



Planning and Compulsory Purchase Act 2004

2004 CHAPTER 5

PART 4

DEVELOPMENT CONTROL

Major infrastructure projects

44 Major infrastructure projects

In the principal Act the following sections are inserted before section 77 (Reference of applications to the Secretary of State)—

“76A Major infrastructure projects

- (1) This section applies to—
 - (a) an application for planning permission;
 - (b) an application for the approval of a local planning authority required under a development order,if the Secretary of State thinks that the development to which the application relates is of national or regional importance.
- (2) The Secretary of State may direct that the application must be referred to him instead of being dealt with by the local planning authority.
- (3) If the Secretary of State gives a direction under subsection (2) he may also direct that any application—
 - (a) under or for the purposes of the planning Acts, and
 - (b) which he thinks is connected with the application mentioned in subsection (1),

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must also be referred to him instead of being dealt with by the local planning authority.

- (4) If the Secretary of State gives a direction under this section—
 - (a) the application must be referred to him;
 - (b) he must appoint an inspector to consider the application.
- (5) If the Secretary of State gives a direction under subsection (2) the applicant must prepare an economic impact report which must—
 - (a) be in such form and contain such matter as is prescribed by development order;
 - (b) be submitted to the Secretary of State in accordance with such provision as is so prescribed.
- (6) For the purposes of subsection (5) the Secretary of State may, by development order, prescribe such requirements as to publicity and notice as he thinks appropriate.
- (7) A direction under this section or section 76B may be varied or revoked by a subsequent direction.
- (8) The decision of the Secretary of State on any application referred to him under this section is final.
- (9) Regional relates to a region listed in Schedule 1 to the Regional Development Agencies Act 1998 (c. 45).
- (10) The following provisions of this Act apply (with any necessary modifications) to an application referred to the Secretary of State under this section as they apply to an application which falls to be determined by a local planning authority—
 - (a) section 70;
 - (b) section 72(1) and (5);
 - (c) section 73;
 - (d) section 73A.
- (11) A development order may apply (with or without modifications) any requirements imposed by the order by virtue of section 65 or 71 to an application referred to the Secretary of State under this section.
- (12) This section does not apply to an application which relates to the development of land in Wales.

76B Major infrastructure projects: inspectors

- (1) This section applies if the Secretary of State appoints an inspector under section 76A(4)(b) (the lead inspector).
- (2) The Secretary of State may direct the lead inspector—
 - (a) to consider such matters relating to the application as are prescribed;
 - (b) to make recommendations to the Secretary of State on those matters.
- (3) After considering any recommendations of the lead inspector the Secretary of State may—

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- (a) appoint such number of additional inspectors as he thinks appropriate;
 - (b) direct that each of the additional inspectors must consider such matters relating to the application as the lead inspector decides.
- (4) An additional inspector must—
- (a) comply with such directions as to procedural matters as the lead inspector gives;
 - (b) report to the lead inspector on the matters he is appointed to consider.
- (5) A copy of directions given as mentioned in subsection (4)(a) must be given to—
- (a) the person who made the application;
 - (b) the local planning authority;
 - (c) any other person who requests it.
- (6) If the Secretary of State does not act under subsection (3) he must direct the lead inspector to consider the application on his own.
- (7) In every case the lead inspector must report to the Secretary of State on—
- (a) his consideration of the application;
 - (b) the consideration of the additional inspectors (if any) of the matters mentioned in subsection (3)(b).
- (8) The function of the lead inspector in pursuance of subsection (2)—
- (a) may be exercised from time to time;
 - (b) includes making recommendations as to the number of additional inspectors required from time to time.
- (9) The power of the Secretary of State under subsection (3) to appoint an additional inspector includes power to revoke such an appointment.”

Commencement Information

- I1** S. 44 in force at 6.8.2004 for specified purposes by [S.I. 2004/2097](#), [art. 2](#)
- I2** S. 44 in force at 24.8.2005 for E. so far as not already in force by [S.I. 2005/2081](#), [art. 2\(b\)](#) (with [art. 4\(1\)](#))

Changes to legislation:

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Changes and effects yet to be applied to :

- specified provision(s) amendment to earlier commencing SI 2006/1061 art. 4 by [S.I. 2010/321 art. 3](#)
- specified provision(s) amendment to earlier commencing SI 2007/1369 art. 3 by [S.I. 2010/321 art. 4](#)

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. 15A-15LH and cross-heading substituted for s. 15-37 and cross-heading by [2023 c. 55 Sch. 7](#)
- s. 38(2A) substituted for s. 38(2)(3) by [2023 c. 55 s. 92\(3\)](#)
- s. 38(5A)-(5C) inserted by [2023 c. 55 s. 93\(2\)](#)
- s. 38(9A) substituted for s. 38(9) by [2023 c. 55 s. 92\(4\)](#)
- s. 38(9B) inserted by [2023 c. 55 s. 93\(4\)](#)
- s. 38B(A1) inserted by [2023 c. 55 s. 98\(2\)](#)
- s. 38B(2B)(2C) inserted by [2023 c. 55 s. 98\(3\)](#)
- s. 38C(5)(d)(i)-(iii) and word substituted for words by [2023 c. 55 s. 99\(2\)](#)
- s. 39(1)(ba) inserted by [2023 c. 55 Sch. 8 para. 21\(b\)](#)
- s. 39A and cross-heading inserted by [2023 c. 55 s. 100](#)
- s. 45(A1) inserted by [2011 c. 20 Sch. 8 para. 14\(2\)](#)
- s. 113(1)(bb)-(bd) inserted by [2023 c. 55 Sch. 8 para. 23\(2\)\(a\)](#)
- s. 113(9)(f)(g) inserted by [2023 c. 55 Sch. 8 para. 23\(3\)\(c\)](#)
- s. 113(13) inserted by [2023 c. 55 Sch. 8 para. 23\(5\)](#)
- s. 122(5)(za)(zb) inserted by [2023 c. 55 Sch. 8 para. 25\(a\)](#)
- Sch. A2 para. 11(2)(da) inserted by [2023 c. 55 s. 99\(3\)\(b\)](#)
- Sch. A1 para. 2(1A) inserted by [2023 c. 55 Sch. 8 para. 26\(3\)\(b\)](#)
- Sch. A1 para. 6(1A) inserted by [2023 c. 55 Sch. 8 para. 26\(7\)\(b\)](#)
- Sch. A1 para. 7ZC(1A) inserted by [2023 c. 55 Sch. 8 para. 26\(11\)\(b\)](#)
- Sch. A1 para. 7C(1A) inserted by [2023 c. 55 Sch. 8 para. 26\(14\)\(b\)](#)
- Sch. A1 para. 8(7A) inserted by [2023 c. 55 Sch. 8 para. 26\(16\)\(g\)](#)
- Sch. A1 para. 1 substituted by [2023 c. 55 Sch. 8 para. 26\(2\)](#)
- Sch. A1 para. 2(4) substituted by [2023 c. 55 Sch. 8 para. 26\(3\)\(c\)](#)
- Sch. A1 para. 3(1) substituted by [2023 c. 55 Sch. 8 para. 26\(4\)\(a\)](#)
- Sch. A1 para. 5 substituted by [2023 c. 55 Sch. 8 para. 26\(6\)](#)
- Sch. A1 para. 6(4) substituted by [2023 c. 55 Sch. 8 para. 26\(7\)\(c\)](#)
- Sch. A1 para. 7(1) substituted by [2023 c. 55 Sch. 8 para. 26\(8\)\(a\)](#)
- Sch. A1 para. 7ZB substituted by [2023 c. 55 Sch. 8 para. 26\(10\)](#)
- Sch. A1 para. 7ZC(4) substituted by [2023 c. 55 Sch. 8 para. 26\(11\)\(c\)](#)
- Sch. A1 para. 7ZD(1) substituted by [2023 c. 55 Sch. 8 para. 26\(12\)\(a\)](#)
- Sch. A1 para. 7B substituted by [2023 c. 55 Sch. 8 para. 26\(13\)](#)
- Sch. A1 para. 7C(4) substituted by [2023 c. 55 Sch. 8 para. 26\(14\)\(c\)](#)
- Sch. A1 para. 7D(1) substituted by [2023 c. 55 Sch. 8 para. 26\(15\)\(a\)](#)
- Sch. A1 para. 10 substituted by [2023 c. 55 Sch. 8 para. 26\(18\)](#)
- Sch. A2 para. 11(2)(ca) substituted for Sch. A2 para. 11(2)(c) by [2023 c. 55 s. 99\(3\)\(a\)](#)
- Sch. A1 para. 7ZA word substituted by [2023 c. 55 Sch. 8 para. 26\(9\)](#)
- Sch. A1 para. 8(2)(a) word substituted by [2023 c. 55 Sch. 8 para. 26\(16\)\(b\)\(ii\)](#)

- Sch. A1 para. 8(3)(b) word substituted by 2023 c. 55 Sch. 8 para. 26(16)(c)
- Sch. A1 para. 8(6) word substituted by 2023 c. 55 Sch. 8 para. 26(16)(e)
- Sch. A1 para. 8(7) word substituted by 2023 c. 55 Sch. 8 para. 26(16)(f)(iii)
- Sch. A1 para. 9 word substituted by 2023 c. 55 Sch. 8 para. 26(17)
- Sch. A1 para. 13(1) word substituted by 2023 c. 55 Sch. 8 para. 26(20)(a)(iii)
- Sch. A1 para. 13(2) word substituted by 2023 c. 55 Sch. 8 para. 26(20)(b)
- Sch. A1 para. 13(3) word substituted by 2023 c. 55 Sch. 8 para. 26(20)(c)
- Sch. A1 para. 13(1) words inserted by 2023 c. 55 Sch. 8 para. 26(20)(a)(ii)
- Sch. A1 para. 3(3)(a) words omitted by 2023 c. 55 Sch. 8 para. 26(4)(b)
- Sch. A1 para. 7(3)(a) words omitted by 2023 c. 55 Sch. 8 para. 26(8)(b)
- Sch. A1 para. 7ZD(3)(a) words omitted by 2023 c. 55 Sch. 8 para. 26(12)(b)
- Sch. A1 para. 7D(3)(a) words omitted by 2023 c. 55 Sch. 8 para. 26(15)(b)
- Sch. A1 para. 2(1) words substituted by 2023 c. 55 Sch. 8 para. 26(3)(a)
- Sch. A1 para. 3(4) words substituted by 2023 c. 55 Sch. 8 para. 26(4)(c)(i)
- Sch. A1 para. 3(4) words substituted by 2023 c. 55 Sch. 8 para. 26(4)(c)(ii)
- Sch. A1 para. 4 words substituted by 2023 c. 55 Sch. 8 para. 26(5)
- Sch. A1 para. 6(1) words substituted by 2023 c. 55 Sch. 8 para. 26(7)(a)
- Sch. A1 para. 7(4) words substituted by 2023 c. 55 Sch. 8 para. 26(8)(c)(i)
- Sch. A1 para. 7(4) words substituted by 2023 c. 55 Sch. 8 para. 26(8)(c)(ii)
- Sch. A1 para. 7ZC(1) words substituted by 2023 c. 55 Sch. 8 para. 26(11)(a)
- Sch. A1 para. 7ZD(4) words substituted by 2023 c. 55 Sch. 8 para. 26(12)(c)(i)
- Sch. A1 para. 7ZD(4) words substituted by 2023 c. 55 Sch. 8 para. 26(12)(c)(ii)
- Sch. A1 para. 7C(1) words substituted by 2023 c. 55 Sch. 8 para. 26(14)(a)
- Sch. A1 para. 7D(4) words substituted by 2023 c. 55 Sch. 8 para. 26(15)(c)(i)
- Sch. A1 para. 7D(4) words substituted by 2023 c. 55 Sch. 8 para. 26(15)(c)(ii)
- Sch. A1 para. 8(1) words substituted by 2023 c. 55 Sch. 8 para. 26(16)(a)(i)
- Sch. A1 para. 8(1) words substituted by 2023 c. 55 Sch. 8 para. 26(16)(a)(ii)
- Sch. A1 para. 8(2) words substituted by 2023 c. 55 Sch. 8 para. 26(16)(b)(i)
- Sch. A1 para. 8(2)(a) words substituted by 2023 c. 55 Sch. 8 para. 26(16)(b)(iii)
- Sch. A1 para. 8(5) words substituted by 2023 c. 55 Sch. 8 para. 26(16)(d)(i)
- Sch. A1 para. 8(5) words substituted by 2023 c. 55 Sch. 8 para. 26(16)(d)(ii)
- Sch. A1 para. 8(5) words substituted by 2023 c. 55 Sch. 8 para. 26(16)(d)(iii)
- Sch. A1 para. 8(7)(a) words substituted by 2023 c. 55 Sch. 8 para. 26(16)(f)(i)
- Sch. A1 para. 8(7)(b) words substituted by 2023 c. 55 Sch. 8 para. 26(16)(f)(ii)
- Sch. A1 para. 11 words substituted by 2023 c. 55 Sch. 8 para. 26(19)
- Sch. A1 para. 13(1) words substituted by 2023 c. 55 Sch. 8 para. 26(20)(a)(i)