



Number 30 of 2009

LOCAL GOVERNMENT (CHARGES) ACT 2009

REVISED

Updated to 9 January 2023

This revised Act is an administrative consolidation of the *Local Government (Charges) Act 2009*. It is prepared by the Law Reform Commission in accordance with its function under the *Law Reform Commission Act 1975* (3/1975) to keep the law under review and to undertake revision and consolidation of statute law.

All Acts up to and including the *Local Government (Maternity Protection and Other Measures for Members of Local Authorities) Act 2022* (52/2022), enacted 21 December 2022, and all statutory instruments up to and including the *Planning And Development And Foreshore (Amendment) Act 2022 (Commencement) Order 2023* (S.I. No. 1 of 2023), made 9 January 2023, were considered in the preparation of this Revised Act.

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ARRANGEMENT OF SECTIONS

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Updated to 9 January 2023

AN ACT TO IMPOSE ON THE OWNERS OF CERTAIN RESIDENTIAL PROPERTIES LIABILITY FOR THE PAYMENT OF AN ANNUAL CHARGE IN RESPECT OF EACH SUCH PROPERTY CONCERNED TO THE LOCAL AUTHORITY IN WHOSE AREA THE RESIDENTIAL PROPERTY IS SITUATED, AND TO PROVIDE FOR RELATED MATTERS.

[21st July, 2009]

BE IT ENACTED BY THE OIREACHTAS AS FOLLOWS:

Annotations

Modifications (not altering text):

C1 Prospective affecting provision: Act to be repealed (various dates) by *Local Government Reform Act 2014 (1/2014)*, ss. 73(1)(d), (2), S.I. No. 214 of 2014.

73. (1) The provisions of the Local Government (Charges) Act 2009 are repealed as follows:

(a) upon the passing of this Act in respect of sections 3, 4, 5, 9 and 14;

(b) on 2 March 2014 in respect of section 6;

(c) subject to *subsection (2)*, on 1 January 2015 in respect of section 15;

(d) subject to *subsection (2)*, on 31 March 2025 in respect of the whole Act in so far as it is not already repealed.

(2) In respect of any provision to which *paragraph (c)* or *(d)* of *subsection (1)* relates that does not stand repealed by virtue of the paragraph concerned or by order under this subsection, the Minister may by order or subsequent order, as the case may be—

(a) where there is no subsisting order under this subsection in respect of that provision providing for its repeal, provide for the repeal of that provision on a date other than the date provided for by the paragraph concerned, or

(b) where there is a subsisting order under this subsection in respect of the provision concerned, revoke or amend that order and provide for a different date upon which that provision shall stand repealed.

...

C2 Application of Act affected (30.01.2014) by *Local Government Reform Act 2014 (1/2014)*, s. 74, S.I. No. 38 of 2014.

74. (1) All non-principal private residence charge and late payment fee liabilities relating to any such charge or any part thereof that remain undischarged on 1 March 2014 shall not be subject to additional late payment fees if collected on or before 31 August 2014.

(2) Notwithstanding *subsection (1)*, where a non-principal private residence charge and late payment fee liability in respect of such charge or any part thereof remain undischarged on 1 September 2014, an additional late payment fee of €120 shall apply in respect of each liability date.

(3) All non-principal private residence charge and late payment fee liabilities, in respect thereof, including that provided for by *subsection (2)*, which remain undischarged on 1 September 2014 shall be increased by 50 per cent on that date.

(4) Where in any case the period of 3 months referred to in *subsection (6)* of section 6 of the Act of 2009 applies but had not expired on or before 1 March 2014, then *subsection (1)* shall apply to such a case.

C3 Regulations or directions made or given under Act which are in force immediately before commencement of *Local Government (Household Charge) Act 2011 (36/2011)*, s. 19 continued in force (1.01.2012) by *Local Government (Household Charge) Act 2011 (36/2011)*, s. 19(2), in effect as per s. 19(3).

Amendments of Act of 2009.

19.—...

(2) Any regulation or direction made or given under the Act of 2009 that is in force immediately before the commencement of this section shall continue in force after such commencement and may be amended or revoked accordingly.

...

Interpretation. 1.— In this Act—

“Act of 1992” means the [Housing \(Miscellaneous Provisions\) Act 1992](#);

“Act of 1997” means the [Taxes Consolidation Act 1997](#);

“Act of 2001” means the [Local Government Act 2001](#);

F1[“Act of 2003” means the [Capital Acquisitions Tax Consolidation Act 2003](#);]

F2[“administrative area” has the meaning assigned to it by the Act of 2001;]

F3[“building” includes—

(a) part of a building, and

(b) a structure or erection of any kind and of any materials, or any part of that structure or erection, but excludes a structure that is not permanently attached to the ground, a vessel and a vehicle (whether mobile or not);]

F4[“certificate of exemption” has the meaning assigned to it by section 8(1);]

“charge” has the meaning assigned to it by [section 3 \(1\)](#) and [\(2\)](#);

“city council” has the meaning assigned to it by the Act of 2001;

“county council” has the meaning assigned to it by the Act of 2001;

F5[...]

F6[“enactment” has the same meaning that it has in the [Interpretation Act 2005](#);]

F7[“functional area” means—

(a) in relation to a city council, the administrative area of that city council,

(b) in relation to a county council—

(i) the administrative area of that county council, and

(ii) the administrative area of any town council (within the meaning of the *Local Government Act 2001*) situated within the administrative area of that county council;]

“housing authority” has the same meaning as it has in the Act of 1992;

F8[“late payment fee” has the meaning assigned to it by *section 6(1)*];]

“liability date” has the meaning assigned to it by *section 3 (1)* and *(2)*;

“local authority” means a county council or a city council;

“Minister” means the Minister for the Environment, Heritage and Local Government;

F9[“owner”, in relation to a residential property, means—

(a) a person (other than a mortgagee not in possession) who—

(i) in the case of a residential property that is let under a lease or held under a tenancy for a term not exceeding 20 years, is entitled to receive the rent under that lease or tenancy, whether in his or her own right or as trustee or agent for another person, or

(ii) in the case of a residential property that is not so let or so held, would, subject to *paragraph (b)*, be so entitled if the residential property were so let or so held, whether in that person’s own right or as trustee or agent for another person,

or

(b) where the property is let under a lease or held under a tenancy for a term exceeding 20 years, the person (other than a mortgagee not in possession) who is the lessee under that lease or the tenant under that tenancy;]

“prescribed” means prescribed by regulations made by the Minister;

F10[“relevant local authority” means—

(a) in relation to a residential property wholly situated in the functional area of a city council, that city council,

(b) in relation to a residential property wholly situated in the functional area of a county council, that county council, and

(c) in relation to a residential property situated partly in the functional area of a county council and partly in the functional area of another county council or a city council, the local authority in whose functional area the greater part of the residential property, by area, is situated.]

Annotations

Amendments:

F1 Inserted (1.01.2012) by *Local Government (Household Charge) Act 2011* (36/2011), s.19(1)(a)(i), in effect as per s. 19(3).

F2 Inserted (1.01.2012) by *Local Government (Household Charge) Act 2011* (36/2011), s.19(1)(a)(i), in effect as per s. 19(3).

- F3 Substituted (1.01.2012) by *Local Government (Household Charge) Act 2011* (36/2011), s.19(1)(a)(ii), in effect as per s. 19(3).
- F4 Inserted (1.01.2012) by *Local Government (Household Charge) Act 2011* (36/2011), s.19(1)(a)(iii), in effect as per s. 19(3).
- F5 Deleted (1.01.2012) by *Local Government (Household Charge) Act 2011* (36/2011), s.19(1)(a)(iv), in effect as per s. 19(3).
- F6 Inserted (1.01.2012) by *Local Government (Household Charge) Act 2011* (36/2011), s.19(1)(a)(v), in effect as per s. 19(3).
- F7 Inserted (1.01.2012) by *Local Government (Household Charge) Act 2011* (36/2011), s.19(1)(a)(vi), in effect as per s. 19(3).
- F8 Inserted (1.01.2012) by *Local Government (Household Charge) Act 2011* (36/2011), s.19(1)(a)(vi), in effect as per s. 19(3).
- F9 Substituted (1.01.2012) by *Local Government (Household Charge) Act 2011* (36/2011), s.19(1)(a)(vii), in effect as per s. 19(3).
- F10 Substituted (1.01.2012) by *Local Government (Household Charge) Act 2011* (36/2011), s.19(1)(a)(viii), in effect as per s. 19(3).

Modifications (not altering text):

- C4 References to “county council” and “city council” construed (1.06.2014) by *Local Government Reform Act 2014* (1/2014), s. 9(2), S.I. No. 214 of 2014.

Cesser and amalgamation of certain local government areas

9.— ...

(2) Except where otherwise provided for by this Act, a reference, however expressed, in any enactment—

(a) to a county council or a city council (including a reference construed by section 3(2) of, and Schedule 2 to, the Principal Act as a reference to a county council or to a city council, as the case may be) shall, if the context permits, be read as a reference to a county council, a city council or a city and county council, and

(b) to a county council and a city council (including a reference so construed) shall, if the context permits, be read as a reference to a county council, a city council and a city and county council.

...

F11 [Meaning of residential property.

2.—(1) In this Act “residential property” means, subject to *subsection (2)*, a building that is situated in the State and that is occupied, or suitable for occupation, as a separate dwelling, whether or not the occupier shares, or would be entitled to share, in connection therewith, any accommodation, amenity or facility with any other person, and includes—

(a) a house, maisonette, flat or apartment (including the form of accommodation commonly known as a bedsit), and

(b) a building containing a bedroom to which *paragraph (e) of subsection (2)* applies.

(2) For the purposes of this Act, none of the following is a residential property:

(a) a building—

(i) from which no income has been derived since the building’s construction,

(ii) that, since the building’s construction, has never been used as a dwelling, and

- (iii) that forms part of the trading stock of a business;
 - (b) a building vested in a Minister of the Government, a housing authority (within the meaning of the Act of 1992) or the Health Service Executive;
 - (c) a building owned by a body standing approved for the purposes of section 6 of the Act of 1992;
 - (d) a building that—
 - (i) is wholly used as a dwelling (other than a dwelling that forms part of a mixed hereditament within the meaning of the *Local Government (Financial Provisions) Act 1978*), and
 - (ii) in respect of which local authority rates are payable;
 - (e) a bedroom that is let under a letting arrangement whereby the occupier of the bedroom is entitled to share with any other individual any other accommodation, amenity or facility in the building of which the bedroom forms part;
 - (f) an approved building within the meaning of section 482 of the Act of 1997.
- (3) In this section "business" includes—
- (a) the business of a company to which—
 - (i) an examiner, liquidator or receiver has been appointed under the Companies Acts,
 - (ii) a statutory receiver has been appointed under the *National Asset Management Agency Act 2009*, or
 - (iii) a receiver has been appointed under any other enactment,and
 - (b) the business of an individual—
 - (i) who is a bankrupt or an arranging debtor within the meaning of the *Bankruptcy Act 1988*, all or part of whose property vests in a receiver, manager or the Official Assignee in Bankruptcy in accordance with that Act, or
 - (ii) where, in respect of all or part of the trading stock of the business, a statutory receiver has been appointed under the *National Asset Management Agency Act 2009*.]

Annotations

Amendments:

- F11** Substituted (1.01.2012) by *Local Government (Household Charge) Act 2011* (36/2011), s. 19(1)(b), in effect as per s. 19(3).

Charge on certain residential property. **3.**— F12[...]

Annotations**Amendments:**

- F12** Repealed (27.01.2014) by *Local Government Reform Act 2014* (1/2014), s. 73(1)(a), commenced as per s. 73(1)(a).

Editorial Notes:

- E1** Period prescribed for purposes of subs. (4) (29.02.2012) by *Local Government (Charges) (Amendment) Regulations 2012* (S.I. No. 63 of 2012), reg. 3.
- E2** Period prescribed for purposes of subs. (4) (24.07.2009) by *Local Government (Charges) Regulations 2009* (S.I. No. 278 of 2009), reg. 5, in effect as per reg. 2.
- E3** Previous affecting provision: section amended (1.01.2012) by *Local Government (Household Charge) Act 2011* (36/2011), s. 19(1)(c), in effect as per s. 19(3).
- E4** Liability date prescribed for purposes of subs. (1) (24.07.2009) by *Local Government (Charges) Regulations 2009* (S.I. No. 278 of 2009), reg. 4, in effect as per reg. 2.

Exemptions from charge. **4.—F13[...]**

Annotations**Amendments:**

- F13** Repealed (27.01.2014) by *Local Government Reform Act 2014* (1/2014), s. 73(1)(a), commenced as per s. 73(1)(a).

Editorial Notes:

- E5** Previous affecting provision: section amended (1.01.2012) by *Local Government (Household Charge) Act 2011* (36/2011), s. 19(1)(d)-(f), in effect as per s. 19(3).

Declaration of liability and payment of charge. **5.— F14[...]**

Annotations**Amendments:**

- F14** Repealed (27.01.2014) by *Local Government Reform Act 2014* (1/2014), s. 73(1)(a), commenced as per s. 73(1)(a).

Editorial Notes:

- E6** Previous affecting provision: subss. (1) and (2) substituted (1.01.2012) by *Local Government (Household Charge) Act 2011* (36/2011), s. 19(1)(g), in effect as per s. 19(3); section repealed (27.01.2014) as per F-note above.
- E7** Previous affecting provision: subss. (4), (5), (6), (7) substituted (1.01.2012) by *Local Government (Household Charge) Act 2011* (36/2011), s. 19(1)(h), in effect as per s. 19(3); section repealed (27.01.2014) as per F-note above.

- E8** Previous affecting provision: fee prescribed for purposes of subs. (4) (1.01.2012) by *Local Government (Charges) Regulations 2011* (S.I. No. 721 of 2011), reg. 4, in effect as per reg. 2; section repealed (27.01.2014) as per F-note above.
- E9** Previous affecting provision: means of payment prescribed for purposes of subs. (3) (24.07.2009) by *Local Government (Charges) Regulations 2009* (S.I. No. 278 of 2009), reg. 7, in effect as per reg. 2; section repealed (27.01.2014) as per F-note above.

Late payment fee. **6.— F15[...]**

Annotations

Amendments:

- F15** Repealed (2.03.2014) by *Local Government Reform Act 2014* (1/2014), s. 73(1)(b), commenced as per s. 73(1)(b).

Editorial Notes:

- E10** Previous affecting provision: time limit under subs. (6) affected (30.01.2014) by *Local Government Reform Act 2014* (1/2014), s. 74(1), (4), S.I. No. 38 of 2014.
- E11** Previous affecting provision: section substituted (1.01.2012) by *Local Government (Household Charge) Act 2011* (36/2011), s. 19(1)(i), in effect as per s. 19(3).

Unpaid amount to be a charge on property. **7.—** (1) Any charge or late payment fee due and unpaid by an owner of residential property shall, subject to *subsection (2)*, be and remain a charge on the property to which it relates.

(2) The said property shall not, as against a bona fide purchaser for full consideration in money or money's worth or a mortgagee, remain charged with or liable to the payment of such unpaid charge or late payment fee after the expiration of 12 years from the date upon which the amount concerned fell due.

F16[Application for certificate of exemption.

8.— (1) The owner of a residential property may apply to the relevant local authority for a certificate (in this Act referred to as a "certificate of exemption"), in respect of such liability date or liability dates as are specified in the certificate, stating that, by virtue of *subsection (1), (2), (4), (5), (6) or (7) of section 4*, no charge was payable in respect of the residential property, and specifying the reasons why no such charge was payable.

(2) An applicant for a certificate of exemption shall provide the relevant local authority with all such information as it may reasonably require for the purpose of its making a decision in relation to the application.

(3) When a relevant local authority receives from the applicant for a certificate of exemption all such information as it may reasonably require for the purpose of its making a decision in relation to the application, the relevant local authority shall within 14 days—

(a) if it is satisfied that in respect of any particular liability date or liability dates a charge was not payable in respect of the residential property concerned, issue a certificate of exemption to the applicant in respect of the residential property and the date or dates concerned, or

(b) if it is not so satisfied, refuse the application, give the applicant a statement in writing of the reason for the refusal and inform the applicant in writing

of his or her entitlement to appeal the refusal to the District Court in accordance with this section.

(4) Where a relevant local authority refuses an application under this section, the applicant for the certificate concerned may appeal the refusal to the District Court.

(5) On the hearing of an appeal under this section, the District Court may—

(a) allow the appeal and direct the relevant local authority to issue a certificate of exemption to the appellant in such terms as the court shall specify, or

(b) affirm the refusal of the application concerned.

(6) An appeal against a refusal of a certificate of exemption shall be made to a judge of the District Court for the time being assigned to the district court district in which the residential property concerned is situated.]

Annotations

Amendments:

F16 Substituted (1.01.2012) by *Local Government (Household Charge) Act 2011* (36/2011), s.19(1)(j), in effect as per s. 19(3)

F17[Receipts, certificates and requirements on sale of residential property.

8A.— (1) Where a person pays a charge or a late payment fee to a relevant local authority in respect of a residential property, that local authority shall give the person a receipt in writing in respect of the payment.

(2) Where a relevant local authority receives payment in full of a charge and all related late payment fees in respect of a residential property, it shall, on application to it in writing by or on behalf of the owner of the residential property, within 14 days, give that owner a certificate (in this section referred to as a “certificate of discharge”) confirming that the charge in respect of the year concerned has been paid and that no late payment fee is due or owing in respect of the property for that year.

(3) The vendor of a residential property shall, before the completion of the sale of the property, pay to the relevant local authority all charges and late payment fees due and owing to the relevant local authority in respect of that residential property.

(4) On or before the completion of the sale of a residential property, the vendor of that residential property shall, in respect of that residential property, give to the purchaser—

(a) a certificate of discharge, or

(b) a certificate of exemption,

as may be appropriate, in respect of each year in which a liability date fell since the date of the last sale of the property.

(5) As against a bona fide purchaser or mortgagee of such property for full consideration in money or money’s worth without notice, or a person deriving title from or under such a purchaser or mortgagee, a certificate of discharge or a certificate of exemption shall discharge the property concerned from liability for any charge or late payment fee due by the owner of that property for each year in which the liability date or dates to which the certificate relates fell.

(6) A person who contravenes *subsection (3)* shall be guilty of an offence and shall be liable on summary conviction to a class C fine.

(7) A relevant local authority—

(a) shall not charge a fee in respect of the issue by it of a receipt, a certificate of discharge or a certificate of exemption, and

(b) may charge a fee in respect of the issue by it of a duplicate of such receipt or certificate not exceeding the reasonable cost of issuing the duplicate.

(8) In this section—

“purchaser” includes, in relation to a residential property, a transferee under a transfer referred to in the definition of “sale” in this subsection;

“sale” includes, in relation to a residential property, the transfer of the residential property by the owner to another person—

(a) in consequence of—

(i) the exercise of a power under any enactment to compulsorily acquire land, or

(ii) the giving of notice of intention to exercise such power,

or

(b) for no consideration or consideration that is significantly less than the estimated market value of the residential property concerned at the time of its transfer;

“vendor” includes, in relation to a residential property—

(a) a person who transfers the property to another person—

(i) in consequence of—

(I) the exercise of a power under any enactment to compulsorily acquire land, or

(II) the giving of notice of intention to exercise such power,

or

(ii) for no consideration or consideration that is significantly less than the estimated market value of the residential property concerned at the time of its transfer,

and

(b) an agent of the owner of the residential property who—

(i) receives the proceeds of the sale of the residential property or part thereof on behalf of the owner, or

(ii) provides legal advice to the owner in connection with a transfer referred to in *subparagraph (ii) of paragraph (a) of the property by the owner.*]

Annotations

Amendments:

F17 Inserted (1.01.2012) by *Local Government (Household Charge) Act 2011* (36/2011), s. 19(1)(j), in effect as per s. 19(3).

F18[Forged and altered documents.

8B.— (1) It shall be an offence for a person to forge or utter knowing it to be forged a certificate or other document purporting to be issued under this Act (in this section referred to as "a forged document").

(2) It shall be an offence for a person to alter with intent to defraud or deceive, or to utter knowing it to be so altered, a certificate or other document issued under this Act (in this section referred to as "an altered document").

(3) It shall be an offence for a person to have, without lawful authority, in his or her possession a forged document or an altered document.

(4) It shall be an offence for a person to aid or abet the commission of an offence under this section.

(5) A person guilty of an offence under this section shall be liable—

(a) on summary conviction, to a class A fine or to imprisonment for a term not exceeding 6 months or both, and

(b) on conviction on indictment, to a fine not exceeding €25,000 or to imprisonment for a term not exceeding 2 years or both.]

Annotations

Amendments:

F18 Inserted (1.01.2012) by *Local Government (Household Charge) Act 2011* (36/2011), s. 19(1)(j), in effect as per s. 19(3). A class A fine means a fine not greater than €5,000 as provided (4.01.2011) by *Fines Act 2010* (8/2010), ss. 3, 4(1), S.I. No. 662 of 2010.

Collection, care and management of charge.

9.— F19[...]

Annotations

Amendments:

F19 Repealed (27.01.2014) by *Local Government Reform Act 2014* (1/2014), s. 73(1)(a), commenced as per s. 73(1)(a).

F20[Delegation of functions of local authority.

10.— (1) A relevant local authority may delegate to a relevant board such one or more than one of its functions (other than the power to bring proceedings for an offence) relating to the collection of charges or late payment fees as it considers appropriate.

(2) A relevant local authority shall, where the Minister so directs in writing, delegate to a relevant board such one or more than one of its functions (other than the power to bring proceedings for an offence) relating to the collection of charges or late payment fees as may be specified in the direction.

(3) Where a delegation is made by a relevant local authority to a relevant board under this section—

(a) the relevant board shall perform the functions concerned in accordance with any limitations specified in the delegation as to the area, period in which, or extent to which it is to perform those functions,

(b) a provision of or under this Act or any other enactment (whether passed or made before or after the passing of this Act) that vests functions in the relevant local authority or regulates the manner in which any function is to be performed shall, if and in so far as it is applicable to the delegated function, have effect, for the purposes of the performance of that function by the relevant board, with the substitution of the relevant board for the relevant local authority, and accordingly references in any such provision to a local authority shall for the purposes of the performance of the delegated function by the relevant board be construed as references to the relevant board.

(4) A relevant board shall be paid such fees and expenses (if any) in respect of the performance by it of functions delegated under this section as may be prescribed.

(5) A local authority shall not revoke a delegation under *subsection (1) or (2)* except with the consent of the Minister.

(6) A local authority shall, where the Minister so directs in writing, revoke a delegation under this section.

(7) The functions conferred on a local authority by this section shall be executive functions for the purposes of the Act of 2001.

F21[(8) In this section "relevant board" means—

(a) the Local Government Computer Services Board established by the Local Government Computer Services Board (Establishment) Order 1975 (S.I. No. 212 of 1975), or a body to whom the functions of that Board have been transferred by order under section 5A (inserted by section 7 of the Local Government (Miscellaneous Provisions) Act 2012) of the *Local Government Services (Corporate Bodies) Act 1971*, and

(b) the Local Government Management Services Board established by the Local Government Management Services Board (Establishment) Order 1996 (S.I. No. 410 of 1996), or a body to whom the functions of that Board have been transferred by order under section 5A (inserted by section 7 of the Local Government (Miscellaneous Provisions) Act 2012) of the *Local Government Services (Corporate Bodies) Act 1971*,

or either of them.]]

Annotations

Amendments:

F20 Substituted (1.01.2012) by *Local Government (Household Charge) Act 2011* (36/2011), s. 19(1)(k), in effect as per s. 19(3)

F21 Substituted (1.08.2012) by *Local Government (Miscellaneous Provisions) Act 2012* (17/2012), s. 12(1), S.I. 287 of 2012.

Editorial Notes:

E12 Power pursuant to section exercised (1.01.2012) by *Local Government (Charges) Regulations 2011* (S.I. No. 721 of 2011), in effect as per reg. 2.

F22[Data sharing and exchange.

11.—(1) Notwithstanding any enactment or rule of law—

(a) a relevant person shall, upon a request from a local authority, provide the local authority with such information in the possession or control of the relevant person or, where the relevant person is a body corporate, any subsidiary (within the meaning of section 155 of the *Companies Act 1963*)

of the relevant person as the local authority may reasonably require for the purpose of enabling the local authority to perform its functions under this Act,

- (b) a local authority shall, at such intervals as the Revenue Commissioners may specify, provide the Revenue Commissioners with such information obtained by the local authority pursuant to this Act, including tax reference numbers, as the Revenue Commissioners may reasonably require for the purpose of enabling them to perform their functions under a specified enactment, and
- (c) a local authority shall, upon a request from, and at such intervals as may be specified by, a Minister of the Government, a local authority or a prescribed person, provide the Minister of the Government, the local authority or the prescribed person, as may be appropriate, with such information obtained by the local authority pursuant to this Act as the Minister of the Government, the local authority or the prescribed person concerned may reasonably require for the purpose of enabling him or her to perform his or her functions.

(2) The Minister shall not prescribe a person for the purposes of *paragraph (c) of subsection (1)* unless he or she is satisfied that the provision by a local authority of information obtained by the local authority pursuant to this Act to such person will assist the person in discharging a function conferred on, or delegated to, him or her by or under any enactment.

(3) In this section—

“Act of 2010” means the [Value-Added Tax Consolidation Act 2010](#);

“relevant person” means—

- (a) the Private Residential Tenancies Board established under [section 150 of the Residential Tenancies Act 2004](#),
- (b) the Electricity Supply Board established in accordance with the [Electricity \(Supply\) Act 1927](#),
- (c) the Revenue Commissioners,
- (d) the Minister for Social Protection, or
- (e) any other person standing prescribed for the time being;

“specified enactment” means—

- (a) the Tax Acts,
- (b) the Capital Gains Tax Acts,
- (c) the Act of 2010,
- (d) the [Stamp Duties Consolidation Act 1999](#), or
- (e) the Act of 2003;

“tax reference number” means—

- (a) in relation to an individual, that individual’s personal public service number (within the meaning of section 262 of the Act of 2005), or
- (b) in relation to a body corporate—
 - (i) the reference number stated on any return of income form or notice of assessment issued to that person by an officer of the Revenue Commissioners, or

(ii) the registration number of the body corporate for the purposes of the Act of 2010.]

Annotations

Amendments:

F22 Substituted (1.01.2012) by *Local Government (Household Charge) Act 2011* (36/2011), s. 19(1)(l), in effect as per s. 19(3).

Modifications (not altering text):

C5 Reference to Private Residential Tenancies Board construed (7.04.2016) by *Residential Tenancies (Amendment) Act 2015* (42/2015), s. 13(3), S.I. No. 151 of 2016.

Change of name of Board

13. ...

(3) In any enactment or any instrument under an enactment, references to the Private Residential Tenancies Board shall be construed as references to the Residential Tenancies Board.

...

Editorial Notes:

E13 Persons prescribed for purposes of subs. (1)(c) (1.01.2012) by *Local Government (Charges) Regulations 2011* (S.I. No. 721 of 2011), reg. 6, in effect as per reg. 2.

E14 Previous affecting provision: subs. (2) amended (1.11.2010) by *Value-Added Tax Consolidation Act 2010* (31/2010), s. 123 and sch. 7 part 1, in effect as per s. 125; substituted as per F-note above.

Offences and penalties.

12.— (1) A person guilty of an offence under [section 5](#) shall be liable on summary conviction to a fine not exceeding €2,000.

(2) A person who is convicted of an offence under [section 5](#) shall, on each day on which the contravention of which that offence consists is continued by the person after having been so convicted, be guilty of an offence and shall be liable on summary conviction to a fine not exceeding €100.

(3) Notwithstanding section 10(4) of the Petty Sessions (Ireland) Act 1851, summary proceedings for an offence under this Act may be instituted not later than 2 years from the date on which F23[[the relevant local authority forms the opinion that there exists sufficient evidence to justify the institution of proceedings for the offence concerned,](#)] but in no case shall such proceedings be commenced later than 6 years from the date on which the offence concerned was committed.

(4) Where an offence under this Act is committed by a body corporate and is proved to have been so committed with the consent or connivance of F24[...] any person, being a director, manager, secretary or other officer of the body corporate, or a person who was purporting to act in such capacity, that person shall, as well as the body corporate, be guilty of an offence and shall be liable to be proceeded against and punished as if he or she were guilty of the first-mentioned offence.

(5) Summary proceedings for an offence under this Act may be brought and prosecuted by the relevant local authority for the residential property to which the offence relates.

(6) Where a person is convicted of an offence under this Act, the court shall order the person to pay to the local authority concerned the costs and expenses, measured by the court, incurred by the local authority in relation to the investigation, detection and prosecution of the offence, unless the court is satisfied that there are special and substantial reasons for not so doing.

F25[(7) Where a person is convicted of an offence under either *subsection (5) or subsection (7) (in so far as either subsection relates to paragraph (c) of subsection (2)) of section 5*, the court may, in determining the amount of the fine to impose on the person in respect of that offence, take account of any late payment fee or late payment interest, or both, paid by the person in connection with the failure to pay the household charge to which the offence relates.]

Annotations

Amendments:

- F23** Substituted (1.01.2012) by *Local Government (Household Charge) Act 2011* (36/2011), s. 19(1)(m)(i), in effect as per s. 19(3).
- F24** Deleted (1.01.2012) by *Local Government (Household Charge) Act 2011* (36/2011), s. 19(1)(m)(ii), in effect as per s. 19(3).
- F25** Inserted (1.01.2012) by *Local Government (Household Charge) Act 2011* (36/2011), s. 19(1)(m)(iii), in effect as per s. 19(3).

Editorial Notes:

- E15** A fine of €2,000 translates into a class C fine, not greater than €2,500, as provided (4.01.2011) by *Fines Act 2010* (8/2010), ss. 3, 6(1) and table ref. no. 1, S.I. No. 662 of 2010.
- A fine of €100 translates into a class E fine, not greater than €500, as provided (4.01.2011) by *Fines Act 2010* (8/2010), ss. 3, 8(2) and table ref. no. 1, S.I. No. 662 of 2010.

Expenses of
Minister.

13.— The expenses incurred by the Minister in the administration of this Act shall, to such extent as may be sanctioned by the Minister for Finance, be paid out of moneys provided by the Oireachtas.

Regulations,
orders and
directions.

14.— F26[...]

Annotations

Amendments:

- F26** Repealed (27.01.2014) by *Local Government Reform Act 2014* (1/2014), s. 73(1)(a), commenced as per s. 73(1)(a).

Editorial Notes:

- E16** Power pursuant to section exercised (29.02.2012) by *Local Government (Charges) (Amendment) Regulations 2012* (S.I. No. 63 of 2012).
- Power pursuant to section exercised (1.01.2012) by *Local Government (Charges) Regulations 2011* (S.I. No. 721 of 2011), in effect as per reg. 2.
- Power pursuant to section exercised (24.07.2009) by *Local Government (Charges) Regulations 2009* (S.I. No. 278 of 2009), in effect as per reg. 2.
- E17** Previous affecting provision: section substituted (1.01.2012) by *Local Government (Household Charge) Act 2011* (36/2011), s. 19(1)(n), in effect as per s. 19(3).

Payment to town councils. 15.— F27[...]

Annotations

Amendments:

F27 Repealed (1.01.2015) by *Local Government Reform Act 2014* (1/2014), s. 73(1)(c), subject to subs. (2), commenced as per s. 73(1)(c).

Editorial Notes:

E18 Previous affecting provision: references to “county council”, “town council” and “administrative area of a county council” construed (1.06.2014) by *Local Government Reform Act 2014* (1/2014), ss. 9(2), (3) and 25(2), S.I. No. 214 of 2014; section repealed (1.0-1.2015) as per F-note above.

E19 Previous affecting provision: subs. (1) amended (1.01.2012) by *Local Government (Household Charge) Act 2011* (36/2011), s. 19(1)(o), in effect as per s. 19(3); section repealed (1.01.2015) as per F-note above.

Short title and commencement. 16.— (1) This Act may be cited as the Local Government (Charges) Act 2009.

(2) This Act shall come into operation on such day or days as the Minister may appoint by order or orders either generally or with reference to any particular purpose or provision, and different days may be so appointed for different purposes and different provisions.

Annotations

Editorial Notes:

E20 Power pursuant to section exercised (24.07.2009) by *Local Government (Charges) Act 2009 (Commencement) Order 2009* (S.I. No. 279 of 2009).

2. The 24th day of July 2009 is appointed as the day on which the Local Government (Charges) Act 2009 (No. 31 of 2009) comes into operation.



Number 30 of 2009

LOCAL GOVERNMENT (CHARGES) ACT 2009

REVISED

Updated to 9 January 2023

About this Revised Act

This revision presents the text of the Act as it has been amended since enactment, and preserves the format in which it was first passed.

Related legislation

This Act is not collectively cited with any other Act.

Annotations

This revised Act is annotated and includes textual and non-textual amendments, statutory instruments made pursuant to the Act and previous affecting provisions. A version without annotations, showing only textual amendments, is also available.

An explanation of how to read annotations is available at www.lawreform.ie/annotations

Material not updated in this revision

Where other legislation is amended by this Act, those amendments may have been superseded by other amendments in other legislation, or the amended legislation may have been repealed or revoked. This information is not represented in this revision but will be reflected in a revision of the amended legislation if one is available.

Where legislation or a fragment of legislation is referred to in annotations, changes to this legislation or fragment may not be reflected in this revision but will be reflected in a revision of the legislation referred to if one is available.

A list of legislative changes to any Act, and to statutory instruments from 1972, may be found linked from the page of the Act or statutory instrument at www.irishstatutebook.ie.

Acts which affect or previously affected this revision

- *Local Government Reform Act 2014* (1/2014)
- *Local Government (Miscellaneous Provisions) Act 2012* (17/2012)
- *Local Government (Household Charge) Act 2011* (36/2011)
- *Value-Added Tax Consolidation Act 2010* (31/2010)

All Acts up to and including *Local Government (Maternity Protection and Other Measures for Members of Local Authorities) Act 2022* (52/2022), enacted 21 December 2022, were considered in the preparation of this revision.

Statutory instruments which affect or previously affected this revision

- *Local Government (Charges) (Amendment) Regulations 2012* (S.I. No. 63 of 2012)
- *Local Government (Charges) Regulations 2011* (S.I. No. 721 of 2011)
- *Local Government (Charges) Regulations 2009* (S.I. No. 278 of 2009)

All statutory instruments up to and including *Planning And Development And Foreshore (Amendment) Act 2022 (Commencement) Order 2023* (S.I. No. 1 of 2023), made 9 January 2023, were considered in the preparation of this revision.