



# Natural Environment and Rural Communities Act 2006

## 2006 CHAPTER 16

### PART 1

#### NATURAL ENGLAND AND THE COMMISSION FOR RURAL COMMUNITIES

### CHAPTER 1

#### NATURAL ENGLAND

#### *Powers of Secretary of State*

#### **14 Grants**

- (1) The Secretary of State may make grants to Natural England of such amounts as the Secretary of State thinks fit.
- (2) A grant under this section may be made subject to such conditions as the Secretary of State thinks fit.

#### **15 Guidance**

- (1) The Secretary of State must give Natural England guidance as to the exercise of any functions of Natural England that relate to or affect regional planning and associated matters.
- (2) The Secretary of State may give Natural England guidance as to the exercise of its other functions.
- (3) Before giving guidance under this section the Secretary of State must consult—
  - (a) Natural England,
  - (b) the Environment Agency, and

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*Status: This is the original version (as it was originally enacted).*

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- (c) such other persons as the Secretary of State thinks appropriate.
- (4) The Secretary of State must publish any guidance given under this section as soon as is reasonably practicable after giving the guidance.
- (5) The power to give guidance under this section includes power to vary or revoke it.
- (6) In discharging its functions, Natural England must have regard to guidance given under this section.

## **16 Directions**

- (1) The Secretary of State may give Natural England general or specific directions as to the exercise of its functions.
- (2) Subsection (1) does not apply to functions of Natural England that are exercisable through the Joint Nature Conservation Committee.
- (3) The Secretary of State must publish any directions given under this section as soon as is reasonably practicable after giving the directions.
- (4) The power to give directions under this section includes power to vary or revoke the directions.
- (5) Natural England must comply with any directions given under this section.