



Local Government (Religious etc. Observances) Act 2015

2015 CHAPTER 27

1 Powers of councils

In Part 7 of the Local Government Act 1972 (miscellaneous powers of local authorities) after section 138 insert—

“138A Prayers and other observances

- (1) The business at a meeting of a local authority in England may include time for—
 - (a) prayers or other religious observance, or
 - (b) observance connected with a religious or philosophical belief.
- (2) Subsection (1) also applies in relation to meetings of—
 - (a) a committee of a local authority in England,
 - (b) a joint committee of two or more such authorities, whether appointed or established under Part 6 of this Act or any other enactment, or
 - (c) a sub-committee of such a committee or joint committee.
- (3) Subsections (1) and (2) do not limit other powers.

138B Involvement with religious events and events connected with a belief

- (1) A local authority in England may support or facilitate, or make arrangements to be represented at, any of the following—
 - (a) a religious event,
 - (b) an event with a religious element,
 - (c) an event connected with a religious or philosophical belief, or
 - (d) an event with an element connected with such a belief.
- (2) Subsection (1) does not limit other powers.

Changes to legislation: There are currently no known outstanding effects for the Local Government (Religious etc. Observances) Act 2015, Section 1. (See end of Document for details)

- (3) Any powers of a local authority in England that are given otherwise than under subsection (1) may be exercised—
 - (a) for the purpose of supporting or facilitating any event mentioned in subsection (1), or
 - (b) for purposes that include that purpose.
- (4) Subsection (3) does not limit the generality of those powers.”

Changes to legislation:

There are currently no known outstanding effects for the Local Government (Religious etc. Observances) Act 2015, Section 1.