

Keith Davies

Law of Compulsory Purchase and Compensation

Fourth Edition



Butterworths

Law of Compulsory Purchase and Compensation

Fourth edition

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London
Butterworths
1984

England	Butterworth & Co (Publishers) Ltd, 88 Kingsway, LONDON WC2B 6AB
Australia	Butterworths Pty Ltd, SYDNEY, MELBOURNE, BRISBANE, ADELAIDE and PERTH
Canada	Butterworth & Co (Canada) Ltd, TORONTO Butterworth & Co (Western Canada) Ltd, VANCOUVER
New Zealand	Butterworths of New Zealand Ltd, WELLINGTON
Singapore	Butterworth & Co (Asia) Pte Ltd, SINGAPORE
South Africa	Butterworth Publishers (Pty) Ltd, DURBAN
USA	Mason Publishing Co, ST PAUL, Minnesota Butterworth Legal Publishers, SEATTLE, Washington; BOSTON, Massachusetts; and AUSTIN, Texas D & S Publishers, CLEARWATER, Florida

First edition 1972
Second Edition 1975
Third edition 1978

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Davies, Keith
 Law of compulsory purchase and compensation.—
 4th ed.
 1. Eminent domain—England
 I. Title
 344.203'252 KD1185

ISBN hardcover 0 406 57187 2
 softcover 0 406 57188 0

Printed in Great Britain by
 Thomson Litho Ltd, East Kilbride, Scotland.

Preface

The fourth edition of this work comes after a longer interval than those between earlier editions. On this occasion the work of revision has required extensive updating and amendment, rather than wholesale recasting in the light of any sweeping alterations in the structure of the law. Despite the absence of major legislative changes, we have in the intervening years seen the abandonment of the concept of 'community land' and the ripples (fast subsiding) that this has caused on the surface of politics. A number of Acts have been revised and consolidated; and developments in case law have continued apace, providing some interesting, though as a rule not very controversial, decisions in the courts.

I should like to express my appreciation once again of help and enlightenment obtained in discussions with colleagues, students and others. It may be that many people studying and practising in the field of public land law, viewing the subject from the standpoint of the private as well as the public sector, will continue to find the book useful—perhaps not least because of the diagrams, which I hope will illuminate points that may not be so easy to accept by verbal presentation alone.

Department of Law
University of Reading

Keith Davies
February 1984

And Ahab spake unto Naboth, saying, ‘Give me thy vineyard . . . and I will give thee . . . the worth of it in money’.
(1 Kings 21, v 2)

‘The best way would be . . . to send ’em away with a flea in their ear, when they come spying and measuring,’ said Solomon. . . . ‘It’s all a pretence . . . about their being forced to take one way. . . . And I don’t believe in any pay to make amends for bringing a lot of ruffians to trample your crops. . . .’

‘Brother Peter, God forgive him, got money out of a company’, said Mrs Waule. ‘But that was for the manganese. That wasn’t for railways to blow you to pieces right and left.’

‘Well, there’s this to be said, Jane,’ Mr Solomon concluded, lowering his voice in a cautious manner—‘the more spokes we put in their wheel, the more they’ll pay us to let ’em go on. . . .’

(George Eliot *Middlemarch* ch 56)

Table of Statutes

References in this Table to *Statutes* are to Halsbury's Statutes of England (Third Edition) showing the volume and page at which the annotated text of the Act will be found.

PAGE	PAGE
Acquisition of Land Act 1981 (51 <i>Statutes</i> 425) ... 1, 17, 39, 43, 100, 231, 233, 239	Acquisition of Land (Authorisation Procedure) Act 1946 (6 <i>Statutes</i> 154) ... 17, 39, 40, 232
s 1(2) 39	
2 41	
4 63, 156	Administration of Justice Act 1965 (7 <i>Statutes</i> 744)
6 42	s 6 74
7 40	Admiralty (Signal Station) Act 1815 38
(1) 81	
8 55	Agricultural Holdings Act 1948. (1 <i>Statutes</i> 685) 94
(1) 44	s 34 215, 216
(3) 55	58 107
10 41	
11 41, 42	Agricultural Holdings (Notices to Quit) Act 1977 (47 <i>Statutes</i> 2) 94, 215
12 41, 42, 100	
(2) 42	Agriculture (Miscellaneous Provisions) Act 1963 (1 <i>Statutes</i> 775)
13 41, 42	s 22 213, 217
(2) 44	
14 41, 42	Agriculture (Miscellaneous Provisions) Act 1968 (40 <i>Statutes</i> 8)
15 41, 43	s 9 94, 95, 215, 216
16-18 55	12 95, 215, 216, 217
19 55	42 94, 95
(1) 55	
(2), (3) 56	Ancient Monuments and Archaeological Areas Act 1979 (49 <i>Statutes</i> 975)
(4) 56, 233	s 64 315
20, 21 55	Sch 5 315
22 55, 56	
23, 24 50, 56	Arbitration Act 1950 (2 <i>Statutes</i> 433)
25 50, 51, 56	s 20 125
26 50, 51, 55, 56, 59	26 29
27 55	21 (1) 28, 29
Sch 1 43	
Sch 2 41	
Pt II 41	
Acquisition of Land (Assessment of Compensation) Act 1919 29, 115, 128, 206	British Transport Commission Act 1955 96
s 1 30	
2 136, 201	

PAGE	PAGE
Capital Gains Tax Act 1979 (49 Statutes 1283)	Compulsory Purchase Act 1965— <i>contd</i>
s 20 (1)(a)	s 10
43 (4)	15, 181, 183, 192 (1), (2)
110	183 11 (1)
111–111B	65, 67 (3)
Charities Act 1960 (3 Statutes 589)	65 12
Civil Aviation Act 1982 (52 Stat- utes 28)	68 13
s 79	67 14–16
Coast Protection Act 1949 (39 Statutes 571)	75, 76 17
Coastguard Act 1925 (29 Statutes 34)	75 18
Commissioners of Works Act 1852 (6 Statutes 565)	76 19
s 2	65, 103 20
Common Law Procedure Act 1854	67, 88, 89, 92, 96, 120, 181, 199, 215 (1)
s 5	87 (2)
Commonable Rights Compen- sation Act 1882 (3 Statutes 902)	175 21, 22
Commons Act 1236 [Statute of Merton c. 4]	77 23
Commons Act 1285 [Statute of Westminster the Second c. 46] (3 Statutes 686)	64, 210 24
Commons Act 1876 (3 Statutes 874)	125 27
s 12	68 38
Commons Act 1899 (3 Statutes 908)	36 Sch 1
Commons Registration Act 1965 (3 Statutes 919)	74, 75 Sch 2
Community Land Act 1975 (45 Statutes 91, 2134)	75 Sch 3
s 7	66 Sch 4
25	77 Sch 6
37	66 Compulsory Purchase (Vesting Declarations) Act 1981 (51 Statutes 407)
47	1, 15, 18 s 1 (2)
Compulsory Purchase Act 1965 (6 Statutes 281) 14, 15, 16, 57, 58, 172	68 2
s 1 (3)	69, 72 (2)
3	72 3
4	69 (4)
5	70 4
6	69 5
7	69 6
1, 230	70 7
(3)	71 8
277	24, 71 (3)
277	71 9
233	65, 72 10
160	72 (2)
(3)	72, 75 11
262	72, 126 12
(1)	102, 103 13
(2), (3)	72 14
9	71 Sch 1
74	71, 72, 102, 103 Sch 2
Costs of Leases Act 1958 (18 Stat- utes 614)	72 195 Countryside Act 1968
	234

PAGE	PAGE		
Customs Consolidation Act 1853:	38	Education Act 1944 (11 <i>Statutes</i> 153)	16, 40
Defence Act 1842 (29 <i>Statutes</i> 1092)	38	Electricity Act 1947 (11 <i>Statutes</i> 931)	
s 16, 19, 23	38	s 9	41, 43
Development and Road Improvement Funds Act 1909 (37 <i>Statutes</i> 17)	17	Finance (1909–1910) Act 1910	137
Development Land Tax Act 1976 (46 <i>Statutes</i> 1421)		Finance Act 1931 (32 <i>Statutes</i> 240)	
s 1	277	s 28	289
2	277, 278	Finance Act 1965 (34 <i>Statutes</i> 867)	274, 286
3	277	s 20 (3)	275
(2)	286	Sch 6	154
4	279	Finance Act 1969 (36 <i>Statutes</i> 805)	210
5	279	s 43–49	275
(3)	281	Finance Act 1971 (41 <i>Statutes</i> 1418)	210
(4)	286	s 55	275
(5)	283	Finance Act 1974 (44 <i>Statutes</i> 1614)	
(6)	286	s 38	276
6	283	Finance Act 1980 (50 (2) <i>Statutes</i> 2194)	
7 (1)–(3)	285	s 110	277
(4), (5)	286	111	288
(6)	285	112, 113	289
(7)	278	114	279
8	286	116 (1)	281, 282
9	287	Finance Act 1981 (51 <i>Statutes</i> 1613)	
10	286	s 129	282
11–18	288	130, 131	288
18	288	132	287
19, 19A	287	133	278
20–22	286	Finance Act 1982 (52 <i>Statutes</i> 1588)	
23	287	s 155	288
26 (1)	287	Finance Act (No 2) 1979 (49 <i>Statutes</i> 1487)	
(2)	287, 288	s 24	279
27	287, 289	Foreign Compensation Act 1950 (6 <i>Statutes</i> 884)	51
28–30	287	Forestry Act 1967 (14 <i>Statutes</i> 193)	
31	279, 287	Sch 5	57
32, 33	287	Gas Act 1972 (42 <i>Statutes</i> 466)	181
34	289	General Rate Act 1967 (27 <i>Statutes</i> 72)	265
35–38	290	Highways Act 1959 (15 <i>Statutes</i> 143)	182, 254
39–43	289	s 235	315
44	278	Highways Act 1971 (41 <i>Statutes</i> 625)	
45, 46	277	s 47	254
Sch 1	278		
Sch 2	279, 286		
Sch 3	279		
Pt. I	281		
Pt. II	283		
Sch 4—			
Pt. I	285		
Pt. II	278		
Sch 5	288		
Sch 6–8	289		

PAGE	PAGE
Highways Act 1980 (50 (1) <i>Statutes</i> 425)	181, 182, 254
s 121 (2)	182
188	256
231	197
246	239, 254, 255
(1), (2)	239
(3)–(5)	240
250	99, 254
253, 272	239
282	239, 240
Historic Buildings and Ancient Monuments Act 1953 (24 <i>Statutes</i> 267)	
s 10, 11	315
Housing Act 1936 (16 <i>Statutes</i> 46)	60
Housing Act 1957 (16 <i>Statutes</i> 109)	26, 57, 68, 84, 97, 146, 261
s 4	166
9	232
20	21
42	228
59	167
72, 74	249
105 (1)	234
144	91, 221
Sch 3	50, 63
Sch 9	91, 221
Housing Act 1969 (16 <i>Statutes</i> 496)	255
s 65–68	167
Sch 5	167
Housing Act 1974 (44 <i>Statutes</i> 405)	219, 287
s 130	213, 221
Sch 13	213, 221
Housing Rents and Subsidies Act 1975 (45 <i>Statutes</i> 622) ...	219
s 17	213
Sch 5	213
Housing Repairs and Rents Act 1954 (16 <i>Statutes</i> 87) s 50 (1)	42
Housing (Slum Clearance Compensation) Act 1965 (16 <i>Statutes</i> 447) s 1, 2	167
Housing Town Planning, &c. Act 1909	17
Inclosure Act 1845 (3 <i>Statutes</i> 702)	11, 13, 16, 17, 56
Inclosure Act 1852 (3 <i>Statutes</i> 820) s 1	13
Inclosure (Consolidation) Act 1801	11
Interpretation Act 1889 (32 <i>Statutes</i> 434) s 23	14
26	58
Interpretation Act 1978 (48 <i>Statutes</i> 1296)	140
Sch 1	14
Land Charges Act 1925 (27 <i>Statutes</i> 685) s 17 (3)	303, 304
Land Charges Act 1972 (42 <i>Statutes</i> 1590) s 2 (4)	84
10 (4)	303
Land Commission Act 1967 (36 <i>Statutes</i> 451) s 11 (1)	70
27 (1)	272, 274
47–49, 56–59, 63, 73	275
84	275
86	154
99 (2)	274
101	154
Sch 4, Pt III	275
Sch 5	275
Land Commission (Dissolution) Act 1971 (41 <i>Statutes</i> 1563)	275
Land Compensation Act 1961 (6 <i>Statutes</i> 238) . 16, 63, 87, 155, 168, 251, 266, 295, 299	
s 1, 2	122
4 (1)	62, 123
(2)	124
(3)	123, 124
5	129, 148, 201, 222, 307
(1)	136, 196
(2)	136, 137, 144, 196, 217
(3)	139, 217
(4)	142, 166, 217
(5)	137, 142, 143, 207
(6)	144, 193, 196
6	144, 146, 147, 148, 149, 166, 255
(3)	145, 146
7	144, 146, 147, 148
8	144, 148
(5)	147
9	129, 132, 133, 134
10–13	149
14	156, 193
(1)	156

PAGE	PAGE
Land Compensation Act 1961— contd	Land Compensation Act 1973— contd
s 15	156, 157, 193, 318
(3)	157
16	156, 158, 159, 163, 164, 165, 193
17	160, 164
(1)	163
(3), (4), (9)	161
18	160
(1)	161
(2), (3)	162
(4)	161
19, 20	160
21	160, 162
22	160, 163, 164
31 (1)–(3)	62
32	193, 214, 219
35	35
39 (6)	147
Sch 1	144, 146
Sch 2	149, 167
Sch 3	154
Land Compensation Act 1973 (43) Statutes	Land Compensation Act 1973 (43) Statutes
170, 514, 528, 1312, 1550)	16, 81, 82, 187, 212, 238
s 1	188, 189, 239
(3)	240
2	188, 189, 191, 239
3	188, 190, 239
4	191
5	188, 190, 239, 262
6	188, 190, 239
7–9	188, 191, 239
10	188, 192, 239
14	188, 191, 239
15, 16	188, 192, 239
17	188, 189, 239
18	188, 192, 239
19	188, 239
20	239, 240
22–25	239
26–28	239, 240
29	219, 220
30	220
32	65, 230
33	220
34, 35	217
36	219
37	200, 213, 214
38	214
39–41	221
42	222
s 43	221
44	173, 181, 186
(1), (2)	181
45	142
46	205
47	92, 93, 94
48	94, 95, 215
50	64, 91, 138
51	145
52	126, 127
53, 54	105, 107
55, 56	105, 106, 107, 108
57	105, 107
58	103
59	89, 95, 107, 108
61	107
63	193
68	253, 254
69, 70	254
71–73	255
74	254, 256
75	254
76	256
77	252, 258
78	259
(1), (2)	259
(3)	260
(4)	259
79	257, 261, 262
80, 81	258, 262
84	189
Landlord and Tenant Act 1954 (18 Statutes 553):	Landlord and Tenant Act 1954 (18 Statutes 553):
s 37	91, 92, 212
(2)	92
39 (1)	92
(2)	92
57, 58	92
Lands Clauses Consolidation Act 1845 (6 Statutes 9)	Lands Clauses Consolidation Act 1845 (6 Statutes 9)
s 1	13, 14, 115
2	12, 14
6	35
7–9	35, 74
10–15	35
16, 17	35, 172
18	35, 59, 172, 174
19–21	35, 172
22	15, 28, 35, 172, 173, 183
23	15, 28, 35, 172, 173
24	35, 172
25	15, 35, 172, 173

PAGE	PAGE
Lands Clauses Consolidation Act 1845— <i>contd</i>	
s 26	35, 172, 173
27	15, 28, 35, 172, 173
28, 38	35, 172, 173
39–48	42, 172
49	174
50–57	42, 172, 174
58	15, 28, 35, 173
59–62	35, 173
63	35, 172, 173, 174, 175, 192, 193
64–67	35, 172
68	15, 16, 35, 172, 173, 181, 182, 183, 184, 185, 192, 193, 196
92	63, 102, 104
123	60
127–132	78
Lands Clauses Consolidation Act 1869	14
Lands Clauses Consolidation Acts Amendment Act 1860 (6 Statutes 63)	14
Lands Clauses (Taxation of Costs) Act 1895	14
Lands Clauses (Umpire) Act 1883	14
Lands Tribunal Act 1949 (6 Statutes 191)	
s 3	122
(1), (4)	30
Law of Property Act 1925 (27 Statutes 341)	83
s 2	35
40	26
42 (7)	75
77 (1)	31
149 (6)	84
193	14
Leasehold Reform Act 1967	84, 190
Light Railways Act 1896 (26 Statutes 845)	39
Light Railways Act 1912 (26 Statutes 872)	39
Limitation Act 1980 (50 (1) Statutes 1253)	87
s 9	190, 220
Liverpool Corporation Act 1966	38
Lloyd's Signal Stations Act 1888 (31 Statutes 48)	39
Local Government Act 1933 (19 Statutes 393)	39
s 159–161	39
Local Government Act 1972 (42 Statutes 841)	39
122	19, 234
123	78
125	40
161	12
240	17
250	49
Sch 16	160
Local Government (Miscellaneous Provisions) Act 1976 (46 Statutes 247)	98, 104, 183, 254
s 13	65
15	40
Sch 1	98, 104
Local Government, Planning and Land Act 1980 (50 (1) Statutes 242, 1314; 50 (2) 1845, 2407)	1, 72, 237
s 91	231
101	230
112, 113	190
114	220
121	160
122	233
123 (2A)	235
Sch 14	160
Sch 23	235, 237
Sch 24	160
Sch 34	160, 235, 237
London Government Act 1963 (20 Statutes 448)	160
s 24	160
Metropolitan Commons Act 1866 (3 Statutes 859)	14
Metropolitan Commons Act 1898 (3 Statutes 907)	14
Metropolitan Paving Act 1817 (Michael Angelo Taylor's Act)	38, 39
Ministry of Agriculture and Fisheries Act 1919 (6 Statutes 705)	14
New Towns Act 1965 (36 Statutes 374)	145
s 1	145
New Towns Act 1981 (51 Statutes 2037)	41, 57, 145, 228, 233
s 1	145, 255
10	126, 253

PAGE	PAGE		
Open Spaces Act 1906 (24 Statutes 24)		Statutory Orders (Special Procedure) Act 1945 (32 Statutes 658)	18
s 9	32	s 1-5	54
Parliamentary Commissioner Act 1967 (6 Statutes 822)		6	54, 55
s 5	44	8	54
Pipe-lines Act 1962 (26 Statutes 1058)		Sch 2	39, 54
Sch 2	57	Statutory Orders (Special Procedure) Act 1965 (32 Statutes 806)	18, 54
Police Act 1964 (25 Statutes 330)		Supreme Court Act 1981 (51 Statutes 590)	
s 9 (2)	40	s 31	50
Post Office Act 1969 (25 Statutes 470)	16	Town and Country Amenities Act 1974 (44 Statutes 1742)	
Public Health Act 1875 (26 Statutes 38)	16	s 6	139, 233
Public Health Act 1925 (26 Statutes 146)		Town and Country Planning Act 1944	237
s 30	256	s 1	226, 227
Public Health Act 1936 (26 Statutes 189)	16	Sch 6	227
Public Offices (Site) Act 1947 (6 Statutes 739)	38	Town and Country Planning Act 1947 (36 Statutes 22)	157, 241,
Public Works Facilities Act 1930	59		271, 272, 273,
Railway Fires Act 1905 (26 Statutes 870)	168		293, 294, 295
Railway Fires Act (1905) Amendment Act 1923 (26 Statutes 898)	168	s 4 (3)	228
Railways Clauses Consolidation Act 1845 (26 Statutes 730)		39	227
s 16, 68	108	Sch 3	308, 318
77	41	Town and Country Planning Act 1954	153, 293, 294, 295
78-85	41, 42	s 71	318
Rating Act 1971 (41 Statutes 1168)	158	Sch 7	318
Rent Act 1977 (47 Statutes 387)		Town and Country Planning Act 1959 (15 Statutes 480; 36 Statutes 48)	154, 251, 295
s 14, 98	212, 238	s 23	78, 234
Rentcharges Act 1977 (47 Statutes 1186)	91	(1)	79
Requisitioned Land and War Works Act 1945 (6 Statutes 98)		(2)	78, 234
s 35	38	26	78
Settled Land Act 1925 (30 Statutes 344)	75, 83	(2)	78
Statute of Frauds (1677) (7 Statutes 6)	26	(4)	53, 78
Statute of Merton 1236. See Commons Act 1236		33	47
Statute of Westminster the Second (1285). See Commons Act 1285	7	46, 48	126, 253
		49	253
		Town and Country Planning Act 1962 (36 Statutes 69)	293
		s 4, 10, 67	229
		68	229, 230, 231
		71	230, 231
		74, 75, 76	73
		78 (7)	236
		138 (1)	253
		143	252
		153	182
		Sch 3 Pt I	293

PAGE	PAGE	
Town and Country Planning Act	Town and Country Planning Act	
1963 (36 Statutes 343) ... 293, 307	1971— <i>contd</i>	
Town and Country Planning Act	s 136	297
1968 (36 Statutes 647) ... 68, 251	(2), (3)	297
s 27	137	296
37 (1)	140	298, 309, 310
Sch 3	141	299, 303
Town and Country Planning Act	142, 143	299
1971 (41 Statutes 1571) ... 82, 133,	144	300
251, 292, 293, 296	145	300, 302
s 7 (5)	146	300
9	147 (1)	304, 314
11 (6)	(2)	304, 306
13	(3)–(5)	305
20 (1)	148	305
21	149	305
22	(4)	309
(5)	150, 151	306
23, 24	152	300
32	153	300
33 (2)	(5)	306
38	154	301
(3)	155 (1), (2)	301
39	156	302
(1)–(3)	158	300, 302, 309
40	159	302, 303, 310
45, 51	160	303, 310
54	161	303
56	164	308, 314
64	(4)	308
90	165	308, 309, 310
112	(3)	309
113	166	308, 309
114	167	308, 309, 310
(4)	168	308, 310
115	169	308, 318, 319, 323, 324, 325
116	(3)–(5)	319
117	170	308, 310, 314
119	171, 172	308, 313
121	173	308, 314
122	174	308, 312
(2A), (2B)	175	308, 313
123	(4)	313
(2)	176	308, 314
(2A)	177	308, 312, 314
(7)	178, 179	307, 308
124	180	242, 244, 245, 246
125	(1)	245
127	181	246
79, 101, 238	(1)	246
128, 129	(2)–(4)	246, 247
130 (3)	182	246
132 (1)	183 (1)–(5)	246
133	184	244, 246
135		

PAGE	PAGE	
Town and Country Planning Act 1971— <i>contd</i>	Town and Country Planning Act 1971— <i>contd</i>	
s 185	s 257	303
186	278	139, 325
(1)–(5)	290 (1)	245
187	Sch 4–7	229
(1)–(5)	Sch 8	139, 157, 233, 248, 285,
188, 189		293, 308, 316, 318, 324,
190		325
(3)	Pt I	301, 318, 319, 320
191 (1)	Pt II	301, 318, 319, 320, 323
(2)	Sch 11	249
192	Sch 15	296
(1)	Sch 16	299
193	Sch 17	299, 320
(1)	Sch 18	139, 324, 325
194	Sch 19	249
195	Sch 24	253
196	Sch 25	229
197	Town and Country Planning (Amendment) Act 1977 (47 Statutes 1356)	312
198	s 1	311
199	2	312
201	Town Development Act 1952 (36 Statutes 25)	150, 228, 233
(1)–(4)	s 1 (1)	145
(6)	Tribunals and Inquiries Act 1958 (6 Statutes 756)	
202	s 7A	47
203	Tribunals and Inquiries Act 1971 (41 Statutes 248)	50, 162
(2)	s 11	47
(3)	12	42
204	Water Act 1945 (39 Statutes 69)	
205 (1), (2)	s 23, 24	41
(3)	Sch 2	57
208	Water Act 1948 (39 Statutes 192)	
209	s 3	41
212	Sch 3	41
214	Water Resources Act 1963 (39 Statutes 223)	
218	Sch 8	57
230		
237–240		
242		
(1), (3)		
245		
(1)–(4)		
256		

Table of Cases

	PAGE
Aberdeen City Council v Sim (1982) 264 Estates Gazette 621	202
Adams & Wade Ltd v Minister of Housing and Local Government (1965) 18 P & CR 60	133, 244
Allen v Gulf Oil Refining Co [1981] AC 101, [1981] 1 All ER 353, [1981] 2 WLR 188, 125 Sol Jo 101, HL	34, 171
Anisminic Ltd v Foreign Compensation Commission [1969] 2 AC 147, [1969] 1 All ER 208, [1969] 2 WLR 163, 113 Sol Jo 55, HL	51
Argyle Motors (Birkenhead) Ltd v Birkenhead Corp [1973] 1 All ER 866, [1973] 2 WLR 487, 117 Sol Jo 125, 71 LGR 205, 25 P & CR 32; 227 Estates Gazette 133, CA; affd [1975] AC 99 [1974] 1 All ER 201, [1974] 2 WLR 71, 118 Sol Jo 67, 72 LGR 147, 27 P & CR 122, 229 Estates Gazette 1589, HL	184
Ashbury Railway Carriage and Iron Co v Riche (1875) LR 7 HL 653, 44 LJ Ex 185, 33 LT 450, 24 WR 794	10
Associated Provincial Picture Houses Ltd v Wednesbury Corp [1948] 1 KB 223, [1947] All ER 680, [1948] LJR 190, 177 LT 641, 112 JP 55, 63 TLR 623, 92 Sol Jo 26, 45 LGR 635, CA	50
Aston Charities Trust Ltd v Stepney Borough Council [1952] 2 QB 642, [1952] 2 All ER 228, 116 JP 441, [1952] 2 TLR 6, 96 Sol Jo 426, 50 LGR 571, CA	143
Athlone Rifle Range, Re [1902] 1 IR 433	136
Atkinson v Newcastle Waterworks Co (1877) 2 Ex D 441, [1874-80] All ER Rep 757, 46 LJ Ex 775, 36 LT 761, 25 WR 794, CA	23
A-G v Cole & Son [1901] 1 Ch 205, 70 LJ Ch 148, 83 LT 725, 65 JP 88	184
A-G v De Keyser's Royal Hotel Ltd [1920] AC 508, [1920] All ER Rep 80, 89 LJ Ch 417, 122 LT 691, 36 TLR 600, 64 Sol Jo 513, HL	28, 38
A-G v De Winton [1906] 2 Ch 106, 75 LJ Ch 612, 70 JP 368, 54 WR 499, 22 TLR 446, 50 Sol Jo 405, 4 LGR 549	12
A-G v Newcastle-upon-Tyne Corp and North Eastern Rly Co (1889) 23 QBD 492, 58 LJQB 558, 54 JP 292, CA; affd sub nom Newcastle-upon-Tyne Corp v A-G [1892] AC 568, 62 LJQB 72, 67 LJ 728, 56 JP 836, IR 31, HL	12
A-G v Wilson (1840) Cr & Ph 1, 10 LJ Ch 53, 4 Jur 1174	12
Ayr Harbour Trustees v Oswald (1883) 8 App Cas 623, HL	32
Bailey v Derby Corp [1965] 1 All ER 443, [1965] 1 WLR 213, 129 JP 140, 108 Sol Jo 939, 63 LGR 36, 16 P & CR 192, [1965] RVR 43, CA	80, 204, 205
Bailey v De Crespigny (1869) LR 4 QB 180, [1861-73] All ER Rep 332, 10 B & SI, 38 LJQB 98, 19 LT 681, 33 JP 164, 17 WR 494	31, 32
Banham v London Borough of Hackney (1970) 22 P & CR 922	64
Barrs v Bethell [1982] Ch 294, [1982] 1 All ER 106, [1981] 3 WLR 874, 80 LGR 269, 125 Sol Jo 808	50
Bedford (Duke) v Dawson (1875) LR 20 Eq 353, 44 LJ Ch 549, 33 LT 156, 39 JP 804	100
Belfast Corp v O D Cars Ltd [1960] AC 490, [1960] 1 All ER 65, [1960] 2 WLR 148, 104 Sol Jo 68, HL	59
Bibby (J) & Sons Ltd v Merseyside County Council (1980) 39 P & CR 53	209

	PAGE
Bird v Eggleton (1885) 29 Ch D 1012, 54 LJ Ch 819, 53 LT 87, 49 JP 644, 33 WR 774, 1 TLR 508	34
Birmingham Corp v West Midland Baptist (Trust) Association (Inc). See West Midland Baptist (Trust) Association (Inc) v Birmingham Corp	
Birmingham District Council v Morris and Jacombs (1976) 33 P & CR 27: 132, 133, 241	
Blamires v Bradford Corp [1964] Ch 585, [1964] 2 All ER 603, [1964] 3 WLR 226, 128 JP 400, 108 Sol Jo 379, 62 LGR 370, 16 P & CR 162	84
Bloom (Kosher) & Sons Ltd v Tower Hamlets London Borough Council (1978) 35 P & CR 423	202
Blow v Norfolk County Council [1966] 2 All ER 579, [1967] 1 WLR 1280	311
Board of Education v Rice [1911] AC 179, [1911–13] All ER Rep 36, 80 LJKB 796, 104 LT 689, 75 JP 393, 27 TLR 378, 55 Sol Jo 440, 9 LGR 652, HL	44
Bollans v Surrey County Council (1968) 20 P & CR 745	313
Bolton Corp v Owen [1962] 1 QB 470, [1962] 1 All ER 101, [1962] 2 WLR 307, 126 JP 68, 105 Sol Jo 1105, 13 P & CR 231, 61 LGR 7, [1962] RVR 25 .. 256, 260	
Bolton Metropolitan Borough Council v Waterworth [1981] 2 Lloyd's Rep 625, CA	178
Boot (Frank) Stores Ltd v City of London Corp (1971) 22 P & CR 1124	140
Boynton v Richardson [1924] WN 262, 69 Sol Jo 107	29
British Transport Commission v Gourley [1956] AC 185, [1955] 3 All ER 796, [1956] 2 WLR 41, 220 LT 354, 100 Sol Jo 12, [1955] 2 Lloyd's Rep 475, [1955] TR 303, 34 ATC 305, 49 R & IT 11, HL	209
Browilow v Greater Manchester Council (1975) 31 P & CR 398	163
Brown v Minister of Housing and Local Government [1953] 2 All ER 1385, [1953] 1 WLR 1370, 118 JP 143, 97 Sol Jo 797, 52 LGR 34, 4 P & CR 111	42
Buckleuch (Duke) v Metropolitan Board of Works (1872) LR 5 HL 418, [1861–73] All ER Rep 654, 41 LJ Ex 137, 27 LT 1, 36 JP 724, HL	178, 181, 185
Burlin v Manchester City Council (1975) 32 P & CR 115	308
Bushell v Secretary of State for the Environment [1980] 2 All ER 608, [1981] AC 75, [1980] 3 WLR 22, 124 Sol Jo 168, 40 P & CR 51, 78 LGR 269, [1980] JPL 458, HL	46, 47
Bwllfa and Merthyr Dare Steam Collieries (1891) Ltd v Pontypridd Waterworks Co [1903] AC 426, [1900–3] All ER Rep 600, 72 LJKB 805, 89 LT 280, 52 WR 193, 19 TLR 673, HL	141, 203
Camrose (Viscount) v Basingstoke Corp [1966] 3 All ER 161, [1966] 1 WLR 1100, 130 JP 368, 110 Sol Jo 427, 64 LGR 337, [1966] RVR 459, CA: 150, 154, 158, 269	
Capital Investments Ltd v Wednesfield UDC [1965] Ch 774, [1964] 1 All ER 655, [1964] 2 WLR 932, 128 JP 287, 108 Sol Jo 377, 62 LGR 566, 15 P & CR 435	31, 70, 234
Cardiff Corp v Cook [1923] 2 Ch 115, [1922] All ER Rep 651, 92 LJ Ch 177, 128 LT 530, 87 JP 90, 67 Sol Jo 315, 21 LGR 279	63, 121
Cary-Elwes Contract, Re [1906] 2 Ch 143, 75 LJ Ch 571, 94 LT 845, 70 JP 345, 54 WR 480, 22 TLR 511, 50 Sol Jo 464, 4 LGR 838	26
Case of the King's Prerogative in Saltpetre (1606) 12 Co Rep 12	6
Cedar Rapids Manufacturing and Power Co v Lacoste [1914] AC 569, [1914–15] All ER Rep 571, 83 LJPC 162, 110 LT 873, 30 TLR 293, PC	139
Chamberlain v West End of London and Crystal Palace Rly Co (1863) 2 B & S 617, 2 New Rep 182, 32 LJQB 173, 8 LT 149, 9 Jur NS 1051, 11 WR 472, 22, 113, 182, 184	
Chance, Re, Westminster Bank Ltd v Chance [1962] 1 All ER 942	296

	PAGE
Chilton v London Corp (1878) 7 Ch D 735, 47 LJ Ch 433, 38 LT 498, 26 WR 474	13
City and South London Rly Co v St Mary Woolnoth [1905] AC 1, 74 LJKB 147, 92 LT 34, 69 JP 101, 21 TLR 127, HL	97
City of Plymouth (City Centre) Declaratory Order 1946, Re, Robinson v Minister of Town and Country Planning [1947] KB 702, [1947] 1 All ER 851, [1947] LJR 1285, 177 LT 375, 111 JP 378, 63 TLR 374, 91 Sol Jo 294, 45 LGR 497, CA	227
Clowes v Staffordshire Potteries Waterworks Co (1872) 8 Ch App 125, 42 LJ Ch 107, 27 LT 521, 36 JP 760, 21 WR 32	183
Cocks v Thanet District Council [1982] 3 All ER 1135, [1982] 3 WLR 1121, 126 Sol Jo 820	50
Cohen v Haringey London Borough Council (1980) 42 P & CR 6	66
Cole v Somerset County Council [1957] 1 QB 23, [1956] 3 All ER 531, [1956] 3 WLR 814, 120 JP 582, 54 LGR 616, 8 P & CR 161	310
Collins v Feltham UDC [1937] 4 All ER 189, 36 LGR 34, DC	206
Cooper v Metropolitan Board of Works (1883) 25 Ch D 472, 53 LJ Ch 109, 50 LT 602, 32 WR 709, CA	203
Corrie v MacDermott [1914] AC 1056, 83 LJPC 370, 111 LT 952, PC	137
Cory (William) & Son Ltd v City of London Corp [1951] 1 KB 8, [1950] 2 All ER 584, 114 JP 422, 84 LJ L Rep 278	32
Cowper Essex v Acton Local Board (1889) 14 App Cas 153, [1886-90] All ER Rep 901, 58 LJ QB 594, 38 WR 209, 5 TLR 395	83, 179, 180
Crabb v Arun District Council [1976] Ch 179, [1975] 3 All ER 865, [1975] 3 WLR 847, 119 Sol Jo 711, CA	83
Crabb v Surrey County Council (1982) 44 P & CR 119	33, 64
Crabtree (A) & Co Ltd v Minster of Housing and Local Government (1965) 109 Sol Jo 921, 64 LGR 104, 17 P & CR 232	236
Croydon Development Plans 1954 and 1959, Re, Harrison v Croydon London Borough [1968] Ch 479, [1967] 2 All ER 589, [1967] 3 WLR 100, 111 Sol Jo 255, 65 LGR 338, 18 P & CR 486, [1967] RVR 270	163
Cuckmere Brick Co Ltd v Mutual Finance Ltd [1971] Ch 949, [1971] 2 All ER 633, [1971] 2 WLR 1207, 115 Sol Jo 288, 22 P & CR 624, 218 Estates Gazette 1571, CA	35
DHN Food Distributors Ltd v Tower Hamlets London Borough [1976] 3 All ER 462, [1976] 1 WLR 852, 120 Sol Jo 215, 74 LGR 506, 32 P & CR 240, 239 Estates Gazette 719	85, 96, 199
Davies v Mid-Glamorgan County Council (1979) 38 P & CR 727	189
Davy v Leeds Corp [1965] 1 All ER 753, [1965] 1 WLR 445, 129 JP 308, 109 Sol Jo 196, 63 LGR 181, 17 P & CR 83, [1965] RVR 171, HL	146, 147, 166, 256
Dawson v Great Northern and City Rly Co [1905] 1 KB 260, [1904-7] All ER Rep 913, 74 LJKB 190, 92 LT 137, 69 JP 29, 21 TLR 114, CA	114
Dawson v Norwich City Council (1978) 37 P & CR 516	89
Dowty Boulton Paul Ltd v Wolverhampton Corp (No 2) [1976] Ch 13, [1973] 2 All ER 491, [1973] 2 WLR 618, 137 JP 534, 117 Sol Jo 304, 71 LGR 323, 25 P & CR 282, 227 Estates Gazette 821, CA	79
Duke of Wellington Social Club and Institute Ltd v Blyth Borough Council (1964) 15 P & CR 212	260
Dutton's Breweries Ltd v Leeds City Council (1981) 43 P & CR 160	27, 33
EON Motors v Secretary of State for the Environment and Newbury District Council (1981) 258 Estates Gazette 1300	42
Eagle v Charing Cross Rly Co (1867) LR 2 CP 638, 36 LJCP 297, 16 LT 593, 15 WR 1016	185
Eardisland Investments Ltd v Birmingham Corp (1970) 22 P & CR 213	159