)**
- F8** Words in s. 142(1B) inserted (26.12.2023) by Levelling-up and Regeneration Act 2023 (c. 55), s. 255(2)(c), **Sch. 4 para. 33** (with s. 247)
- F9** Words substituted by Local Government Act 1986 (c. 10, SIF 81:1), **s. 3(1)(c)**
- F10** S. 142(2A) inserted by Local Government and Housing Act 1989 (c. 42, SIF 81:1), **s. 38(2)**
- F11** S. 142(4) substituted (31.1.2017 for specified purposes, 1.4.2018 in so far as not already in force) by Policing and Crime Act 2017 (c. 3), s. 183(1)(5)(e), **Sch. 2 para. 42**; S.I. 2018/227, **reg. 4(c)**

Modifications etc. (not altering text)

- C1** S. 142 amended by S.I. 1990/1765, **art. 4(2)**
- C2** S. 142 modified by S.I. 1990/1765, **art. 4(2)(b)**
- C3** S. 142: certain functions transferred (*temp.* from 4.5.1995 to 31.3.1996) by S.I. 1995/1042, **art. 3(3)**
S. 142 extended (19.9.1995) by 1995 c. 25, ss. 70, 125(2), **Sch. 9 para. 6** (with ss. 7(6), 115, 117, Sch. 8 para. 7)
- C4** S. 142 modified (22.7.2004) by The Cotswolds Area of Outstanding Natural Beauty (Establishment of Conservation Board) Order 2004 (S.I. 2004/1777), **art. 29(1)(f)**
S. 142 modified (22.7.2004) by The Chilterns Area of Outstanding Natural Beauty (Establishment of Conservation Board) Order 2004 (S.I. 2004/1778), **art. 29(1)(f)**
- C5** S. 142(2) modified (1.4.2011) by The Greater Manchester Combined Authority Order 2011 (S.I. 2011/908), arts. 1, **11(a)**
- C6** S. 142(2) modified (1.4.2014) by The Halton, Knowsley, Liverpool, St Helens, Sefton and Wirral Combined Authority Order 2014 (S.I. 2014/865), arts. 1, **14(a)** (with art. 8(4))
- C7** S. 142(2) modified (1.4.2014) by The West Yorkshire Combined Authority Order 2014 (S.I. 2014/864), arts. 1(2), **11(a)**
- C8** S. 142(2) modified (1.4.2014) by The Barnsley, Doncaster, Rotherham and Sheffield Combined Authority Order 2014 (S.I. 2014/863), arts. 1, **11(a)**
- C9** S. 142(2) modified (15.4.2014) by The Durham, Gateshead, Newcastle Upon Tyne, North Tyneside, Northumberland, South Tyneside and Sunderland Combined Authority Order 2014 (S.I. 2014/1012), arts. 1, **13(a)**
- C10** S. 142(2) modified (1.4.2016) by The Tees Valley Combined Authority Order 2016 (S.I. 2016/449), arts. 1(a), **8(b)**
- C11** S. 142(2) modified (17.6.2016) by The West Midlands Combined Authority Order 2016 (S.I. 2016/653), arts. 1(2), **11(a)**
- C12** S. 142(2) modified (9.2.2017) by The West of England Combined Authority Order 2017 (S.I. 2017/126), arts. 1(3), **26(b)**
- C13** S. 142(2) modified (3.3.2017) by The Cambridgeshire and Peterborough Combined Authority Order 2017 (S.I. 2017/251), arts. 1(2)(b), **13(b)**
- C14** S. 142(2) modified (1.4.2018) by The Sub-national Transport Body (Transport for the North) Regulations 2018 (S.I. 2018/103), regs. 1(2), **19(3)(e)**
- C15** S. 142(2) modified (2.11.2018) by The Newcastle Upon Tyne, North Tyneside and Northumberland Combined Authority (Establishment and Functions) Order 2018 (S.I. 2018/1133), arts. 1, **20(2)(b)** (with art. 28)
- C16** S. 142(2) modified (20.12.2023) by The York and North Yorkshire Combined Authority Order 2023 (S.I. 2023/1432), arts. 1(2), **26(1)(b)**
- C17** S. 142(2) applied (28.2.2024) by The East Midlands Combined County Authority Regulations 2024 (S.I. 2024/232), regs. 1(2), **33**

Changes to legislation:

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Changes and effects yet to be applied to :

- s. 142(2) applied by [S.I. 2024/402 art. 48\(1\)\(2\)](#)

Changes and effects yet to be applied to the whole Act associated Parts and Chapters:

Whole provisions yet to be inserted into this Act (including any effects on those provisions):

- s. 80(3B) omitted by [2021 asc 1 Sch. 2 para. 1\(3\)\(c\)](#)
- s. 101(6ZA) inserted by [2023 c. 55 Sch. 12 para. 2](#)
- s. 123(2C) inserted by [2023 c. 55 s. 75](#)
- s. 131(2)(n) and word inserted by [2023 asc 3 Sch. 13 para. 16](#)