



Immigration and Asylum Act 1999

1999 CHAPTER 33

PART VIII

DETENTION CENTRES AND DETAINED PERSONS

Detention centres

151 Intervention by Secretary of State.

- (1) The Secretary of State may exercise the powers conferred by this section if it appears to him that—
 - (a) the manager of a contracted out [F¹removal centre] has lost, or is likely to lose, effective control of the centre or of any part of it; or
 - (b) it is necessary to do so in the interests of preserving the safety of any person, or of preventing serious damage to any property.
- (2) The Secretary of State may appoint a person (to be known as the Controller) to act as manager of the [F¹removal centre] for the period—
 - (a) beginning with the time specified in the appointment; and
 - (b) ending with the time specified in the notice of termination under subsection (5).
- (3) During that period—
 - (a) all the functions which would otherwise be exercisable by the manager or the contract monitor are to be exercisable by the Controller;
 - (b) the contractor and any sub-contractor of his must do all that he reasonably can to facilitate the exercise by the Controller of his functions; and
 - (c) the staff of the [F¹removal centre] must comply with any directions given by the Controller in the exercise of his functions.
- (4) The Controller is to have the status of a Crown servant.

Changes to legislation: Immigration and Asylum Act 1999, Section 151 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

- (5) If the Secretary of State is satisfied that a Controller is no longer needed for a particular [^{F1}removal centre], he must (by giving notice to the Controller) terminate his appointment at a time specified in the notice.
- (6) As soon as practicable after making an appointment under this section, the Secretary of State must give notice of the appointment to those entitled to notice.
- (7) As soon as practicable after terminating an appointment under this section, the Secretary of State must give a copy of the notice of termination to those entitled to notice.
- (8) Those entitled to notice are the contractor, the manager, the contract monitor and the Controller.

Textual Amendments

- F1** Words in s. 151 substituted (10.2.2003) by [Nationality, Immigration and Asylum Act 2002 \(c. 41\)](#), [ss.66\(2\)\(3\)\(d\)](#), [162\(1\)](#) (with [s. 159](#)); S.I. 2003/1, art. 2, Sch.

Modifications etc. (not altering text)

- C1** [S. 151](#) extended (2.7.2018) by [The Short-term Holding Facility Rules 2018 \(S.I. 2018/409\)](#), [rules 1](#), [57\(a\)](#) (with [rule 3](#))

Changes to legislation:

Immigration and Asylum Act 1999, Section 151 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.

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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. 10(12) inserted by [2023 c. 37 s. 10\(6\)](#)
- s. 40(1)-(1C) substituted for s. 40(1) by [2022 c. 36 s. 76\(2\)](#)
- s. 40(4A)(4B) inserted by [2022 c. 36 s. 76\(5\)](#)
- s. 72(10) repealed by [2004 c. 19 Sch. 4](#)
- s. 94(2A)-(2C) inserted by [2016 c. 19 Sch. 11 para. 3\(3\)](#)
- s. 94(2D) inserted by [2016 c. 19 Sch. 11 para. 7\(4\)](#)
- s. 94(3)(3A) substituted for s. 94(3) by [2002 c. 41 s. 44\(4\)](#) (This amendment is repealed (prosp.) by [2016 c. 19, Sch. 11 para. 41](#))
- s. 94(3A)-(3D) inserted by [2016 c. 19 Sch. 11 para. 3\(5\)](#)
- s. 95A inserted by [2016 c. 19 Sch. 11 para. 9](#)
- s. 96(1A) inserted by [2016 c. 19 Sch. 11 para. 10\(3\)](#)
- s. 97(3A)(b)(iv) inserted by [2022 c. 36 s. 13\(2\)\(c\)\(ii\)](#)
- s. 97(8)(9) inserted by [2016 c. 19 Sch. 11 para. 11\(4\)](#)
- s. 98A inserted by [2016 c. 19 Sch. 11 para. 13](#)
- s. 98A(5) inserted by [2022 c. 36 s. 13\(4\)](#)
- s. 103(4)(a) words substituted by [2004 c. 19 s. 10\(4\)\(b\)](#)
- s. 103(5)(b) word substituted by [S.I. 2008/2833 Sch. 3 para. 183\(ii\)](#)
- s. 103A(1) words substituted by [2004 c. 19 s. 10\(5\)](#)
- s. 103A(1) heading words substituted by [2004 c. 19 s. 10\(5\)](#)
- s. 103A(1) words substituted by [S.I. 2008/2833 Sch. 3 para. 184](#)
- s. 125(2)(ba) inserted by [2016 c. 19 Sch. 11 para. 22\(3\)\(b\)](#)
- s. 146(2)(za) inserted by [2016 c. 19 s. 44\(9\)](#)
- s. 166(5)(ca) substituted for word in s. 166(5)(c) by [2016 c. 19 Sch. 11 para. 24\(2\)](#)
- s. 166(5A)(5B) inserted by [2016 c. 19 Sch. 11 para. 24\(3\)](#)
- s. 166(6)(aa) substituted for word in s. 166(6)(a) by [2016 c. 19 Sch. 11 para. 24\(4\)](#)
- Sch. 2 para. 21 modified by [2002 c. 41 s. 23\(2\)\(a\)](#)
- Sch. 3 para. 2(5) modified by [2002 c. 41 s. 23\(2\)\(b\)](#)