



Highways Act 1980

1980 CHAPTER 66

PART IX

LAWFUL AND UNLAWFUL INTERFERENCE WITH HIGHWAYS AND STREETS

Obstruction of highways and streets

149 Removal of things so deposited on highways as to be a nuisance etc.

- (1) If any thing is so deposited on a highway as to constitute a nuisance, the highway authority for the highway may by notice require the person who deposited it there to remove it forthwith and if he fails to comply with the notice the authority may make a complaint to a magistrates' court for a removal and disposal order under this section.
- (2) If the highway authority for any highway have reasonable grounds for considering—
 - (a) that any thing unlawfully deposited on the highway constitutes a danger (including a danger caused by obstructing the view) to users of the highway, and
 - (b) that the thing in question ought to be removed without the delay involved in giving notice or obtaining a removal and disposal order from a magistrates' court under this section,the authority may remove the thing forthwith.
- (3) The highway authority by whom a thing is removed in pursuance of subsection (2) above may either—
 - (a) recover from the person by whom it was deposited on the highway, or from any person claiming to be entitled to it, any expenses reasonably incurred by the authority in removing it, or
 - (b) make a complaint to a magistrates' court for a disposal order under this section.
- (4) A magistrates' court may, on a complaint made under this section, make an order authorising the complainant authority—

Status: This is the original version (as it was originally enacted).

- (a) either to remove the thing in question and dispose of it or, as the case may be, to dispose of the thing in question, and
 - (b) after payment out of any proceeds arising from the disposal of the expenses incurred in the removal and disposal, to apply the balance, if any, of the proceeds to the maintenance of highways maintainable at the public expense by them.
- (5) If the thing in question is not of sufficient value to defray the expenses of removing it, the complainant authority may recover from the person who deposited it on the highway the expenses, or the balance of the expenses, reasonably incurred by them in removing it.
- (6) A magistrates' court composed of a single justice may hear a complaint under this section.