



# Health and Social Care Act 2012

## 2012 CHAPTER 7

### PART 1

#### THE HEALTH SERVICE IN ENGLAND

##### *Arrangements for provision of health services*

#### **11 The Secretary of State's duty as to protection of public health**

After section 2 of the National Health Service Act 2006 insert—

*“Provision for protection or improvement of public health*

##### **2A Secretary of State's duty as to protection of public health**

- (1) The Secretary of State must take such steps as the Secretary of State considers appropriate for the purpose of protecting the public in England from disease or other dangers to health.
- (2) The steps that may be taken under subsection (1) include—
  - (a) the conduct of research or such other steps as the Secretary of State considers appropriate for advancing knowledge and understanding;
  - (b) providing microbiological or other technical services (whether in laboratories or otherwise);
  - (c) providing vaccination, immunisation or screening services;
  - (d) providing other services or facilities for the prevention, diagnosis or treatment of illness;
  - (e) providing training;
  - (f) providing information and advice;
  - (g) making available the services of any person or any facilities.

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**Changes to legislation:** Health and Social Care Act 2012, Section 11 is up to date with all changes known to be in force on or before 17 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](#)

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- (3) Subsection (4) applies in relation to any function under this section which relates to—
- (a) the protection of the public from ionising or non-ionising radiation, and
  - (b) a matter in respect of which the Health and Safety Executive has a function.
- (4) In exercising the function, the Secretary of State must—
- (a) consult the Health and Safety Executive, and
  - (b) have regard to its policies.”

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**Commencement Information**

**II** S. 11 in force at 1.4.2013 by [S.I. 2013/160](#), **art. 2(2)** (with [arts. 7-9](#))

**Changes to legislation:**

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

- specified provision(s) amendment to earlier commencing SI 2012/1831 art. 10 by [S.I. 2012/2657 art. 15](#)

**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):

- Pt. 9 Ch. 1B inserted by [2022 c. 31 s. 96](#)
- s. 102(4)(ba) inserted by S.I. 2019/93, Sch. 1 para. 13(3) (as substituted) by [S.I. 2019/1245 reg. 28](#) (This amendment not applied to legislation.gov.uk. The affecting statutory instrument has no legal effect. It was made under a procedure which meant that it ceased to have effect 28 days after signing unless it was debated and approved in Parliament within that time. It was not debated and approved within 28 days, so it has expired with no effect.)
- s. 105(3A)(3B) inserted by [2013 c. 24 Sch. 14 para. 21](#)
- s. 106(3A)(3B) inserted by [2013 c. 24 Sch. 14 para. 22](#)
- s. 250(2)-(2B) substituted for s. 250(2) by [2022 c. 31 s. 95\(2\)\(a\)](#)
- s. 250(6)-(6D) substituted for s. 250(6) by [2022 c. 31 s. 95\(2\)\(d\)](#)
- s. 251251ZA substituted for s. 251 by [2022 c. 31 s. 95\(3\)](#)
- s. 251C(6A) inserted by [2022 c. 31 s. 95\(4\)\(a\)](#)
- s. 259(1)(aa)(b) substituted for s. 259(1)(b) by [2022 c. 31 s. 98\(b\)](#)
- s. 259(1)(aa) words substituted by [S.I. 2023/98 Sch. para. 17\(11\)\(a\)\(iii\)](#) (This amendment comes in force at the same time as 2022 c. 31, s. 98 comes into force)
- s. 259(10A)(10B) inserted by [2022 c. 31 s. 98\(h\)](#)
- s. 304(5)(ja) inserted by [2022 c. 31 s. 95\(5\)](#)