



National Health Service Act 2006

2006 CHAPTER 41

PART 1

PROMOTION AND PROVISION OF THE HEALTH SERVICE IN ENGLAND

[^{F1}Exercise of Secretary of State's public health functions]

[^{F1}7C Power of direction: investigation functions

- (1) The Secretary of State may direct—
 - (a) NHS England, or
 - (b) any other public body,to exercise any of the investigation functions which are specified in the direction.
- (2) A direction under subsection (1) may include provision prohibiting or restricting the body directed from making delegation arrangements in relation to a function that is exercisable by it by virtue of the direction.
- (3) In subsection (2) “delegation arrangements” means arrangements made by a person for the exercise of a function by someone else.
- (4) The Secretary of State may make payments to NHS England or any other body in respect of the exercise by it of a function by virtue of a direction under subsection (1).
- (5) The Secretary of State may give directions to any body on whom functions are conferred by virtue of subsection (1)(b) as to the exercise of those functions.
- (6) For power to give directions to NHS England as to the exercise of functions, see section 13ZC.
- (7) As soon as reasonably practicable after giving a direction under subsection (1) or (5), the Secretary of State must publish it.

Changes to legislation: National Health Service Act 2006, Section 7C is up to date with all changes known to be in force on or before 18 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

- (8) Any rights acquired, or liabilities (including liabilities in tort) incurred, in respect of the exercise by NHS England or any other body of any function by virtue of this section are enforceable by or against it (and no other person).
- (9) In this section “the investigation functions” are functions which, immediately before the coming into force of section 36 of the Health and Care Act 2022, were exercised by the Special Health Authority called the National Health Service Trust Development Authority pursuant to—
- (a) the National Health Service Trust Development Authority (Healthcare Safety Investigation Branch) Directions 2016 made under sections 7 and 8 of the National Health Service Act 2006, or
 - (b) the National Health Service Trust Development Authority (Healthcare Safety Investigation Branch) (Additional Investigatory Functions in respect of Maternity Cases) Directions 2018 made under sections 7 and 8 of the National Health Service Act 2006.]

Textual Amendments

- F1** Ss. 7C-7E inserted (1.7.2022) by [Health and Care Act 2022 \(c. 31\)](#), **ss. 44(2)**, 186(6); S.I. 2022/734, [reg. 2\(a\)](#), [Sch.](#) (with [regs. 13, 29, 30](#))

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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. 3B(1)(aa) inserted by [2022 c. 31 Sch. 3 para. 2\(b\)](#)
- s. 3B(1)(za) inserted by [2022 c. 31 Sch. 3 para. 2\(a\)](#)
- s. 13G(4) words omitted by virtue of 2012 c. 7, Sch. 14 para. 4A (as inserted) by [2014 c. 23 s. 120\(18\)\(a\)](#)
- s. 35(3A)(3B) inserted by [2012 c. 7 s. 159\(4\)](#)
- s. 35(3A) words substituted by [2022 c. 31 Sch. 5 para. 12\(4\)](#) (This amendment not applied to legislation.gov.uk. The insertion of s. 35(3A) by 2012 c. 7 s.159(4) not yet in force.)
- s. 40(4)-(4B) substituted for s. 40(4) by [2012 c. 7 Sch. 14 para. 5](#)
- s. 42(1A) inserted by [2012 c. 7 Sch. 14 para. 6](#)
- s. 65F(2A)-(2F) inserted by [2012 c. 7 Sch. 14 para. 15\(4\)](#) (This amendment is itself amended before it comes into force by 2014 c. 23, ss. 85(15), 120(18)(b)(c), 127(1); S.I. 2014/1714, art. 3(2)(b)(c))
- s. 65H(10A) inserted by [2012 c. 7 Sch. 14 para. 17\(4\)](#)
- s. 65H(10A) omitted by [2022 c. 31 Sch. 8 para. 7\(7\)](#) (This amendment not applied to legislation.gov.uk. 2012 c. 7 Sch. 14 revoked at 1.7.2022 by 2022 c. 31, s. 186(6), Sch. 7 para. 13 before the insertion of s. 65H(10A) could come into effect.)
- s. 82A-83A and cross-heading substituted for s. 83 and cross-heading by [2022 c. 31 Sch. 3 para. 3](#)
- s. 84(4)-(4B) substituted for s. 84(4) by [2022 c. 31 Sch. 3 para. 4\(4\)](#)
- s. 92(5A) inserted by [2022 c. 31 Sch. 3 para. 9\(4\)](#)
- s. 94(3)(ca)(cb) substituted for s. 94(3)(ca) by [2022 c. 31 Sch. 3 para. 11\(3\)](#)
- s. 98A98B substituted for s. 98A by [2022 c. 31 Sch. 3 para. 14](#)
- s. 98BC-99B and cross-heading substituted for s. 99 and cross-heading by [2022 c. 31 Sch. 3 para. 15](#)
- s. 100(3A)(3B) inserted by [2022 c. 31 Sch. 3 para. 16\(4\)](#)
- s. 109(3)(ca)(cb) substituted for s. 109(3)(ca) by [2022 c. 31 Sch. 3 para. 23\(3\)](#)
- s. 112(1)(za) inserted by [2022 c. 31 Sch. 3 para. 24\(2\)\(b\)](#)
- s. 114A114B substituted for s. 114A by [2022 c. 31 Sch. 3 para. 26](#)
- s. 114C and cross-heading inserted by [2022 c. 31 Sch. 3 para. 27](#)
- s. 116A116B and cross-heading inserted by [2022 c. 31 Sch. 3 para. 30](#)
- s. 117(4)(4A) substituted for s. 117(4) by [2022 c. 31 Sch. 3 para. 31\(4\)](#)
- s. 125A125B substituted for s. 125A by [2022 c. 31 Sch. 3 para. 39](#)
- s. 223C(1)(c)(d) inserted by [2022 c. 31 s. 28](#)
- s. 223LA inserted by [2022 c. 31 s. 30\(3\)](#)
- Sch. 15 para. 4(1)(b) and word omitted by [2012 c. 7 Sch. 14 para. 39\(3\)](#)