



# Housing (Scotland) Act 1987

## 1987 CHAPTER 26

### PART XVI

#### GENERAL AND MISCELLANEOUS

##### *Miscellaneous*

#### **338 Interpretation.**

(1) In this Act, unless the context otherwise requires—

“Act of 1966” means the <sup>M1</sup>Housing (Scotland) Act 1966;

“Act of 1968” means the <sup>M2</sup>Housing (Financial Provisions) (Scotland) Act 1968;

“Act of 1969” means the <sup>M3</sup>Housing (Scotland) Act 1969;

“Act of 1972” means the <sup>M4</sup>Housing (Financial Provisions) (Scotland) Act 1972;

“Act of 1974” means the <sup>M5</sup>Housing (Scotland) Act 1974;

“Act of 1978” means the <sup>M6</sup>Housing (Financial Provisions) (Scotland) Act 1978;

“Act of 1980” means the <sup>M7</sup>Tenants’ Rights, Etc. (Scotland) Act 1980;

“Act of 1985” means the <sup>M8</sup>Housing Act 1985;

“Act of 1986” means the <sup>M9</sup>Housing (Scotland) Act 1986;

[<sup>F1</sup>“agricultural holding” means the land comprised in a lease constituting a 1991 Act tenancy within the meaning of the [Agricultural Holdings \(Scotland\) Act 2003 \(asp 11\)](#) or the land comprised in a lease constituting a short limited duration tenancy or a limited duration tenancy (within the meaning of that Act);]

“agriculture” means the use of land for agricultural or pastoral purposes, or for the purpose of poultry farming or market gardening, or as an orchard or woodlands, or for the purpose of afforestation, and “agricultural worker” shall be construed accordingly;

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“apparatus” means sewers, drains, culverts, water-courses, mains, pipes, valves, tubes, cables, wires, transformers and other apparatus laid down or used for or in connection with the carrying, conveying or supplying to any premises of a supply of water, water for hydraulic power, gas or electricity, and standards and brackets carrying road lighting;

“bank” means—

- [<sup>F2</sup>(a) a person who has permission under [<sup>F3</sup>Part 4A] of the Financial Services and Markets Act 2000 to accept deposits,
- (ab) an EEA firm of the kind mentioned in paragraph 5(b) of Schedule 3 to that Act which has permission under paragraph 15 of that Schedule (as a result of qualifying for authorisation under paragraph 12 of that Schedule) to accept deposits, or]
- (b) a company as to which the Secretary of State was satisfied immediately before the repeal of the <sup>M10</sup>Protection of Depositors Act 1963 that it ought to be treated as a banking company or discount company for the purposes of that Act;

“building regulations” means any statutory enactments, byelaws, rules and regulations or other provisions under whatever authority made, relating to the construction of new buildings and the laying out of and construction of new roads;

“building society” means a building society within the meaning of the <sup>M11</sup>Building Societies Act 1986;

“closing order” means a closing order made under sections 114 or 119;

“Corporation” means the Housing Corporation;

“croft” and “crofter” have the like meanings respectively as in the Crofters (Scotland) Acts 1955 and 1961;

“demolition order” has the meaning assigned to it by section 115;

“development corporation” means a development corporation established by an order made or having effect as if made under the <sup>M12</sup>New Towns (Scotland) Act 1968;

<sup>F4</sup>...

[<sup>F5</sup>“disabled person” has the same meaning as in the [<sup>F6</sup>Equality Act 2010,]]

“Exchequer contribution” means a payment (other than a payment by way of advance or loan) which the Secretary of State is required or authorised by or under any Act relating to housing, to make for housing purposes;

“family” and any reference to membership thereof shall be construed in accordance with section 83;

“financial year”, in relation to a local authority, has the same meaning as in section 96(5) of the <sup>M13</sup>Local Government (Scotland) Act 1973;

“flat” means a separate and self-contained set of premises, whether or not on the same floor and forming part of a building from some other part of which it is divided horizontally;

“friendly society” means a society registered under the <sup>M14</sup>Friendly Societies Act 1974 or earlier legislation;

“holding” has the like meaning as in the Small Landholders (Scotland) Acts 1886 to 1931;

“hostel” has the meaning assigned to it by section 2(5);

“house” (except in relation to Part XIV) includes any part of a building, being a part which is occupied or intended to be occupied as a separate

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dwelling, and, in particular, includes a flat, and includes also any yard, garden, out-houses and pertinents belonging to the house or usually enjoyed therewith and also includes any structure made available under section 1 of the <sup>M15</sup>Housing (Temporary Accommodation) Act 1944;

<sup>F4</sup>  
...

“housing association” has the same meaning as it has in the <sup>M16</sup>Housing Associations Act 1985;

<sup>F7</sup>  
...

<sup>F4</sup>  
...

<sup>F4</sup>  
...

[<sup>F8</sup>“insurance company” means—

- (a) a person who has permission under [<sup>F9</sup>Part 4A] of the Financial Services and Markets Act 2000 to effect or carry out contracts of insurance, or
- (b) an EEA firm of the kind mentioned in paragraph 5(d) of Schedule 3 to that Act which has permission under paragraph 15 of that Schedule (as a result of qualifying for authorisation under paragraph 12 of that Schedule) to effect or carry out contracts of insurance;]

“land” includes any [<sup>F10</sup>right] or interest in land;

“landholder” has the like meaning as in the Small Landholders (Scotland) Acts 1886 to 1931;

“Lands Tribunal” means the Lands Tribunal for Scotland;

“loan charges” means, in relation to any borrowed moneys, the sum required for the payment of interest on those moneys and for the repayment thereof either by instalments or by means of a sinking fund;

[<sup>F11</sup>“local authority” means a council constituted under section 2 of the Local Government etc. (Scotland) Act 1994, and the district of a local authority means the area of such a council;]

[<sup>F12</sup>“local authority landlord” has the same meaning as in the Housing (Scotland) Act 2001 (asp 10);]

“official representation” means, in the case of a local authority, a representation made to the authority by the proper officer of the local authority;

“open space” means any land laid out as a public garden or used for the purposes of public recreation, and any disused burial ground;

<sup>M17</sup>“order for possession” has the meaning assigned to it by section 115(1) of the Rent (Scotland) Act 1984;

<sup>M18</sup>“overspill agreement” has the same meaning as in section 9(1) of the Housing and Town Development (Scotland) Act 1957;

“owner” includes any person who under the Lands Clauses Acts would be enabled to sell and convey land to the promoters of an undertaking, but in Part XIII and sections 99 to 104, in relation to a house, means the person who is for the time being entitled to receive the rent of the house or who, if the house were let, would be so entitled and a tenant-at-will;

“prescribed” means prescribed by regulations made by the Secretary of State by statutory instrument;

“proper officer”, in relation to any purpose of a local authority, means an officer appointed for that purpose by that authority;

<sup>F13</sup>“public undertakers” means any corporation, company, body or person carrying on a railway, canal, inland navigation, dock, harbour, tramway, gas, . . . , water or other public undertaking [<sup>F14</sup>(including a universal service

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provider (within the meaning of [F15Part 3 of the Postal Services Act 2011] ) in connection with the provision of a universal postal service (within the meaning of [F16that Part] ));

<sup>M19</sup>“registered housing association” means a housing association registered under the Housing Associations Act 1985;

[F17“registered social landlord” has the same meaning as in the [F18Housing (Scotland) Act 2010 (asp 17)] ;]

<sup>M20M21</sup>“regular armed forces of the Crown” means the Royal Navy, the regular forces as defined by section 225 of the Army Act 1955, the regular air force as defined by section 223 of the Air Force Act 1955, Queen Alexandra’s Royal Naval Nursing Service and the Women’s Royal Naval Service;

<sup>F4</sup>  
...

“road” has the same meaning as it has in the Roads (Scotland) Act 1984;

[F19“Scottish secure tenancy” and “short Scottish secure tenancy” have the same meanings as in the Housing (Scotland) Act 2001 (asp 10);]

<sup>F20</sup>  
...

<sup>F21</sup>  
...

“a service charge” means any charge referred to in section 211;

<sup>F22</sup>  
...

<sup>F4</sup>  
...

“statutory small tenant” has the like meaning as in the Small Landholders (Scotland) Acts 1886 to 1931;

“statutory tenant” has the same meaning as it has in section 3 of the Rent (Scotland) Act 1984;

<sup>F21</sup>  
...

“tenancy” in Parts IV and XIII includes a sub-tenancy, a statutory tenancy within the meaning of section 115(1) of the Rent (Scotland) Act 1984 and a contract to which Part VII of that Act applies [F23and a statutory assured tenancy within the meaning of the Housing (Scotland) Act 1988] and “tenant” shall be construed accordingly; and any reference to a tenancy of a house or to the tenant thereof shall be construed as including a reference to all the tenancies of that house or to all the tenants thereof as the case may be;

“tolerable standard” has the meaning assigned to it by section 86;

<sup>F24</sup>  
...

“year” means, in relation to a local authority, a financial year within the meaning of section 96(5) of the Local Government (Scotland) Act 1973 and, in relation to a development corporation, the Scottish Special Housing Association or a housing association, means a year ending on 31st March;

“the year 1986-87” means the year beginning in 1986 and ending in 1987, and so on.

[F25(1A) The definitions of “bank” and “insurance company” in subsection (1) must be read with—

- (a) section 22 of the Financial Services and Markets Act 2000;
- (b) any relevant order under that section; and
- (c) Schedule 2 to that Act.]

(2) For the purposes of this Act—

- (a) the person who for the time being is entitled to receive, or would, if the same were let, be entitled to receive, the rent of any premises, including a trustee,

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- tutor, curator, factor or agent, shall be deemed to be the person having control of the premises; and
- (b) a crofter or a landholder shall be deemed to be the person having control of any premises on his croft or holding in respect of which he would, on the termination of his tenancy, be entitled to compensation under the Crofters (Scotland) Acts 1955 and 1961 or, as the case may be, the Small Landholders (Scotland) Acts 1886 to 1931, as for an improvement.
- (3) In this Act, any reference to the demolition of a building shall be deemed to include a reference to such reconstruction of the building as the local authority may approve; and where a building is so reconstructed any reference to selling, letting or appropriating the land, the building on which has been or will be demolished, shall, unless the context otherwise requires, be construed as a reference to selling, letting or appropriating the land and the reconstructed building.

#### Textual Amendments

- F1** Words in s. 338 substituted (27.11.2003) by [Agricultural Holdings \(Consequential Amendments\) \(Scotland\) Order 2003 \(S.S.I. 2003/583\)](#), art. 1, **sch. para. 10(b)**
- F2** Words in s. 338(1) substituted (1.12.2001) by [S.I. 2001/3649](#), **arts. 1**, 226(2)(a)
- F3** Words in s. 338(1) substituted (1.4.2013) by [Financial Services Act 2012 \(c. 21\)](#), s. 122(3), **Sch. 18 para. 57(a)** (with [Sch. 20](#)); [S.I. 2013/423](#), art. 3, Sch.
- F4** Words in s. 338(1) repealed (1.4.2009 for the repeal of the definition of "standard amenities", 1.4.2010 in so far as not already in force) by [Housing \(Scotland\) Act 2006 \(asp 1\)](#), s. 195(3), **sch. 7** (with s. 193); [S.S.I. 2009/122](#), art. 3
- F5** Words in s. 338(1) substituted (1.4.2009) by [Housing \(Scotland\) Act 2006 \(asp 1\)](#), s. 195(3), **sch. 6 para. 14** (with s. 193); [S.S.I. 2009/122](#), art. 3
- F6** Words in s. 338(1) substituted by 2010 c. 15 Sch. 26 Pt. 1 para. 8 (as inserted) (1.10.2010) by [The Equality Act 2010 \(Consequential Amendments, Saving and Supplementary Provisions\) Order 2010 \(S.I. 2010/2279\)](#), art. 1(2), **Sch. 1 para. 2** (see [S.I. 2010/2317](#), art. 2)
- F7** Words in s. 338 repealed (1.4.2013) by [Local Government Finance \(Unoccupied Properties etc.\) \(Scotland\) Act 2012 \(asp 11\)](#), **ss. 4(a)(ii)**, 5(2)
- F8** Words in s. 338(1) substituted (1.12.2001) by [S.I. 2001/3649](#), **arts. 1**, 226(2)(b)
- F9** Words in s. 338(1) substituted (1.4.2013) by [Financial Services Act 2012 \(c. 21\)](#), s. 122(3), **Sch. 18 para. 57(b)** (with [Sch. 20](#)); [S.I. 2013/423](#), art. 3, Sch.
- F10** Word in s. 338(1) substituted (28.11.2004) by [Abolition of Feudal Tenure etc. \(Scotland\) Act 2000 \(asp 5\)](#), ss. 71, 77(2), **sch. 12 para. 48(14)(a)** (with ss. 58, 62, 75); [S.S.I. 2003/456](#), art. 2
- F11** Definition of "local authority" in s. 338(1) substituted (1.4.1996) by 1994 c. 39, s. 180(1), **Sch. 13 para. 152(7)(a)**; [S.I. 1996/323](#), art. 4
- F12** Words in s. 338(1) inserted (1.3.2011) by [Housing \(Scotland\) Act 2010 \(asp 17\)](#), **ss. 144(2)**, 166(2); [S.S.I. 2011/96](#), art. 2, sch. (with art. 6)
- F13** Word in s. 338(1) repealed by [Electricity Act 1989 \(c. 29, SIF 44:1\)](#), s. 112(3)(4), Sch. 17 para. 35(1), **Sch. 18**
- F14** Words in s. 338(1) added (26.3.2001) by [S.I. 2001/1149](#), art. 3(1), **Sch. 1 para. 73**
- F15** Words in s. 338(1) substituted (1.10.2011) by [Postal Services Act 2011 \(c. 5\)](#), s. 93(2)(3), **Sch. 12 para. 127(a)**; [S.I. 2011/2329](#), art. 3
- F16** Words in s. 338(1) substituted (1.10.2011) by [Postal Services Act 2011 \(c. 5\)](#), s. 93(2)(3), **Sch. 12 para. 127(b)**; [S.I. 2011/2329](#), art. 3
- F17** Words in s. 338(1) inserted (30.9.2002) by 2001 asp 10, s. 112, **Sch. 10 para. 13(41)(a)**; [S.S.I. 2002/321](#), art. 2, **Sch.** (with transitional provisions and savings in arts. 3-5)
- F18** Words in s. 338(1) substituted (1.4.2012) by [Housing \(Scotland\) Act 2010 \(asp 17\)](#), s. 166(2), **sch. 2 para. 3(5)**; [S.S.I. 2012/39](#), art. 2, sch. 1 (with sch. 2) (as amended (1.4.2012) by [S.S.I. 2012/91](#), art. 4)

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- F19** Words in s. 338(1) inserted (30.9.2002) by 2001 asp 10, s. 112, **Sch. 10 para. 13(41)(b)**; S.S.I. 2002/321, art. 2, **Sch.** (with transitional provisions and savings in arts. 3-5)
- F20** Words in s. 338(1) repealed (20.11.2014) by Housing (Scotland) Act 2014 (asp 14), s. 104(3), **sch. 2 para. 4(9)(b)**; S.S.I. 2014/264, art. 2, sch.
- F21** Words in s. 338(1) repealed (28.11.2004) by Abolition of Feudal Tenure etc. (Scotland) Act 2000 (asp 5), ss. 71, 77(2), sch. 12 para. 48(14)(b), **sch. 13 Pt. 1** (with ss. 58, 62, 75); S.S.I. 2003/456, art. 2
- F22** Words in s. 338(1) repealed (1.4.2002) by 2002 asp 3, s. 71, **Sch. 7 para. 18(6)** (with s. 67); S.S.I. 2002/118, **art. 2(3)** (subject to savings in art. 3)
- F23** Words in s. 338(1) inserted by Housing (Scotland) Act 1988 (c. 43, SIF 61), s. 72(2), **Sch. 9 para. 20**
- F24** Words in s. 338(1) repealed (1.4.2002) by 2002 asp 3, s. 71, **Sch. 7 para. 18(6)** (with s. 67); S.S.I. 2002/118, **art. 2(3)** (subject to savings in art. 3)
- F25** S. 338(1A) inserted (1.12.2001) by S.I. 2001/3649, **arts. 1, 226(3)**

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

- C1** S. 338 extended (1.7.1994) by S.I. 1994/1696, reg. 68, **Sch. 8 Pt. I para. 15**
- C2** S. 338(1) amended (1.1.1993) by S.I. 1992/3218, reg. 82(1), **Sch. 10 Pt. I para. 26**
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**Marginal Citations**

- M1** 1966 c. 49.  
**M2** 1968 c. 31.  
**M3** 1969 c. 34.  
**M4** 1972 c. 46.  
**M5** 1974 c. 45.  
**M6** 1978 c. 14.  
**M7** 1980 c. 52.  
**M8** 1985 c. 68.  
**M9** 1986 c. 65.  
**M10** 1963 c. 16.  
**M11** 1986 c. 53.  
**M12** 1968 c. 16.  
**M13** 1973 c. 65.  
**M14** 1974 c. 46.  
**M15** 1944 c. 36.  
**M16** 1985 c. 69.  
**M17** 1984 c. 58.  
**M18** 1957 c. 38.  
**M19** 1985 c. 69.  
**M20** 1955 c. 18.  
**M21** 1955 c. 19.

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**Changes and effects yet to be applied to :**

- s. 338(1) words inserted by [2001 asp 10 Sch. 10 para. 13\(41\)\(a\)\(b\)](#)
- s. 338(1) words repealed by [2014 asp 14 sch. 2 para. 4\(9\)\(a\)](#)

**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. 21(3)(i)s. 21(3)(ai)(ii) by [2001 asp 10 Sch. 10 para. 13\(3\)\(c\)para. 13\(I\)-\(iii\)](#)
- s. 24(3)(f) and word(s) inserted by [2003 asp 10 s. 5\(1\)](#) (This amendment not applied to [legislation.gov.uk](#). S. 5 omitted (31.12.2012) without ever being in force by virtue of S.S.I. 2012/330, arts. 1, 13)
- s. 31(2C)(c) words substituted by [2004 asp 8 Sch. 4 para. 2](#)
- s. 61(2)(a)(ia) by [2001 asp 10 Sch. 10 para. 13\(6\)\(a\)\(ii\)](#)
- s. 63(1A)-(61C) by [2001 asp 10 s. 46\(2\)](#)
- s. 66(1)(vi)(vii) by [2001 asp 10 Sch. 10 para. 13\(9\)\(b\)](#)
- s. 286(a)(c) by [2001 asp 10 Sch. 10 para. 13\(40\)\(a\)\(b\)](#)