Agricultural Holdings (Scotland) Bill
[AS AMENDED AT STAGE 2]

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Agricultural Holdings (Scotland) Bill
[AS AMENDED AT STAGE 2]

An Act of the Scottish Parliament to amend the law relating to agricultural holdings under the Agricultural Holdings (Scotland) Act 1991; to provide for new forms of agricultural tenancies and to make provision in relation to these tenancies; to provide for the right of certain agricultural tenants to buy land; to provide for the use of certain agricultural land for non-agricultural purposes; to make special provision for certain agricultural tenancies where the tenant is a partnership; to make new provision for the resolution of disputes between landlords and tenants arising under agricultural tenancies; and for connected purposes.

PART 1
AGRICULTURAL TENANCIES
CHAPTER 1
TYPES OF TENANCY
Tenancies under the 1991 Act

1 Application of the 1991 Act to agricultural holdings

(1) This subsection applies where—

(a) a lease is entered into on or after the coming into force of this subsection; and

(b) the tenancy under the lease is a tenancy of an agricultural holding in relation to which the Agricultural Holdings (Scotland) Act 1991 (c.55) (in this Act referred to as “the 1991 Act”) would have applied had the lease been entered into immediately before the coming into force of this subsection.

(2) Where subsection (1) applies, the 1991 Act does not apply in relation to the tenancy (except in so far as this Act applies any provision of that Act to short limited duration tenancies or limited duration tenancies) unless the lease—

(a) is entered into in writing prior to the commencement of; and

(b) expressly states that the 1991 Act is to apply in relation to,

the tenancy.

(3) Section 2 (leases for less than year to year) of the 1991 Act is repealed.
(4) Where, in respect of a tenancy of an agricultural holding—

(a) the lease is entered into before the coming into force of this subsection; or

(b) the lease is entered into on or after the coming into force of this subsection and
(by virtue of the conditions mentioned in paragraphs (a) and (b) of subsection (2)
being fulfilled) the 1991 Act applies in relation to the tenancy,

the tenancy under the lease is in this Act referred to as a “1991 Act tenancy”.

2 Conversion from 1991 Act tenancy to limited duration tenancy

(1) The landlord and tenant under a 1991 Act tenancy may terminate the tenancy by agreement in writing provided that subsection (2) is complied with.

(2) This subsection is complied with if the landlord and tenant enter into a lease constituting a limited duration tenancy for a term of not less than 25 years which—

(a) comprises or includes the same land as that comprised in the tenancy being terminated under subsection (1); and

(b) has effect from the date on which the termination under that subsection has effect.

(3) On termination of a 1991 Act tenancy under subsection (1), the tenant is entitled to such compensation for improvements as the tenant would have been entitled to under Part IV (compensation for improvements) of the 1991 Act (or, as the case may be, under the lease) were the tenant quitting the holding at the termination of the tenancy.

(4) Where a 1991 Act tenancy is terminated under subsection (1), section 21 (notice to quit and notice of intention to quit) of the 1991 Act does not apply in respect of the tenancy.

(5) In that section of that Act, in subsection (1), after the word “below” there is inserted “and to section 2 of the Agricultural Holdings (Scotland) Act 2003 (asp 00),”.

3 Leases for grazing or mowing

(1) This section applies to a tenancy under a lease under which agricultural land is let for the purpose of its being used only for grazing or mowing during some specified period of the year (whether or not the lease expressly so provides).

(2) The tenancy is not to be constituted for a period of more than 364 days; and where the term of the tenancy has expired, the land may not be let for the same purpose to the same tenant before one clear day from the date of expiry of the tenancy has elapsed.

4 Short limited duration tenancies

(1) Where—

(a) agricultural land is let under a lease for a term of not more than five years;

(b) the land comprised in the lease is not let to the tenant during the tenant’s continuance in any office, appointment or employment held under the landlord; and

(c) the lease does not constitute—
(i) a 1991 Act tenancy; or
(ii) a tenancy to which section 3 applies,

the tenancy under the lease is, by virtue of this subsection, a short limited duration tenancy.

(2) Without prejudice to subsection (1), where the tenant remains in occupation of the land after the expiry of the term of a tenancy to which section 3 applies with the consent of the landlord, the tenancy continues to have effect as if it were for a term of—

(a) 5 years; or

(b) such period of less than 5 years as the landlord and tenant may agree to,

and the tenancy is, by virtue of this subsection, a short limited duration tenancy.

(3) Where the tenant remains in occupation of the land after the expiry of the term of a short limited duration tenancy of less than 5 years (including such a term fixed by virtue of subsection (2)) with the consent of the landlord, the tenancy continues to have effect as if it were for a term of—

(a) 5 years; or

(b) such period of less than 5 years as the landlord and tenant may agree to.

(4) This subsection applies to a short limited duration tenancy where—

(a) the term of the tenancy has expired and the tenant has not remained in occupation of the land; or

(b) during the term of the tenancy, the landlord and tenant have terminated the tenancy by agreement.

(5) Where the landlord and tenant enter into a lease constituting a further short limited duration tenancy which—

(a) comprises the same land as that comprised in the tenancy to which subsection (4) applies; and

(b) has effect less than one year from the expiry of the term of, or termination of, that tenancy,

the expired period of the term of that tenancy counts as an expired period of the term of the further tenancy; but this is subject to subsection (3) of section 5.

5

Limited duration tenancies

(1) Where—

(a) agricultural land is let under a lease for a term of not less than fifteen years;

(b) the land comprised in the lease is not let to the tenant during the tenant’s continuance in any office, appointment or employment held under the landlord; and

(c) the lease does not constitute a 1991 Act tenancy,

the tenancy under the lease is, by virtue of this subsection, a limited duration tenancy.
(2) Where the tenant remains in occupation of the land after the expiry of the term of a short
limited duration tenancy of 5 years (including such a term fixed by virtue of section 4(2)
or (3)) with the consent of the landlord, the tenancy has effect as if it were for a term of
15 years, commencing on the expiry of the term of the short limited duration tenancy;
and the tenancy is, by virtue of this subsection, a limited duration tenancy.

(3) Where subsection (5) of section 4 results in a short limited duration tenancy purporting
to be for a term of more than 5 years, the tenancy has effect as if it were for a term of 15
years; and the tenancy is, by virtue of this subsection, a limited duration tenancy.

(4) Without prejudice to subsections (2) and (3), where a lease constituting a tenancy of
agricultural land, as described in paragraphs (b) and (c) of subsection (1), purports to be
for a term of more than 5 years and less than 15 years, the tenancy has effect as if it
were for a term of 15 years; and the tenancy is, by virtue of this subsection, a limited
duration tenancy.

CHAPTER 2

GENERAL PROVISION AS TO NEW TYPES OF TENANCY

Short limited duration tenancies and limited duration tenancies: general provision

6 Assignation, subletting and termination of short limited duration tenancies

(1) The tenant may not assign a lease constituting a short limited duration tenancy nor
sublet the land comprised in the lease.

(2) A short limited duration tenancy may be terminated by the landlord and tenant by
agreement.

7 Assignation and subletting of limited duration tenancies

(1) A lease constituting a limited duration tenancy may be assigned by the tenant if,
following notice under subsection (2), the landlord consents to a proposed assignation.

(2) The tenant must give the landlord a notice in writing of any intention of the tenant to
assign the lease; and the notice must include the particulars of the proposed assignee, the
terms upon which the assignation is to be made and the date on which it is to take effect.

(3) The landlord may withhold consent to the proposed assignation if there are reasonable
grounds for doing so; and, in particular the landlord may withhold consent if not
satisfied as to whether the proposed assignee—

(a) would have the ability to pay—

(i) the rent due under the lease; or

(ii) for adequate maintenance of the land; or

(b) has the skills or experience that would be required properly to manage and
maintain the land in accordance with the rules of good husbandry.

(4) Any such withholding of consent (and the grounds for withholding it) is to be intimated
in writing to the tenant within 30 days of the giving of the notice under subsection (2);
and, if no such intimation is made, the landlord is (except where the landlord exercises
the right under subsection (5) to acquire the tenant’s interest in the tenancy) deemed to
have consented to the proposed assignation.
(5) Where the landlord has been given notice under subsection (2), the landlord is entitled to acquire the tenant’s interest in the tenancy provided that—

(a) the landlord gives the tenant notice—

(i) in writing; and

(ii) within 30 days of the giving of the notice under subsection (2), of the landlord’s intention to acquire that interest; and

(b) the terms upon which the landlord acquires that interest are no less favourable to the tenant than the terms upon which the proposed assignation was to have been made.

(6) A tenant may sublet the land comprised in a lease constituting a limited duration tenancy only on such basis as the lease expressly permits.

8 Continuation and termination of limited duration tenancies

(1) A limited duration tenancy may be terminated by agreement between the landlord and tenant if the agreement is in writing and—

(a) is entered into after the commencement of the tenancy; and

(b) makes provision as to compensation payable by the landlord or the tenant to the other.

(2) At and after the expiry of the term of a limited duration tenancy, the tenancy continues to have effect in accordance with subsection (7) unless it is terminated in accordance with this section.

(4) At the expiry of the term of a limited duration tenancy, the landlord may terminate the tenancy by giving a notice under this subsection to the tenant.

(5) A notice under subsection (4) must—

(a) be in writing and state that the tenant shall quit the land on the expiry of the term of the tenancy; and

(b) be given not less than one year nor more than two years before the expiry of the term of the tenancy, provided that not less than 90 days have elapsed from the date on which the intimation mentioned in subsection (6) is given.

(6) A notice under subsection (4) is of no effect unless the landlord has given written intimation of the landlord’s intention to terminate the tenancy to the tenant not less than two years nor more than three years before the expiry of the term of the tenancy.

(7) If the tenancy is not terminated in accordance with this section, it continues in effect on a cycle of continuations; that is to say, a continuation of three years (a “first short continuation”) followed by a further continuation of three years (a “second short continuation”) followed by a further continuation of fifteen years (a “long continuation”) (the cycle being repeated without limit to the number of times).

(8) During a first short continuation, the landlord may terminate the tenancy by giving a notice under this subsection to the tenant; and subsections (5) and (6) apply to a notice under this subsection as they do to a notice under subsection (4).

(9) During a second short continuation, the landlord may terminate the tenancy by giving a notice under this subsection to the tenant.
(10) A notice under subsection (9)—
(a) must be in writing and state that the tenant shall quit the land on the relevant day; and
(b) may be given at any time during the continuation.

(11) For the purposes of subsection (10)(a)—
(a) where the notice has been given during the first year of the continuation, the relevant day is the day on which the continuation expires; and
(b) in any other case, the relevant day is the day on which the period of two years from the giving of the notice expires (and the continuation is deemed to expire on the relevant day).

(12) During a long continuation, the landlord may terminate the tenancy by giving a notice under this subsection to the tenant; and subsections (5) and (6) apply to a notice under this subsection as they do to a notice under subsection (4).

(13) For the purposes of subsections (8) and (12), the references in subsections (5) and (6) to the expiry of the term of the tenancy are to be read as references to the expiry of the continuation.

(13A) At or after the expiry of the term of a limited duration tenancy, the tenant may terminate the tenancy by giving a notice under this subsection to the landlord.

(13B) A notice under subsection (13A) must—
(a) be in writing and state that the tenant intends to quit the land on the expiry of the term of the tenancy or, as the case may be, a continuation of the tenancy; and
(b) be given not less than one year nor more than two years before the expiry of the term of the tenancy or, as the case may be, continuation.

(14) During the term of a limited duration tenancy, the term of the tenancy may be extended by the landlord and tenant by agreement in writing.

9 Review of rent under limited duration tenancies

(1) Where a lease constituting a limited duration tenancy makes no provision for review of rent, the rent due as payable under the lease is to be reviewed and determined in accordance with this section.

(2) A rent review is to take place on such date as the landlord or tenant may specify in a notice in writing to the other provided that—
(a) the notice is given not less than one year nor more than two years before the date so specified; and
(b) the date so specified is not less than three years—
(i) in the case of the first rent review, from the commencement of the tenancy; or
(ii) in the case of any subsequent rent review, from the date of the review under this subsection which precedes it.
(3) On review, subject to subsections (4) to (8), the rent payable is the rent which, having regard to the terms of the lease (other than those relating to rent), the tenancy would reasonably be expected to fetch in the open market where there is a willing landlord and a willing tenant (the “market value” of the tenancy); but any effect on rent of the fact that the tenant is in occupation of the land is to be disregarded.

(4) If there is insufficient information available in order to determine the market value of the tenancy, or the open market for rents of comparable tenancies in the surrounding area is distorted by the scarcity of tenancies available for rent or by other factors, the rent payable is the rent which the tenancy would reasonably be expected to fetch in a market which was not affected by such distortion, having regard to the following—

(a) information about open market rents of comparable tenancies outside the surrounding area;

(b) the entire range of offers made as regards any tenancy which are comparable after regard is had to the terms of that tenancy;

(c) sitting tenants’ rents fixed by agreement for tenancies in the surrounding area which are comparable after regard is had to any element attributable to goodwill between landlord and tenant or to similar considerations; and

(d) the current economic conditions in the relevant sector of agriculture.

(5) Account is to be taken of any increase in the rental value of the land resulting from the use of the land for a purpose that is not an agricultural purpose.

(6) No account is to be taken of any increase in the rental value of the land resulting from improvements—

(a) so far as—

(i) they have been carried out wholly or partly at the expense of the tenant (whether or not that expense has been or will be reimbursed by any grant) without equivalent allowance or benefit having been made or given by the landlord in consideration of their execution; and

(ii) they have not been carried out under an obligation imposed on the tenant by the terms of the lease; and

(b) which have been carried out by the landlord, in so far as the landlord has received or will receive any grant in respect of them,

nor may the rent be determined to be a higher amount than would have been payable if those improvements had not been so carried out.

(7) The continuous adoption by the tenant of a standard of farming or a system of farming more beneficial to the land than the standard or system required by terms of the lease or, in so far as no system of farming is so required, than the system of farming normally practised on comparable agricultural land in the district, is deemed, for the purposes of subsection (6), to be an improvement executed at the tenant’s expense.

(8) No account is to be taken of—

(a) any reduction in the rental value of the land as a result of any dilapidation or deterioration of, or damage to, fixed equipment or land caused or permitted by the tenant; or

(b) any such reduction resulting from—
Agricultural Holdings (Scotland) Bill
Part 1—Agricultural tenancies
Chapter 2—General provision as to new types of tenancy

(1) Where the landlord has carried out an improvement on the land comprised in a lease constituting a limited duration tenancy (whether or not one for which compensation is provided for by virtue of this Act)—

(a) at the request of, or in agreement with, the tenant;
(b) in pursuance of an undertaking given by the landlord by virtue of section 42(3) (as read with section 39(3) of the 1991 Act); or
(c) in compliance with a direction given by the Scottish Ministers under powers conferred on them by or under any enactment,

subject to subsections (2) and (3), the rent payable is to be increased as from the completion of the improvement by an amount equal to the increase in the rental value of the land resulting from the carrying out of the improvement.

(2) The landlord must give the tenant notice in writing of any such increase in the rent payable within 6 months of the completion of the improvement.

(3) Where any grant has been made to the landlord in respect of an improvement mentioned in subsection (1), the increase in rent under that subsection must be reduced proportionately.

Variation of rent by the Land Court

Where it appears to the Land Court, in determining any matter in relation to a limited duration tenancy by virtue of section 12 or 15, that it is equitable that the rent payable under the lease should be varied, it may vary the rent accordingly.

Written leases and the revision of certain leases

(1) Where, in respect of a short limited duration tenancy or a limited duration tenancy—

(a) there is not in force a lease in writing; or
(b) there is in force a lease in writing but—

(i) the lease does not contain provision for the matters mentioned in subsection (2)(a) or contains a provision inconsistent with those matters; or
(ii) the lease contains a provision inconsistent with section 15 (as read with section 5(2) to (4) of the 1991 Act),

the landlord or tenant may give notice in writing to the other requesting that a lease in writing be entered into containing the matters mentioned in subsection (2).

(2) Those matters are, as the case may be—
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Part 1—Agricultural tenancies

Chapter 2—General provision as to new types of tenancy

(a) provision for all the matters specified in Schedule 1 to the 1991 Act (that Schedule applying for the purposes of this section as it does for the purposes of that Act) or provision consistent with those matters; or

(b) provision consistent with section 15 (as read with section 5(2) to (4) of the 1991 Act).

(3) If, within the period of 6 months after notice has been given under subsection (1), no such lease has been concluded, the terms of the lease may be determined by the Land Court.

(4) In such a determination, the Land Court—

(a) is to specify the terms of the existing tenancy and, in so far as those terms do not make provision for the matters mentioned in subsection (2)(a) or make provision inconsistent with those matters or with section 15 (as read with section 5(2) to (4) of the 1991 Act), make such provision for those matters as appears to it to be reasonable; and

(b) may specify any further term of the tenancy which is—

(i) agreed between the landlord and the tenant; and

(ii) not inconsistent with any provision applying to the tenancy by virtue of this Act.

(5) Any determination of the Land Court by virtue of this section or section 15 has effect as if—

(a) the terms and provisions specified or made therein were contained in an agreement in writing between the landlord and the tenant; and

(b) such agreement had effect as from the date of the determination or from such later date as the determination may appoint.

(6) If it appears to the Land Court that on the date of the determination the landlord or tenant would be in breach of any term of the tenancy so specified or made, the Court is to appoint such later date as would allow the landlord or, as the case may be, tenant to remedy the breach.

13 Freedom of cropping and disposal of produce

Section 7 (freedom of cropping and disposal of produce) of the 1991 Act applies to short limited duration tenancies and limited duration tenancies as it does to 1991 Act tenancies, but as if—

(a) the references to the holding were references to the land;

(b) in subsection (4)—

(i) the reference to section 61(1) of that Act were a reference to section 62(1) of this Act; and

(ii) the reference to arbitration included any other method mentioned in that section of this Act (the reference to the arbiter being construed accordingly);

(c) in subsection (5)—

(i) paragraph (a); and
(ii) in paragraph (b), the words “in any other case,”,
were omitted; and

(d) in subsection (6), in paragraph (b), the reference to a direction under section 9 of
the 1949 Act were omitted.

14 Permanent pasture
Section 9 (arbitration as to permanent pasture) of the 1991 Act applies in relation to
short limited duration tenancies and limited duration tenancies as it does in relation to
1991 Act tenancies, but as if the references to the holding were references to the land.

15 Fixed equipment
(1) When a lease constituting a short limited duration tenancy or a limited duration tenancy
is entered into, any fixed equipment on the land comprised in the lease is to be specified
in the lease.

(2) At any time after the commencement of the tenancy, the landlord and tenant may by
agreement in writing—

(a) specify any fixed equipment not specified under subsection (1); or

(b) vary the terms of any specification of fixed equipment.

(3) The tenant is deemed to accept the condition of any fixed equipment, and its suitability
for the purposes of the tenancy, as it is so specified in the lease or by agreement.

(4) Subsections (2) to (4) of section 5 (fixed equipment and insurance premiums) of the
1991 Act apply in relation to short limited duration tenancies and limited duration
tenancies as they do in relation to 1991 Act tenancies, but as if in those subsections—

(a) the references to a lease of an agricultural holding to which that section applies
were references to the lease constituting the short limited duration tenancy or
limited duration tenancy; and

(b) the references to fixed equipment were references to fixed equipment specified
under subsection (1) or (2) of this section.

(5) In subsections (1) to (3), “fixed equipment” is to be construed in accordance with the
definition of that expression in section 85 (interpretation) of the 1991 Act, but as if, in
that definition, the reference to the agricultural holding were a reference to the land.

16 Resumption of land by landlord
(1) The landlord may resume the land or any part of the land comprised in a lease
constituting a short limited duration tenancy or a limited duration tenancy if—

(a) the resumption is for a non-agricultural purpose in respect of which permission
has been granted on an application made under the enactments relating to town
and country planning by—

(i) in the case of a short limited duration tenancy, any person (including the
tenant);

(ii) in the case of a limited duration tenancy, any person apart from the tenant;

(b) the lease does not expressly prohibit resumption for that purpose; and
(c) notice as mentioned in subsection (2) has been given.

(2) The landlord must give the tenant notice of any intention of the landlord so to resume any land; and the notice must—

(a) be in writing;

(b) be given not less than 1 year before the date on which the resumption is to take place; and

(c) specify that date.

(3) Where notice is given under subsection (2) for resumption of part of the land, the tenant may, within 28 days after—

(a) the giving of the notice; or

(b) the determination of any matter arising from the notice,

whichever is the later, terminate the tenancy by giving notice in writing to the landlord; and the termination takes effect on the date specified under subsection (2)(c).

(4) Where the landlord resumes part of the land under this section, the tenant is entitled to a reduction in rent—

(a) of an amount proportionate to that part; and

(b) of an amount in respect of any depreciation of the value to the tenant of the remainder of the land caused by the resumption of the part or any use made of the part,

but where paragraph (a) applies, in determining the amount of the reduction, account is to be taken of any benefit or relief allowed to the tenant under the lease in respect of the part resumed.

(5) Where—

(a) part of the land has been resumed under this section for a purpose mentioned in paragraph (f) (which specifies certain forms of mineral exploitation) of subsection (2) of section 29 of the 1991 Act (that paragraph applying for the purposes of this subsection as it does for the purposes of that section); and

(b) the land which formed that part has subsequently been made suitable for, and is available for, agricultural use,

that land is, if the conditions in subsection (6) are fulfilled, to be restored to the tenancy.

(6) The conditions are that—

(a) the tenancy continues in effect with the same landlord and tenant under the lease; and

(b) any compensation paid to the tenant in consequence of the resumption was calculated on the basis that the land would be restored under subsection (5).

17 Irritancy of lease and good husbandry

(1) Without prejudice to any rule of law, it is for the landlord and tenant to provide in the lease constituting a short limited duration tenancy or a limited duration tenancy what grounds there are for irritancy of the lease.
(1A) Any agreement or provision in the lease which purports to stipulate that the lease may be irritated on the grounds that the tenant is not or has not been resident on the land shall be of no effect.

(2) Where such a lease may be irritated on the grounds that the tenant is not using the land in accordance with the rules of good husbandry, what is good husbandry is to be construed, subject to subsection (3), by reference to the Sixth Schedule to the Agriculture (Scotland) Act 1948 (c.45).

(3) Conservation activities are to be treated as being in accordance with the rules of good husbandry if they are carried out in accordance with—

(a) an agreement entered into under any enactment by the tenant; or

(b) the conditions of—

(i) any grant for the purpose of such activities paid out of the Scottish Consolidated Fund; or

(ii) such other grant of a public nature as the Scottish Ministers may by order specify.

(4) The landlord may not enforce any right to remove the tenant on grounds of irritancy unless notice as mentioned in subsection (5) is given.

(5) The landlord must give the tenant notice in writing of any intention of the landlord so to remove the tenant not less than 2 months before the date on which the tenant is to be removed.

18 Resumption and irritancy: supplementary

Any provision of this Act as to the termination of a short limited duration tenancy or a limited duration tenancy does not affect any right of the landlord to—

(a) resume land under section 16; or

(b) remove a tenant—

(i) whose estate has been sequestrated; or

(ii) who for any reason has incurred irritancy of the lease or other liability to be removed.

Succession to short limited duration tenancies and limited duration tenancies

19 Section 16 of the Succession (Scotland) Act 1964

In section 16 (provisions relating to leases) of the Succession (Scotland) Act 1964 (c.41) (in sections 20 to 22 referred to as “the 1964 Act”), after subsection (4) there is inserted—

“(4A) Where an interest, being an interest under a lease constituting a short limited duration tenancy or a limited duration tenancy—

(a) is not the subject of a valid bequest by the deceased; or

(b) is the subject of such a bequest, but the bequest is not accepted by the legatee; or
(c) is the subject of such a bequest, but the bequest is declared null and void by virtue of section 20 of the 2003 Act, and there is among the conditions of the lease (whether expressly or by implication) a condition prohibiting assignation of the interest, the executor shall be entitled, notwithstanding that condition, to transfer the interest to a person to whom subsection (4B) below applies; and the executor shall be entitled so to transfer the interest without the consent of the landlord.

(4B) This subsection applies to—

(a) any one of the persons entitled to succeed to the deceased’s intestate estate, or to claim legal rights or the prior rights of a surviving spouse out of the estate, in or towards satisfaction of that person’s entitlement or claim; or

(b) any other person.

(4C) In the case of any interest under a lease constituting a short limited duration tenancy or a limited duration tenancy—

(a) if at any time the executor is satisfied that the interest cannot be disposed of according to law and so informs the landlord, the executor may terminate the tenancy (in so far as it relates to the interest); and

(b) if the interest is not so disposed of within the period referred to in subsection (4D) below, the lease shall (in so far as it relates to the interest) terminate at the expiry of the period, notwithstanding any provision in the lease, or any enactment or rule of law, to the contrary effect.

(4D) The period is one year or such longer period as may be fixed by agreement or, failing agreement, by the Land Court on the application of the executor—

(a) in the case of an interest which is the subject of an application to that court by virtue of section 20 of the 2003 Act, from the date of the determination or withdrawal of the application; and

(b) in any other case, from the date of death of the deceased.

(4E) The—

(a) interest may be transferred under subsections (4A) and (4B) above; or

(b) tenancy may be terminated under subsection (4C)(a) above,

only if the transfer, or as the case may be, termination is in the best interests of the deceased’s estate.”.

20 Bequest of lease

(1) Subject to subsections (2) and (3), the tenant of a short limited duration tenancy or a limited duration tenancy may, by will or other testamentary writing, bequeath the lease constituting the tenancy to the tenant’s son-in-law or daughter-in-law or to any one of the persons who would be, or would in any circumstances have been, entitled to succeed to the estate on intestacy by virtue of the 1964 Act.
(2) Subsections (2) to (7) of section 11 (bequest of lease) of the 1991 Act apply in relation to subsection (1) as they do in relation to subsection (1) of that section, but as if, in subsection (2), the words “of a holding” were omitted.

(3) If the person to whom the lease is so bequeathed does not accept the bequest, or if the bequest is declared null and void by virtue of subsection (2), the right to the lease is, subject to section 16(4A) to (4E) of the 1964 Act, to be treated as intestate estate of the deceased in accordance with Part I of that Act.

21 Right of landlord to object to acquirer of tenancy

(1) A person to whom a lease constituting a short limited duration tenancy or a limited duration tenancy is transferred under section 16 (provisions relating to leases) of the 1964 Act shall give notice of the acquisition to the landlord within 21 days of the person acquiring the lease or, where that is not possible, as soon as practicable thereafter and, unless the landlord gives notice by virtue of subsection (2), the lease is binding on the landlord and that person as landlord and tenant respectively.

(2) Subsections (2) to (4) of section 12 (right of landlord to object to acquirer of lease) of the 1991 Act apply in relation to subsection (1) as they do in relation to subsection (1) of that section, but as if—

(a) in subsection (2), the reference to notice given under subsection (1) of that section were a reference to notice given under subsection (1) above;

(b) in subsection (4), the reference to proceeding under that section were a reference to proceedings by virtue of this section; and

(c) the references in those subsections to the acquirer were references to the person to whom the lease constituting the tenancy is transferred as mentioned in subsection (1) above.

22 Effect of termination of tenancy where tenant deceased

Termination of a short limited duration tenancy or a limited duration tenancy by virtue of—

(a) section 16 of the 1964 Act; or

(b) section 21,

is to be treated, for the purposes of any compensation payable under this Act, as termination at the expiry of the term of the tenancy.

PART 2

TENANT’S RIGHT TO BUY LAND

Registration of interest and the right to buy

23 The Keeper and the Register

(1) For the purposes of this Part, “the Keeper” is the person who keeps the Register of Community Interests in Land (in this Part referred to as “the Register”) under section 33 (Register of Community Interests in Land) of the Land Reform (Scotland) Act 2003 (asp 00).
(2) The Keeper is to keep the Register so that there is contained in it a part for registering tenants’ interests in acquiring land in accordance with section 24.

(3) There is to be included in that part of the Register—
   (a) a record of any notice or notification sent to the Keeper under any provision of this Part; and
   (b) where a registration of a tenant’s interest in acquiring land is removed under section 24(15), an entry specifying the date on which that is effected.

24 Registration of tenant’s interest

(1) A tenant of a 1991 Act tenancy may apply to have registered an interest in acquiring the land comprised in the lease by sending a notice (in this section referred to as a “notice of interest”) to the Keeper.

(2) For the purposes of this Part, “tenant”—
   (a) where there are two or more tenants under the lease, means those tenants; and
   (b) does not include a sub-tenant.

(3) The notice of interest must be in such form as the Scottish Ministers may prescribe by regulations and must specify—
   (a) the particulars of the tenant and the owner of the land;
   (b) where there are two or more tenants under the lease, the fact that each of them consents to the making of the application to register their interest in acquiring the land;
   (c) the location and boundaries of the land (by reference, where appropriate, to the lease or any map or drawing);
   (d) any interest or rights comprised in the land (including any sporting or mineral rights); and
   (e) such other information as the Scottish Ministers may so prescribe.

(4) The tenant must send a copy of the notice of interest to the owner of the land and notify the Keeper that the copy has been so sent.

(5) On receipt of the notice of interest, the Keeper must—
   (a) register—
       (i) the tenant’s interest in acquiring the land;
       (ii) the details specified in the notice of interest; and
       (iii) the date of registration; and
   (b) send an extract of the registration to the tenant and the owner of the land.

(6) Where the registration relates to land over which there is a standard security, the owner, on receipt of the extract, must—
   (a) intimate that fact to the tenant; and
   (b) send a copy of the extract to the creditor in the standard security.

(7) The Keeper may charge such reasonable fee for—
   (a) registering tenants’ interests in acquiring land; and
(b) providing extracts, and copy extracts, of registration, as the Scottish Ministers may by order specify.

(8) If the owner of the land disputes any matter contained in the extract of registration, the owner may, by notice in writing to the Keeper, challenge the registration of the tenant’s interest in acquiring the land on the grounds that any matter contained in the extract is inaccurate.

(9) On receipt of notice under subsection (8), the Keeper is to make such enquiry in connection with the tenant’s interest in acquiring the land as the Keeper considers appropriate; and following such an enquiry, if the Keeper considers that the notice of interest is inaccurate, the Keeper—

(a) must, if the inaccuracy is material, rescind the registration of the tenant’s interest; and

(b) may, if the inaccuracy is not material, amend that registration.

(10) Where, under subsection (9)—

(a) the registration of the tenant’s interest in acquiring the land is rescinded, the Keeper must intimate that fact to the tenant and the owner of the land; and

(b) that registration is amended, the Keeper must send an extract of the registration to the tenant and the owner of the land.

(11) The tenant or the owner of the land may appeal to the Land Court against any decision made, following notice under subsection (8), by the Keeper in respect of the registration of the tenant’s interest in acquiring the land; and in an appeal under this subsection the Court may make such order as it considers appropriate.

(12) A registration of a tenant’s interest in acquiring land—

(a) continues to have effect only in relation to such land as remains comprised in the tenancy; and

(b) ceases to have effect—

(i) if the registration is rescinded;

(ii) if the tenancy is terminated; or

(iii) where neither of those things has occurred, at the expiry of the period of five years from the date of registration.

(13) Where—

(a) the tenancy is terminated during that period; or,

(b) there is a reduction in the land comprised in the tenancy, the landlord must give notice in writing of that fact to the Keeper.

(14) Where a tenant’s interest in acquiring land is, or has been, registered, the tenant may at any time apply to have the interest registered again (with or without modification to the matters specified in the notice of interest).

(15) The Keeper must remove from the Register any registration of a tenant’s interest in acquiring land which no longer has effect.
Part 2—Tenant’s right to buy land

25 Notice of proposal to transfer land

(1) Where the owner of land in respect of which a tenant’s interest in acquiring land is registered under section 24 or a creditor in a standard security with a right to sell the land proposes to transfer the land or any part of it to another person, the owner or, as the case may be, the creditor must, subject to section 26—

(a) give notice in writing of that fact to the tenant; and
(b) send a copy of the notice to the Keeper.

(2) Notice under subsection (1) must be given in accordance with such provisions (including provisions as to the form of the notice) as the Scottish Ministers may prescribe by regulations.

26 Transfers not requiring notice

(1) Notice is not required under section 25 where the transfer is or, as the case may be, would be—

(a) otherwise than for value;
(b) in implement or pursuance of an order of a court (other than an order under section 24 of the Conveyancing and Feudal Reform (Scotland) Act 1970 (c.35) or a decree in an action for the division and sale of land);
(c) of croft land to the crofter tenanting it;
(d) between companies in the same group;
(e) to a statutory undertaker for the purpose of carrying on the undertaking;
(f) a transfer—

(i) implementing the compulsory acquisition of land under any enactment;
(ii) by agreement, of land which could have been acquired compulsorily under any enactment;
(iii) implementing any right conferred by Part 2 (which provides for the community right to buy) of the Land Reform (Scotland) Act 2003 (asp 00) to buy land;
(iv) implementing any right conferred by Part 3 (which provides for the crofting community right to buy) of that Act to buy eligible land within the meaning of that Part of that Act;
(v) implementing missives for the sale and purchase of land concluded, or an option to acquire land which existed on a date on which no notice of interest in acquiring the land was registered under section 24;
(vi) conveying a house to a person who has purchased it in pursuance of the tenant’s right to buy it under Part III of the Housing (Scotland) Act 1987 (c.26);
(vii) which requires, or which but for the provisions of section 14 of that Act would require, the consent of the Scottish Ministers under subsection (5) or (7) of section 12 of that Act;
(viii) under section 65 of the Housing (Scotland) Act 2001 (asp 10); or
(ix) vesting the land in a person for the purposes of any enactment relating to sequestration, bankruptcy, winding up or incapacity or to the purposes for which judicial factors may be appointed; or

(h) a transfer of land in consequence of—

(i) the assumption or resignation or death of one or more of the partners in a partnership; or

(ii) the assumption or resignation or death of one or more of the trustees of a trust.

(2) In the case of a transfer mentioned in any of paragraphs (a), (e) and (h) of subsection (1), if the transfer—

(a) is or forms part of a scheme or arrangement or is one of a series of transfers; and

(b) the main purpose or effect, or one of the main purposes or effects, of the scheme, arrangement or, as the case may be, series is the avoidance of the requirements or consequences of this Part,

the transfer is, for the purposes of section 27, deemed to be a transfer in respect of which notice is required under section 25.

(4) For the purposes of subsection (1)(e), companies are in the same group if they are, or are included in a number of, companies which, by virtue of section 170 of the Taxation of Chargeable Gains Act 1992 (c.12), together form a group for the purposes of sections 171 to 181 of that Act.

(5) In subsection (1)(f), “statutory undertaker” is to be construed in accordance with section 214 of the Town and Country Planning (Scotland) Act 1997 (c.8).

(6) The Scottish Ministers may by order modify (any or all) subsections (1) to (5).

27  Right to buy

(1) Where a tenant’s interest in acquiring land is registered under section 24 and—

(a) the owner of the land or a creditor in a standard security with a right to sell the land, gives notice to the tenant under section 25 of a proposal to transfer the land or any part of it; or

(b) the owner or the creditor takes any action with a view to the transfer of the land or any part of it and—

(i) the transfer is a transfer in respect of which notice to the tenant is required under section 25; and

(ii) such notice has not been given,

the tenant has the right to buy the land to which the transfer relates (including any interest or rights comprised in the land) from the owner or, as the case may be, the creditor.

(3) Where—

(a) a tenant has a right to buy land under subsection (1); and

(b) despite the existence of that right, the owner, or as the case may be, the creditor transfers the land to a person other than the tenant,
the tenant has the right to buy the land (including any interests or rights comprised in the land) from the person to whom the land is transferred or is subsequently transferred.

(4) For the purposes of subsection (1)(b), action is taken with a view to a transfer of land when—

(a) the land is, by or with the authority of the owner of the land or a creditor in a standard security with a right to sell the land, advertised or otherwise exposed for sale;

(b) the owner or the creditor, or a person acting on behalf of the owner or the creditor, enters into negotiations with another person with a view to the transfer of the land; or

(c) the owner or the creditor, or a person acting on behalf of the owner or the creditor, proceeds further with any proposed transfer of the land which was initiated prior to the date on which the notice of interest was registered.

(5) References in subsection (4) to the owner of land include references to the person in whom it has vested for the purposes of any such enactment as is mentioned in section 26(1)(g)(ix).

(6) The Scottish Ministers may by order modify (either or both) subsections (4) and (5).

28 Exercise of right to buy

(1) Where a tenant has a right to buy land under section 27(1), the tenant may proceed in accordance with section 29 to buy the land from the owner or, as the case may be, the creditor provided that notice is given under subsection (2).

(2) Notice is given under this subsection if the tenant, within 14 days of receipt of the notice under section 25, gives notice to the owner or, as the case may be, the creditor that the tenant intends to buy the land.

(3) Where a tenant has a right to buy under section 27(3), the tenant may proceed in accordance with section 29 to buy the land from the person to whom the land has been transferred or subsequently transferred provided that notice is given under subsection (4).

(4) Notice is given under this subsection if—

(a) the tenant gives notice to that person that the tenant intends to buy the land; and

(b) the notice is given within three years from the transfer to that person, and the tenancy is in force on the date on which the notice is given.

(5) If, at any time, the tenant does not intend to proceed, in accordance with section 29, to buy the land, the tenant is to give notice of that fact to the person from whom the land would otherwise have been bought.

(6) Where the tenant—

(a) does not give notice in accordance with subsection (2) or, as the case may be, (4); or

(b) gives notice under subsection (5),

the right to buy is extinguished.

(8) A tenant giving any notice under this section must send a copy of the notice to the Keeper.
28A **Meaning of “creditor in a standard security with a right to sell land”**

Any reference in this Part to a creditor in a standard security with a right to sell land is a reference to a creditor who has such a right under—

(a) section 20(2) or 23(2) of the Conveyancing and Feudal Reform (Scotland) Act 1970 (c.35); or

(b) a warrant granted under section 24(1) of that Act.

28B **Effect of extinguishing of right to buy**

Where a right to buy land is extinguished under section 28(6) or 29(8), the tenant may acquire a subsequent right to buy the same land or any part of it under section 27(1), but only if—

(a) the period of 12 months from the extinguishing of the right to buy has expired; or

(b) before that period has expired—

(i) the land is transferred to another person; and

(ii) that person requires to give notice under section 25 in relation to a subsequent transfer.

**Procedure for buying and valuation**

29 **Procedure for buying**

(1) It is for the tenant to make the offer to buy in exercise of the tenant’s right to buy under section 27.

(2) The offer is to be at a price—

(a) agreed between the tenant and the person from whom the land is to be bought (“the seller”); or

(b) where there is no such agreement—

(i) payable by the tenant in accordance with section 31(7); or

(ii) if the price is determined in an appeal under section 33, as is so determined, and must specify the date of entry and of payment of the price in accordance with subsection (3).

(3) The date of entry and of payment of the price are to be—

(a) a date not later than 6 months from the date when the tenant gave notice under section 28(2) or (4) of the tenant’s intention to buy;

(b) where the price payable by the tenant is the subject of an appeal under section 33 which has not, within the period of 4 months after the date when the tenant gave such notice, been—

(i) determined; or

(ii) abandoned following agreement between the tenant and the seller, a date not later than 2 months after the appeal is so determined or, as the case may be, abandoned; or
(c) such later date as may be agreed between the tenant and the seller.

(4) The offer may include such other reasonable conditions as are necessary or expedient to secure the efficient progress and completion of the transfer.

(5) If the tenant has not, within the period fixed by or agreed under subsection (3), done any of the things mentioned in subsection (6), the seller may apply to the Land Court for an order under subsection (7).

(6) The things are—
   (a) concluding missives with the seller for the sale of the land to the tenant; or
   (b) if the tenant has not so concluded missives, taking all steps which the tenant could reasonably have taken in the time available towards so concluding missives.

(7) An order under this subsection may—
   (a) direct the tenant—
       (i) to conclude missives with the seller within such period; and
       (ii) to take such remedial action for the purpose of so concluding missives; and
   (b) direct the tenant and seller to incorporate into the missives any term or condition in respect of the sale of the land, as the order may specify.

(8) If—
   (a) the tenant fails to comply with an order under subsection (7); or
   (b) where the seller has not applied for an order under that subsection, the tenant has not (having regard to the period fixed by or agreed under subsection (3)) within a reasonable period from the acquiring by the tenant of the right to buy otherwise concluded missives with the seller for the sale of the land to the tenant, the right to buy is extinguished.

30 Appointment of valuer

(1) The land is, except where subsection (2) applies, to be valued by a valuer appointed by agreement between the seller and the tenant or by a person nominated by them.

(2) This subsection applies where the land in respect of which the tenant is exercising a right to buy forms part of an estate comprising other land in respect of which any other tenant has given notice under section 28(2) or (4) of the tenant’s intention to buy.

(3) Where subsection (2) applies, the land mentioned in that subsection is to be valued by a valuer appointed by agreement between—
   (a) the seller; and
   (b) at least half of the tenants mentioned in that subsection,
or by a person nominated by them.

(4) Where there is no agreement as to the appointment of a valuer under subsection (1) or (3), the valuer is to be appointed by the Land Court or by a person nominated by the Court.

(5) In this Part, “valuer” includes two valuers with an oversman.
Valuation of the land and price

(1) The valuer is to assess the value of the land in respect of which the right to buy is being exercised as at the date of notice under section 25 of the seller’s proposal to transfer the land.

(2) The valuer is to assess the value of the land—

(a) having regard to the value that would be likely to be agreed between a reasonable seller and buyer of such land—

(i) assuming that the seller and buyer are, as respects the transaction, willing, knowledgeable and prudent; and

(ii) where the buyer is a sitting tenant;

(b) taking account, in so far as a seller and a buyer of the land (assuming that they are, as respects the transaction, willing, knowledgeable and prudent) would do so, of any factor attributable to the known existence of a person who (not being the tenant who is exercising a right to buy the land) would be willing to buy the land at a price higher than other persons because of a characteristic of the land which relates peculiarly to that person’s interest in buying it;

(ba) taking account of the terms and conditions of any lease of sporting interests affecting the land;

(bb) taking account of any moveable property belonging to the owner of the land which is, by agreement between the tenant and the owner, to be—

(i) sold with; and

(ii) valued along with,

the land;

(c) taking no account of—

(i) the absence of the period of time during which the land would, on the open market, be likely to be advertised and exposed for sale; or

(ii) any factor attributable to any use of the land which is or would be unlawful;

(d) taking no account of any increase in the value of the land resulting from improvements carried out at the expense of the tenant (and the continuous adoption by the tenant of a standard of farming or a system of farming more beneficial to the land than the standard or system required by terms of the lease or, in so far as no system of farming is so required, than the system of farming normally practised on comparable agricultural land in the district, is deemed, for the purposes of this paragraph, to be an improvement executed at the tenant’s expense);

(e) taking no account of—

(i) any reduction in the value of the land as a result of any dilapidation or deterioration of, or damage to, fixed equipment or land caused or permitted by the tenant; or

(ii) any such reduction resulting from the use of any of the land, or changes to the land, for a purpose that is not an agricultural purpose or the carrying out of conservation activities on the land; and
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(3) Where land in respect of which the right to buy is being exercised forms part of an estate, the valuer is, in addition to assessing the value of the land under subsection (2), to assess the value representing the difference between—

(a) the value of the estate were the estate being sold by the seller to a person other than the tenant; and

(b) the value of the remainder of the estate (that is to say, the estate less the land in respect of which the right to buy is being exercised) were the remainder being sold by the seller to such a person.

(4) For the purpose of valuation under subsection (3), where two or more parts of an estate are being bought in exercise of a right to buy under this Part, the valuer may apportion to each such part of the estate (or re-apportion if for any reason the sale of any such part does not proceed) such amount representing the reduction in the value of the estate as the valuer considers equitable.

(5) The Scottish Ministers may issue guidance (either generally or in respect of a particular class of case) for the purposes of valuation under this section.

(6) An estate is to be treated, for the purposes of subsections (3) and (4), as comprising—

(a) any land forming part of the estate and which is being bought in exercise of a right to buy under this Part; and

(b) any other land forming part of the estate offered for sale by the seller at the same time as the land mentioned in paragraph (a).

(7) For the purposes of section 29(2)(b)(i), the price payable by a tenant is—

(a) the value assessed under subsection (2); or

(b) where the land forms part of an estate, the greater of the values assessed under—

(i) that subsection; and

(ii) subsection (3).

31A Special provision where buyer is general partner in limited partnership

Where the person exercising a right to buy under section 27 is doing so by virtue of section 58A(3)—

(a) the valuer, in assessing the value of the land under subsection (2) of section 31, is to have regard to—

(i) the fact that the buyer is a general partner of a limited partnership; and

(ii) any provision of the partnership agreement entitling a limited partner to dissolve the partnership; and

(b) paragraph (a)(ii) of that subsection is of no effect.

32 Valuation etc.: further provision

(1) The valuer is—

(a) to invite—

(i) the seller and the tenant; and
(ii) where the land forms part of an estate, any other person the valuer considers to have an interest in the estate,

to make written representations about the matters mentioned in subsection (2); and
(b) to have regard to any such representations.

(2) The matters are—

(a) the valuation of the land; and
(b) where the land forms part of an estate, any valuation of the estate (and any
   apportionment of a reduction in the value of the estate),

under section 31.

(3) The valuer may—

(a) enter onto land; and
(b) make any reasonable request of the seller and tenant,

for the purposes of any assessment under section 31.

(4) The valuer must, within 6 weeks of being appointed, send to the seller and the tenant a
notice in writing specifying the price payable by the tenant under section 31(7) and
setting out how the price was calculated.

(5) The expenses of the valuer accrued in carrying out the valuer’s functions under section
31 and this section are to be—

(a) met by the tenant; or
(b) where subsection (2) of section 30 applies, shared equally between the tenants
mentioned in that subsection.

(6) Where—

(a) the Land Court has made an order under section 29(7);
(b) the tenant to whom the order applies has complied with the order; and
(c) the seller does not proceed with the sale of the land to the tenant;

the seller is liable to the tenant for any expenses met by the tenant by virtue of
subsection (5).

(7) The Scottish Ministers may by regulations make further provision for or in connection
with the matters provided for in this section and sections 30 and 31.

33 Appeal to Lands Tribunal against decisions of valuer

(1) The seller or the tenant may appeal to the Lands Tribunal against any decision of the
valuer made under section 31.

(2) An appeal under this section must state the grounds on which it is being made and must
be lodged within 21 days of the date of the notice under section 32(4).

(3) In an appeal under this section, the Lands Tribunal may—

(a) reassess any value of the land (and any factor affecting the value) or of an estate
   (and how any reduction in the value of an estate is to be apportioned); and
(b) for the purposes of section 29(2)(b)(ii), determine the price.
(4) The valuer whose valuation is appealed against may be a witness in the appeal proceedings.

(5) In the appeal proceedings, in addition to the seller and the tenant, the following persons are entitled to be heard—

(a) where the seller is—

(i) a creditor in a standard security, the owner of the land; and
(ii) the owner of the land, any creditor in a standard security over the land or any part of it; and

(b) where the land forms part of an estate—

(i) any creditor in a standard security over; and
(ii) any tenant of, any other land forming part of the estate.

(6) The Lands Tribunal is to give reasons for its decision on an appeal under this section and is to issue a written statement of these reasons.

(9) In this section and section 33A, “the Lands Tribunal” means the Lands Tribunal for Scotland.

33A Referral of certain matters by Lands Tribunal to Land Court

Where, in an appeal before the Lands Tribunal under section 33, an issue of fact or law arises which could competently be determined by the Land Court by virtue of the 1991 Act or this Act, the Tribunal may (at its own instance) refer the issue to the Land Court for determination if it considers that to be appropriate.

PART 3

USE OF AGRICULTURAL LAND: DIVERSIFICATION

34 Use of land for non-agricultural purposes

(1) A—

(a) 1991 Act tenancy; or
(b) tenancy under a lease constituting a limited duration tenancy,
does not cease to be such a tenancy by reason only that the land is used for a non-agricultural purpose.

(2) Any term of the lease which prohibits the use of the land for a non-agricultural purpose is of no effect.

(3) Where—

(a) subletting the land is prohibited (by the lease or otherwise); and
(b) that prohibition impedes the use of the land for a non-agricultural purpose,
the tenant may, despite the prohibition, sublet the land provided that the purpose for which it is sublet is ancillary to the tenant’s use of the land for the non-agricultural purpose.
(4) Subsections (1) to (3) do not apply if the use of the land for a non-agricultural purpose is otherwise than permitted under section 35.

(5) In this section and section 35, any reference to the land is a reference to the whole of the land comprised in the lease constituting the tenancy or any part of it.

### Notice of and objection to diversification

(1) A tenant under a tenancy mentioned in section 34(1) who intends to use the land for a non-agricultural purpose must send a notice (in this section and section 35A referred to as a “notice of diversification”) to the landlord.

(2) The notice of diversification must be given in writing not less than 70 days before the date on which the tenant proposes to commence using the land for that purpose and must specify—

   (a) what the non-agricultural purpose is;

   (b) the land that would be used for that purpose;

   (c) any changes to the land the tenant proposes to effect for that purpose; and

   (d) the date on which the tenant proposes to commence using the land for that purpose,

and must address such matters as may constitute any ground of objection mentioned in subsection (9)(a)(i) to (iii).

(3) Where—

   (a) the tenant proposes to effect changes to the land for the non-agricultural purpose; or

   (b) the tenant’s intended use of the land for that purpose is in furtherance of a business,

the notice must also specify how the changes are, or, as the case may be, the business is (so far as relating to the land), to be financed and managed.

(4) Where a notice of diversification is given in accordance with subsections (2) and (3), and the landlord does not object to the notice, the land may be used—

   (a) for the purpose specified under paragraph (a), and as specified under paragraphs (b) and (c), of subsection (2); and

   (b) from the appointed date,

subject to any conditions imposed under subsection (10).

(5) For the purposes of subsection (4)(b), the appointed date is—

   (a) the date specified under subsection (2)(d);

   (aa) where the landlord has made—

      (i) a request for information under subsection (6), the date falling 70 days from the making of the request; or

      (ii) more than one such request, the date falling 70 days from making of the later or, as the case may be, latest request, if later than the date so specified; or

   (b) such earlier date as the landlord and tenant may agree to.
(6) The landlord may—
(a) within 30 days of the giving of the notice of diversification, request the tenant to provide the landlord with relevant information; and
(b) within 30 days of the providing by the tenant of any relevant information, request the tenant to provide the landlord with further relevant information.

(7) For the purposes of subsection (6), information is relevant if it—
(a) relates to—
(i) the intended use of the land for the non-agricultural purpose (including any proposed changes to the land); and
(ii) where the intended use of the land is in furtherance of a business, the finance or management of the business; and
(b) is necessary for the landlord’s consideration of whether or not there are grounds under subsection (9)(a)(i) to (iii) or (b) for objection to the notice of diversification.

(8) The tenant is to provide any information reasonably requested under subsection (6) within 30 days of the date on which it was requested.

(9) The landlord may object to the notice of diversification if (and only if)—
(a) the landlord reasonably considers that the intended use of the land for the non-agricultural purpose (including any proposed changes to the land) would—
(i) lessen significantly the amenity of the land or the surrounding area;
(ii) substantially prejudice the use of the land for agricultural purposes in the future;
(iii) be detrimental to the sound management of the estate of which the land consists or forms part; or
(iv) cause the landlord to suffer undue hardship;
(b) where the notice specifies a matter mentioned in subsection (3), the landlord reasonably considers that it fails to demonstrate that the proposed changes are, or, as the case may be, the business (so far as relating to the land) is, viable; or
(c) the tenant has failed to comply with subsection (8).

(10) Where the landlord does not object to the notice of diversification, the landlord may impose on the tenant any reasonable conditions in relation to the use of the land for the non-agricultural purpose (including in relation to any proposed changes to the land).

(11) The landlord is, within the period mentioned in subsection (12), to notify the tenant in writing—
(a) of any objection to the notice of diversification (and the grounds for the objection) or, as the case may be, of the fact that the landlord does not object to the notice; and
(b) where the landlord does not object to the notice, of any conditions imposed under subsection (10) (and the reasons for imposing them).

(12) The period is—
(a) where the landlord has made—
(i) a request for information under subsection (6), 60 days from the making of the request; or

(ii) more than one such request, 60 days from the making of the later or, as the case may be, latest request; or

(b) where the landlord has made no such request, 60 days from the giving of the notice of diversification.

(13) If no notification is given in accordance with subsections (11) and (12), the landlord is, except where the non-agricultural purpose is the planting and cropping of trees, deemed not to have objected to the notice of diversification nor to have imposed any conditions in relation to use of, or changes to, the land.

35A **Imposition of conditions by the Land Court**

(1) Where the Land Court determines that an objection by the landlord to a notice of diversification is unreasonable—

(a) the objection is of no effect; and

(b) the land may be used—

(i) as mentioned in paragraph (a) of subsection (4) of section 35; and

(ii) from such date as the Court may fix,

subject to any conditions imposed under subsection (2).

(2) Where, by virtue of subsection (1), the land may be used as mentioned in section 35(4)(a), the Land Court may impose on the tenant such reasonable conditions in relation to the use of the land as so mentioned as it considers appropriate.

(3) Where the Land Court determines that a condition imposed by the landlord under section 35(10) is unreasonable, the Court may—

(a) remove the condition; and

(b) in its place, impose on the tenant such reasonable conditions as it considers appropriate.

36 **Tenant’s right to timber**

(1) The tenant under—

(a) a 1991 Act tenancy; or

(b) a limited duration tenancy,

has, for so long as the tenancy continues to have effect, the right to cut timber from any trees planted on the land by the tenant on or after the coming into force of this section; and any such timber belongs to the tenant.

(2) Subsection (1) does not apply in so far as the lease or any agreement in writing between the landlord and tenant makes provision to the contrary, provided that the lease or agreement also includes provision for a reduction in rent or payment of compensation to the tenant in respect of any loss incurred by the tenant as a result of that contrary provision.
PART 4

COMPENSATION UNDER AGRICULTURAL TENANCIES

CHAPTER 1

COMPENSATION FOR IMPROVEMENTS

1991 Act tenancies

37A  Agreements as to improvements and compensation for improvements

(1) After section 33 (improvements) of the 1991 Act there is inserted—

“33A Agreements as to improvements and compensation for improvements

Where the tenant has carried out an improvement—

(a) specified in Part II or III of Schedule 5 to this Act; and

(b) by executing work which the landlord was required, at the time the lease was entered into and by virtue of section 5(2)(a) of this Act, to execute in order to fulfil his obligations under the lease,

any term of the lease or of an agreement between the landlord and tenant made before the coming into force of this section which purports to provide that the amount of compensation payable to the tenant for the improvement is less than the amount of compensation to which the tenant is entitled under this Part of this Act for the improvement (or that no compensation is payable) shall be null and void.”.

(2) The following provisions of that Act (which relate to agreements as to improvements and compensation for improvements) are repealed—

(a) in section 5, subsection (3);

(b) in section 34, paragraph (b) of subsection (4);

(c) in section 37, subsection (2); and

(d) in section 38, subsection (5).

(3) In section 38 (notice required of certain improvements) of that Act, after subsection (2) there is inserted—

“(2A) Subsection (1) above shall not apply in the case of an improvement mentioned in subsection (1)(c) above if the improvement was carried out by executing work which the landlord was required, at the time the lease was entered into and by virtue of section 5(2)(a) of this Act, to execute in order to fulfil his obligations under the lease.”.

Short limited duration tenancies and limited duration tenancies

38  Right to compensation for improvements

(1) Subject to sections 41 and 42, a tenant of a short limited duration tenancy or a limited duration tenancy is entitled, on quitting the land on termination of the tenancy, to compensation from the landlord in respect of any improvement to which this subsection applies carried out by the tenant.
(2) Subsection (1) applies to the improvements specified in Schedule 5 to the 1991 Act (that Schedule applying for the purposes of that subsection as it does for the purposes of that Act).

(3) Where an improvement is the improvement specified in paragraph 32 (laying down of temporary pasture) of that Schedule, the tenant is entitled to compensation under subsection (1) even if—
   (a) that improvement; or
   (b) the leaving of temporary pasture at the termination of the tenancy,
was in contravention of a term of the lease or any agreement made by the tenant as to the method of cropping the arable lands.

(5) Where a tenant has remained in occupation of the land by virtue of—
   (a) the effect of successive short limited duration tenancies, limited duration tenancies or a combination of such tenancies; or
   (b) the continuation in effect of any short limited duration tenancy or limited duration tenancy,
the tenant is not deprived of any right to compensation under subsection (1) by reason only that the improvements were not carried out during the tenancy on the termination of which the tenant quits the land.

39 Payment of compensation by incoming tenant

Subsections (2) to (5) of section 35 (payment of compensation by incoming tenant) of the 1991 Act (as read with Schedule 5 to that Act) apply to compensation which is payable or has been paid to an outgoing tenant of a short limited duration tenancy or a limited duration tenancy by the landlord under section 38(1) of this Act as they do to compensation to which that section of that Act applies, but as if—

   (a) in subsection (4), paragraph (a) were omitted;
   (b) in subsections (4) and (5), the references to an agricultural holding and the holding were references to the land; and
   (c) in subsection (5), the words “a new” were read as “an”.

40 Amount of compensation

(1) The amount of compensation payable to a tenant under section 38(1) is such sum as fairly represents the value of the improvement to an incoming tenant.

(2) In ascertaining the amount of compensation so payable, account is to be taken of—
   (a) any benefit which the landlord has agreed in writing to give the tenant in consideration of the tenant carrying out the improvement; and
   (b) any grant which has been or will be made to the tenant in respect of the improvement.

(3) In ascertaining the amount of any compensation payable by virtue of subsection (3) of section 38, account is to be taken of any injury to or deterioration of the land due to the contravention of the lease or agreement mentioned in that subsection (except insofar as the landlord has recovered damages in respect of the injury or deterioration).
Consent required for compensation in certain cases

Compensation under section 38(1) is not payable for an improvement specified in Part I of Schedule 5 to the 1991 Act unless, before the improvement was carried out, the landlord consented to it in writing (whether unconditionally or upon terms as to compensation or otherwise agreed on between the parties).

Notice required for certain improvements

(1) Compensation under section 38(1) is not payable for an improvement specified in Part II of Schedule 5 to the 1991 Act unless the tenant gave notice in writing to the landlord specifying the tenant’s intention to carry out the improvement and the manner in which it was proposed to carry it out.

(3) In section 39 (approval of Land Court in certain cases) of the 1991 Act (as read with Schedule 5 to that Act), subsections (1) to (4) apply in relation to compensation under section 38(1) as they do in relation to compensation under Part IV of that Act but as if, in subsection (1) of that section—

(a) the words “a new” were omitted;

(b) the words “one month” read “60 days”; and

(c) the reference to notice under section 38(3) of that Act were a reference to the notice mentioned in subsection (1) of this section.

Compensation for disturbance and for damage by game

(1) In section 43 (compensation for disturbance) of the 1991 Act, paragraph (c) of subsection (4) is repealed.

(2) In section 52 (compensation for damage by game) of that Act, in paragraph (b) of subsection (2) for the words from “one” to the end there is substituted “6 months of the giving of notice under paragraph (a) above”.

Compensation arising as a result of diversification etc.

(1) After section 45 (compensation to landlord for deterioration etc.) of the 1991 Act there is inserted—

“Compensation arising as a result of diversification and cropping of trees

(1) Subject to subsection (2) below, the landlord of an agricultural holding shall be entitled to recover from the tenant, on his quitting the holding on termination of the tenancy, compensation where the landlord shows that the value of the holding has been reduced by—

(a) the use, on or after the coming into force of this section, of the holding for a purpose which is not an agricultural purpose; or

(b) the carrying out of conservation activities,
and the amount of compensation payable shall be an amount equal to the reduction in the value of the holding.

(2) Where there are trees on the holding which were planted—

(a) by the tenant on or after the coming into force of this section; and

(b) for future cropping,

the landlord or tenant shall be entitled to recover from the other, on the tenant quitting the holding on the termination of the tenancy, compensation calculated in accordance with subsections (3) and (4) below.

(3) For the purposes of subsection (2) above, at the termination of the tenancy—

(a) the trees shall be valued on the basis of their worth to a willing purchaser for future cropping; and

(b) there shall be evaluated any loss of rent to the landlord which would be incurred by his retaining the trees until the likely date of cropping added to the cost to him of returning the land to agricultural use after cropping.

(4) If the value reached under paragraph (a) of subsection (3) above is—

(a) greater than that reached under paragraph (b) of that subsection, the tenant shall be entitled to the difference between the values as compensation;

(b) less than that reached under paragraph (b) of that subsection, the landlord shall be entitled to the difference between the values as compensation.

(4A) Where the value of an agricultural holding has been increased by—

(a) the use, on or after the coming into force of this section, of the holding for a purpose that is not an agricultural purpose; or

(b) the carrying out of conservation activities,

that increase in value shall be treated as an improvement carried out by the tenant provided that the land is suitable for agricultural use.”.

(2) In section 47 (provisions supplementary to sections 45 and 46) of that Act, in subsection (1) after “45” there is inserted “or 45A”.

**Short limited duration tenancies and limited duration tenancies**

**45 Compensation for disturbance**

(1) Where—

(a) any land is resumed under section 16; or

(b) a short limited duration tenancy or a limited duration tenancy terminates by notice under subsection (3) of that section,

compensation for disturbance is payable by the landlord to the tenant.

(2) Subsections (3) to (6) of section 43 (compensation for disturbance) of the 1991 Act apply in relation to compensation payable under subsection (1) above as they do in relation to compensation payable under that section, but as if—

(a) in those subsections, the references to the holding were references to the land;
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(b) in subsection (6)—

(i) the reference to the tenant of an agricultural holding were a reference to the tenant of the short limited duration tenancy or limited duration tenancy; and

(ii) the reference to a notice to quit given by the landlord were a reference to the termination of the tenancy; and

(c) where the resumption under section 16 is of part of the land—

(i) the references to the land in those subsections of section 43 of that Act by virtue of paragraph (a) of this subsection were references to that part; and

(ii) the references to the rent in subsection (4)(a) and (b) of that section were references to the rent proportionate to the part.

(3) Where the tenancy terminates as mentioned in subsection (1)(b) and—

(a) the part of the land affected by the notice under subsection (2) of section 16, together with any part of the land resumed following a previous such notice is—

(i) less than a quarter of the original area of the land comprised in the lease constituting the tenancy; or

(ii) of a rental value less than a quarter of the rental value of that area of land; and

(b) the remainder of the land is reasonably capable of being farmed separately, compensation is payable under subsection (1) only in respect of the part of the land to which the notice relates.

(4) In a case mentioned in subsection (2)(c), in determining the amount of compensation payable, account is to be taken of any benefit or relief allowed to the tenant under the lease in respect of the part resumed.

(5) Where compensation is payable under subsection (1)(a), in addition to that compensation, compensation is payable by the landlord to the tenant of an amount equal to the additional benefit (if any) which would have accrued to the tenant if the land (instead of being resumed on the date of resumption) had been resumed on the expiry of the period of 12 months from the end of the year of tenancy current at the date 2 months before the date of resumption.

46 Compensation for other particular things

(1) Section 44 (compensation for continuous adoption of special standard of farming) of the 1991 Act applies to short limited duration tenancies and limited duration tenancies as it does to 1991 Act tenancies, but as if—

(a) the references to the holding were references to the land;

(b) in subsection (2)(b) of that section, the reference to a record of fixed equipment were a reference to fixed equipment specified under section 15 of this Act; the reference to the date of the record were a reference to the date on which the equipment was so specified; and the words from “or” to the end were omitted;

(c) in subsection (3) of that section, the reference to Part IV of that Act were a reference to section 38(1) of this Act;
Section 45A (compensation arising as a result of diversification etc.) of that Act, as read with subsection (1) of section 47 of that Act, applies to limited duration tenancies as it does to 1991 Act tenancies, but as if the references to the holding were references to the land.

Section 52 (compensation for damage by game) of that Act applies to short limited duration tenancies and limited duration tenancies as it does to 1991 Act tenancies.

CHAPTER 3
Compensation where compulsory acquisition of land

Subject to subsection (4), this subsection applies where, in pursuance of any enactment providing for the acquisition or taking of possession of land compulsorily, any person (the “acquiring authority”) acquires the interest of the tenant under, or takes possession of the land or any part of the land comprised in a lease constituting, a short limited duration tenancy or limited duration tenancy.

Where subsection (1) applies, compensation for disturbance is payable by the acquiring authority to the tenant of an amount equal to four times the annual rent of the land or, in the case of part of the land, four times the annual rent proportionate to that part.

For the purposes of subsection (2), the tenant is deemed not to be the tenant in so far as, immediately before the acquiring of the interest or the taking of possession mentioned in subsection (1), the tenant was not in possession, nor entitled to take possession, of any of the land.

Subsection (1) does not apply—

(a) where the acquiring authority requires the land or part of the land for the purposes of agricultural research or experiment or of demonstrating agricultural methods;

or

(b) where the Scottish Ministers acquire the land or part of the land under section 57(1)(c) or 64 of the Agriculture (Scotland) Act 1948 (c.45).

For the purposes of subsection (4)(a), where an acquiring authority exercises, in relation to any land, power to acquire or take possession of land compulsorily which is conferred on the authority by virtue of section 189 of the Town and Country Planning (Scotland) Act 1997 (c.8) or section 7 of the New Towns (Scotland) Act 1968 (c.16), the authority is deemed not to require the land for any purpose mentioned in that subsection.

Schedule 8 to the 1991 Act has effect in relation to payments under subsection (2) as it does in relation to payments under section 56 (additional payments in consequence of compulsory acquisition etc.) of that Act, but as if—

(a) the references to sections 54 and 56 of that Act were references to that subsection;

(b) the references to sections 13 and 15 of that Act were references to sections 9 and 10 of this Act respectively; and

(c) any reference to, or in relation to, statutory small tenants were omitted.

Any reference in this section to the acquisition of property is a reference to the vesting of the property in the person acquiring it.
47A Right to compensation for yielding vacant possession

(1) This section applies to—

(a) a 1991 Act tenancy; and

(b) a limited duration tenancy created under section 2.

(2) Where the landlord wishes to sell the land with vacant possession, the landlord may enter into an agreement in writing with the tenant that—

(a) the tenant will give notice of intention to quit and then vacate the land by such date as may be specified in the agreement; and

(b) the landlord, having sold the land, will pay to the tenant an amount of compensation for so doing calculated by reference to subsection (3) below.

(3) That amount is, subject to subsection (8), half of the difference between—

(a) the price for which the land is sold; and

(b) the estimated value of the land if it had been sold with the tenant still in occupation,

minus half of the cost of the valuation carried out for the purposes of paragraph (b).

(4) Where the tenant wishes to quit the land, the tenant may enter into an agreement in writing with the landlord that—

(a) the tenant will give notice of intention to quit and then vacate the land by such date as may be specified in the agreement; and

(b) the landlord will pay to the tenant an amount of compensation for so doing calculated by reference to subsection (5) below.

(5) That amount is, subject to subsection (8), half of the difference between—

(a) the estimated value of the land if sold with vacant possession; and

(b) the estimated value of the land if sold with the tenant still in occupation,

minus half of the cost of the valuations carried out for the purposes of paragraphs (a) and (b).

(6) Any valuation for the purposes of this section is to be carried out by a valuer appointed by agreement between the landlord and the tenant or by a person nominated by them; and in this section “valuer” includes two valuers with an oversman.

(7) A valuer appointed or nominated under subsection (6) is to act, so far as practicable, as if the valuation was subject to subsections (2) to (6) of section 31.

(8) The amount of compensation under subsection (3) or (5) shall take account of—

(a) where the tenancy is a limited duration tenancy, the proportion of the term of the tenancy which is unexpired; and

(b) in any case, any—

(i) investments;

(ii) improvements; and
48 No right to penal rent etc.

The landlord under a short limited duration tenancy or limited duration tenancy is not entitled to recover any sum, by way of higher rent, liquidated damages or otherwise, in consequence of any breach or non-fulfilment of a term or condition of the lease, which is in excess of the damage actually suffered by the landlord in consequence of the breach or non-fulfilment; and any provision of the lease to the contrary is of no effect.

49 Provision as to parts of land and divided land

(1) Where any land comprised in a lease constituting a short limited duration tenancy or a limited duration tenancy is not agricultural land only because of the reason mentioned in subsection (2), the provisions of this Part as to compensation apply as if the remainder of the land were the land comprised in the lease.

(2) The reason is that, due to the nature of the building on the land or the use to which the land is put, the land would not, if separately let when the tenancy commenced, have been capable of being the subject of the tenancy.

(3) Where the interest of the landlord in a short limited duration tenancy or a limited duration tenancy has become vested in several parts in more than one person and the rent payable by the tenant under the lease has not been apportioned with the tenant’s consent or under any enactment, the tenant is entitled to require that any compensation payable to the tenant under this Part be determined as if the land had not been divided.

(4) For the purposes of subsection (3), the Land Court, where necessary, is to apportion the amount payable between the persons who together constitute the landlord, and any additional expenses of the determination caused by the apportionment are to be directed by the Land Court to be paid by those persons in such proportions as it determines.

50 Compensation not payable where direction as to permanent pasture

(1) Notwithstanding any provision of this Part or any custom or agreement—

(a) no compensation is payable under this Part (except under paragraph (b)) to the tenant in respect of anything done in pursuance of any direction as to permanent pasture given by virtue of section 14; and

(b) in assessing compensation to an outgoing tenant where land has been ploughed up in pursuance of any such direction, the value per hectare of any tenant’s pasture (being pasture laid down at the expense of the tenant or paid for by the tenant on entering the tenancy) comprised in the land is to be taken not to exceed the average value per hectare of the whole of the tenant’s pasture comprised in the land on the termination of the tenancy.

(2) Where an improvement specified in Part III of Schedule 5 to the 1991 Act (that Part of that Schedule having effect for the purposes of this subsection and section 14 as it does for the purposes of section 9 of that Act) is carried out for the purposes of any requirement in relation to permanent pasture provided for by virtue of section 14, the tenant is not entitled to compensation for the improvement.
51 Extent to which compensation recoverable under agreements

(1) Where by virtue of any provision of this Part compensation is payable to a landlord or tenant of a short limited duration tenancy or a limited duration tenancy, that person—

(a) is entitled to such compensation notwithstanding the terms of any agreement between them; and

(b) is not entitled to such compensation except by virtue of that provision,

but this subsection is subject to any express provision by virtue of this Part to the contrary.

(2) Where the landlord and tenant agree in writing for such a variation of the terms of the lease as may be made by a direction by virtue of section 14, the agreement may also provide for the exclusion of compensation on the same basis as under section 50(1).

(3) In a case for which there is no provision for compensation by virtue of this Part, a claim for compensation by a landlord or tenant of a short limited duration tenancy or a limited duration tenancy is not enforceable except under an agreement in writing.

PART 5

MISCELLANEOUS AMENDMENTS TO THE 1991 ACT

52 Making of records

(1) In section 8 (record of condition, etc. of holding) of the 1991 Act—

(a) for subsection (3) there is substituted—

"(3) A record under this section shall be made by a person to be appointed by agreement between the parties; but, in the absence of such agreement, the Scottish Ministers shall on the application of either party appoint a person to make the record.

(3A) The Scottish Ministers may charge such reasonable fee as they may determine for making an appointment under subsection (3) above.

(3B) The record shall be in such form as the parties agree or, in the absence of such agreement, as the recorder considers appropriate.

(b) in subsection (6), the words "on the application of the landlord or tenant," are repealed;

(c) in each of subsections (8) and (9), for the word "the" in the second place where it appears there is substituted "any".

(2) In section 80 (determination of matters where the Scottish Ministers are landlord or tenant) of that Act—

(a) in subsection (2), after "Act" insert "(except section 8)";

(b) after that subsection there is inserted—

"(3) Where this section applies, section 8 of this Act shall have effect—

(a) with the substitution for "Scottish Ministers" in subsection (3) of "sheriff";

(b) as if subsection (3A) were omitted."
53  **Interdict in certain cases**

In section 7 (freedom of cropping and disposal of produce) of the 1991 Act—

(a) in subsection (3), the words “but no other” are repealed;

(b) after that subsection there is inserted—

“(3A) Such interdict as is, or damages as are, mentioned in subsection (3) above shall be obtainable only in the Land Court; and, notwithstanding the terms of section 68 of the Agricultural Holdings (Scotland) Act 2003 (asp 00), no other remedy shall be available in respect of the circumstances mentioned in that subsection.”;

(c) for subsection (4) there is substituted—

“(4) For the purposes of any proceedings for an interdict brought under paragraph (a) of subsection (3) above, where the question whether the tenant is exercising or has exercised his rights under subsection (1) above in such a manner as is referred to in subsection (3) above has, by virtue of section 61(1) of this Act, been determined by arbitration, a certificate of the arbiter as to his determination of the question shall, for the purposes of any proceedings brought under this section, be conclusive proof of the facts stated in the certificate.”;

(d) in subsection (6)(b), after the word “or” in the second place where it appears there is inserted “it has been determined”.

54  **Variation of rent**

In section 13 (variation of rent) of the 1991 Act—

(a) in subsection (2), for the word “(7)” there is substituted “(7A)”;

(aa) in subsection (3), for the words from “there” to the end there is substituted—

“disregarding—

(a) any effect on rent of the fact that the tenant is in occupation of the holding; and

(b) any distortion in rent due to a scarcity of lets,

but having regard to the matters referred to in subsection (4) below.”;

(ab) for subsection (4) there is substituted—

“(4) For the purposes of determining the rent payable under subsection (3) above, the Land Court shall have regard to the following—

(a) information about rents of other agricultural holdings (including when fixed) and any factors affecting those rents (or any of them) except any distortion due to a scarcity of lets; and

(b) the current economic conditions in the relevant sector of agriculture.”;

(b) in subsection (7)—

(i) the words from “any” to the end become paragraph (a); and

(ii) after that paragraph there is inserted “; or

(b) any reduction in the rental value of the holding resulting from—
(i) the use of the land or part of the land, or changes to the land, for a purpose that is not an agricultural purpose; or
(ii) the carrying out of conservation activities on the land.”; and

(c) after that subsection there is inserted—

“(7A) The Land Court shall take into account any increase in the rental value of the holding resulting from the use of the land for a purpose that is not an agricultural purpose.”.

54A Termination of tenancy

After section 16 (leases not terminated by variation of terms, etc.) of the 1991 Act there is inserted—

“16A Leases not terminated on grounds of non-residence

The lease of an agricultural holding shall not be brought to an end, and accordingly the landlord shall not be entitled to bring proceedings to terminate the lease or to treat it as at an end, by reason only that the tenant is not or has not been resident on the agricultural holding.”.

54B Terms of leases

After section 10 (power of landlord to enter on holding) of the 1991 Act there is inserted—

“10A Assignation and subletting of tenancies

(1) A lease of an agricultural holding may be assigned by the tenant if, following notice under subsection (2), the landlord consents to a proposed assignation.

(2) The tenant must give the landlord a notice in writing of any intention of the tenant to assign the lease; and the notice must include the particulars of the proposed assignee, the terms upon which the assignation is to be made and the date on which it is to take effect.

(3) The landlord may withhold consent to the proposed assignation if there are reasonable grounds for doing so; and, in particular the landlord may withhold consent if not satisfied as to whether the proposed assignee—

(a) would have the ability to pay—

(i) the rent due under the lease; or
(ii) for adequate maintenance of the land; or

(b) has the skills or experience that would be required properly to manage and maintain the land in accordance with the rules of good husbandry.

(4) Any such withholding of consent (and the grounds for withholding it) is to be intimated in writing to the tenant within 30 days of the giving of the notice under subsection (2); and, if no such intimation is made, the landlord is (except where the landlord exercises the right under subsection (5) to acquire the tenant’s interest in the tenancy) deemed to have consented to the proposed assignation.

(5) Where the landlord has been given notice under subsection (2), the landlord is entitled to acquire the tenant’s interest in the tenancy provided that—
(a) the landlord gives the tenant notice—
   (i) in writing; and
   (ii) within 30 days of the giving of the notice under subsection (2),
        of the landlord’s intention to acquire that interest; and

(b) the terms upon which the landlord acquires that interest are no less
      favourable to the tenant than the terms upon which the proposed
      assignation was to have been made.

(6) Any lease or agreement between the landlord and tenant which purports to
     provide that the lease of an agricultural holding may not be assigned under this
     section shall be null and void.

(7) A tenant may sub-let the land comprised in a lease of an agricultural holding
     only on such basis as the lease expressly permits.”.

55 Notices to quit

(1) In section 22 (restriction on operation of notices to quit) of the 1991 Act, in paragraph
    (b) of subsection (2), for the words from “has” to the end there is substituted “requires to
    be obtained, and has been obtained, under the enactments relating to town and country
    planning”.

(2) In section 24 (consents for the purposes of section 22) of that Act—
    (a) in subsection (2)—
        (i) the words from “that” in the second place where it appears to the end
            become paragraph (a); and
        (ii) after that paragraph there is added “; or

    (b) where the notice is to quit the whole of the holding, that use of the land
        for the purpose for which the landlord proposes to terminate the tenancy
        would not create greater economic and social benefits to the community
        than would exist were the tenancy not terminated.”;

(b) after subsection (4) there is added—

“(5) For the purposes of subsection (2)(b) above—
    (a) “the community”—
        (i) shall be defined by reference to the postcode unit (or postcode
            units) pertaining to the holding and the vicinity of the holding; and
        (ii) comprises the persons from time to time resident in that postcode
            unit (or any of those postcode units);

    (b) “economic benefits” shall be defined by reference to an increase, or the
        potential for increase, in employment or income;

    (c) “social benefits” shall be defined by reference to the likely—
        (i) sustaining of, or increase in, the population; and
        (ii) improvement of amenities and services.
(6) In subsection (5)(a) above, “postcode unit” means an area, determined by the Registrar General for Scotland, in relation to which a single postcode is used to facilitate the identification of postal service delivery points in the area.

(7) The Land Court shall, for the purposes of its determining the matters referred to in subsection (2)(b) above, have regard to such representations as it considers may assist in its consideration of those matters.”.

56 Restoration of agricultural holding following mineral exploitation

After section 29 (notice to quit part of holding to be valid in certain cases) of the 1991 Act there is inserted—

“29A Holding to be restored in certain circumstances

(1) Subsection (2) below applies where the tenancy of part of an agricultural holding has been terminated by reason of a notice to quit which is rendered valid by virtue of subsections (1)(b) and (2)(f) of section 29 of this Act.

(2) Where—

(a) this subsection applies; and

(b) the land which formed that part has subsequently been made suitable for, and is available for, agricultural use,

that land shall, if the conditions in subsection (3) below are fulfilled, be restored to the holding.

(3) The conditions are that—

(a) the tenancy of the holding continues in force with the same landlord and tenant under the lease; and

(b) any compensation paid to the tenant in consequence of the termination was calculated on the basis that the holding would be restored under this section.”.

57 Good husbandry and conservation activities

(1) In subsection (2) of section 85 (interpretation) of the 1991 Act, after “shall” there is inserted “, subject to subsection (2A) below,”.

(2) After that subsection there is inserted—

“(2A) For the purposes of this Act, conservation activities are to be treated as being in accordance with the rules of good husbandry if they are carried out in accordance with—

(a) an agreement entered into under any enactment by the tenant; or

(b) the conditions of—

(i) any grant for the purpose of such activities paid out of the Scottish Consolidated Fund; or

(ii) such other grant of a public nature as may be prescribed.”.
PART 6

RIGHTS OF CERTAIN PERSONS WHERE TENANT IS A PARTNERSHIP

58 Rights of certain persons where tenant is a partnership

(1) Subsection (2) applies to—

(a) a 1991 Act tenancy if the lease constituting the tenancy is entered into on or after the coming into force of this section; and

(b) a tenancy under a lease constituting a short limited duration tenancy or a limited duration tenancy,

where the tenant is a partnership.

(2) Where this subsection applies and—

(a) any partner is—

(i) the landlord or an associate of the landlord; or

(ii) a partnership or a company in which the landlord has a relevant interest; and

(b) there is any other partner,

subsections (3) and (4) apply.

(3) Where this subsection applies, any partner not mentioned in subsection (2)(a) may exercise or enforce any right of a tenant conferred by virtue of this Act or the 1991 Act as if the partner were the tenant in the partner’s own right.

(4) Where this subsection applies, if the tenancy purports to be terminated as a consequence of—

(a) the dissolution of the partnership—

(i) in accordance with the partnership agreement; or

(ii) due to the actings of any partner mentioned in subsection (2)(a);

(b) the renunciation of the tenancy by such a partner; or

(c) a breach of the tenancy by such a partner,

subsection (5) applies.

(5) Where this subsection applies, notwithstanding the purported termination of the tenancy—

(a) the tenancy is deemed to continue to have effect; and

(b) any partner not mentioned in subsection (2)(a) is deemed to become the tenant (or a joint tenant) under the tenancy in the partner’s own right,

if the partner gives notice to the landlord in accordance with subsection (6).

(6) Notice is given in accordance with this subsection if—

(a) it is in writing;

(b) it is given within 28 days of the purported termination of the tenancy; and

(c) it states that the partner intends to become the tenant (or a joint tenant) under the tenancy in the partner’s own right.
Part 6—Rights of certain persons where tenant is a partnership

(7) For the purposes of this section and section 58A, a landlord has a relevant interest in a partnership or company if the landlord or an associate of the landlord is—

(a) a partner in the partnership;
(b) a partner in a partnership which forms part of the partnership;
(c) a shareholder in the company; or
(d) the holder of a standard security or floating charge over an interest in a tenancy where the partnership or the company is a partner in the tenant.

(8) For the purposes of this section and section 58A, a person is an associate of a landlord if the person is—

(a) where the landlord is a partnership or a company, a partner in the landlord or, as the case may be, a shareholder of the landlord;
(b) where an associate of the landlord is a partnership or a company, a partner in or, as the case may be, a shareholder of that associate;
(c) an agent of the landlord or of an associate of the landlord; or
(d) a member of the landlord’s family.

(9) The Scottish Ministers may by order modify (either or both) subsections (7) and (8).

Meaning of “family”

(1) For the purposes of section 58(8)(d), who the members of a person’s family are is to be construed in accordance with subsections (2) and (3).

(2) A person (“AG”) is a member of another person’s family if—

(a) AG is the person’s spouse or AG and the person live together as husband and wife or in a relationship which has the characteristics of the relationship between husband and wife except that AG and the person are of the same sex; or
(b) AG is the person’s parent, grandparent, child, grandchild, sibling, uncle, aunt, nephew, niece or cousin.

(3) For the purposes of subsection (2)(b)—

(a) a relationship by marriage is to be treated as a relationship by blood;
(b) a relationship of the half-blood is to be treated as a relationship of the whole blood;
(c) if AG is—

(i) the stepchild of the person, AG is to be treated as the person’s child;
(ii) the step-parent of the person, AG is to be treated as the person’s parent;
(d) if AG is brought up or treated by the person as if the person’s child, AG is to be treated as the person’s child.

(4) The Scottish Ministers may by order modify (any or all) subsections (1) to (3).

Rights of certain persons where tenant is a limited partnership

(1) Subsection (2) applies to a 1991 Act tenancy if—
(a) the lease constituting the tenancy is entered into before the coming into force of this section; and
(b) the tenant is a limited partnership.

(2) Where this subsection applies and any limited partner is—

(a) the landlord or an associate of the landlord; or
(b) a partnership or a company in which the landlord has a relevant interest, subsections (3) and (4) apply.

(3) Where this subsection applies, any general partner may exercise or enforce any right of a tenant conferred by virtue of Part 2 of this Act as if the partner were the tenant in the partner’s own right.

(4) Where this subsection applies and the tenancy purports to be terminated as a consequence of any of the things mentioned in subsection (5), subsection (6) applies.

(5) The things are—

(a) the dissolution of the partnership by notice given by a limited partner;
(b) the renunciation of the tenancy by such a partner; and
(c) a breach of the tenancy by such a partner, during the period from 4th February 2003 to the relevant date.

(6) Where this subsection applies, any general partner may, before the expiry of the relevant period, apply to the Land Court for an order under subsection (8).

(7) The Land Court is to make such an order if it is satisfied that it is—

(a) unreasonable for the tenancy to be terminated; and
(b) reasonable to make the order.

(8) An order under this subsection is, notwithstanding the purported termination of the tenancy, an order providing for—

(a) the tenancy to continue to have effect from—

(i) the date on which the tenancy would have terminated but for this subsection; or

(ii) such other date as the order may specify; and

(b) any general partner to become the tenant (or a joint tenant) under the tenancy in the partner’s own right.

(9) For the purposes of—

(a) subsection (5), the relevant date is such date as the Scottish Ministers may by order specify; and
(b) subsection (6), the relevant period is the period from the date on which this section comes into force to such date as they may so specify.

(10) In this section, the expressions, “limited partnership”, “limited partner” and “general partner” are to be construed in accordance with the Limited Partnerships Act 1907 (c.24).
PART 7

JURISDICTION OF THE LAND COURT AND THE RESOLUTION OF DISPUTES

1991 Act tenancies

59 Jurisdiction of the Land Court

For section 60 (questions between landlord and tenant) of the 1991 Act there is substituted—

60 Resolution of disputes by the Land Court

(1) The Land Court shall have jurisdiction to hear and determine any matter referred to in subsection (2) below.

(2) Those matters are—

(a) whether a tenancy of an agricultural holding in relation to which this Act applies exists or has been terminated;

(b) any question or difference between the landlord and tenant of such a holding arising out of the tenancy or in connection with the holding, whether such question or difference arises during the currency of or on the termination of the tenancy;

(c) any claim by the landlord or tenant of such a holding against the other which arises, under this Act or under any rule of law, custom or agreement, on or out of the termination of the tenancy (or part thereof);

(d) any other issue of fact or law relating to—

(i) a tenancy of such a holding or any other type of agricultural tenancy; or

(ii) agriculture,

which the landlord or tenant reasonably require to have resolved.

(3) Such matters do not include any question as to—

(a) the validity of—

(i) any bequest; or

(ii) any transfer,

of an interest under the lease; or

(b) whether any such transfer is in the best interests of the estate of a deceased person.

(4) Any application to the Land Court for a matter to be determined by it under this Act may be made by the landlord or tenant or by them jointly.

(5) Any other provision of an enactment which provides for the determination of a matter by the Land Court is without prejudice to this section.”.

60 Arbitrations etc.

For section 61 (arbitrations) of the 1991 Act there is substituted—
61 Agreement to refer matters to arbitration

(1) Subject to subsection (2) below, where this Act makes provision for any matter to be determined by the Land Court, the matter may, if the landlord and tenant so agree at or after the time when the matter arises, instead of being so determined, be determined by arbitration.

(2) Subsection (1) above does not apply in relation to any matter which may be determined by the Land Court—

(a) in pursuance of section 8(6), 11, 12, 22, 26, 32, 39, 41(1), 55(7) or 66(2) or (2A) of this Act; or

(b) on appeal.

(3) In this Act, other than in section 61A, “arbitration” includes any other method of resolving the matter; and “arbiter” shall be construed accordingly.

61A Arbitration: procedure etc.

(1) This section applies to any arbitration to which a matter is referred by the landlord and tenant under section 61(1) of this Act.

(2) The agreement of the parties to refer the matter to arbitration shall have the effect of depriving each party of his right to—

(a) have the matter heard (or any issue in relation to the matter determined) by the Land Court (other than on appeal); and

(b) agree under section 61(1) of this Act to another method of resolving the matter.

(3) It shall be for the landlord and tenant to agree whether the arbitration is conducted by—

(a) a single arbiter; or

(b) two arbiters (with or without an oversman),

and the arbiter or, as the case may be, each arbiter, may be appointed by the parties or by a person nominated by them.

(4) The procedure to be followed at arbitration (including any matters to be taken into account by the arbiter and the matters to be contained in his award) shall, subject to subsection (5) below, be as the parties agree or, in the absence of such agreement, as the arbiter considers appropriate.

(5) Any provision of this Act that would apply to the Land Court as respects its consideration or determination of any matter had the matter not been referred to arbitration shall apply as respects the consideration or determination of the matter by arbitration.

(6) Any party to the arbitration may appeal to the Land Court against the arbiter’s award on a question of law within 28 days of the award; and in an appeal under this subsection the Court may—

(a) quash, confirm or vary the award or any part of it; and

(b) where the Court quashes the award or any part of it—

(i) remit the case to the arbiter for further procedure; and

(ii) direct the arbiter on any question of law relevant to the case.
61B **Clauses in leases as to resolution of disputes**

Any term of—

(a) a lease of an agricultural holding in relation to which this Act applies; or

(b) any agreement in connection with such a lease (other than an agreement under section 61(1) of this Act),

that makes provision restricting any right of a landlord or tenant to apply to the Land Court under this Act to have a matter determined by the Court shall, in so far as it makes that provision, be null and void.”.

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**Short limited duration tenancies and limited duration tenancies etc.**

61 **Resolution of disputes by the Land Court**

(1) The Land Court has jurisdiction to hear and determine any matter referred to in subsection (2).

(2) Those matters are—

(a) whether—

(i) a short limited duration tenancy;

(ii) a limited duration tenancy; or

(iii) a tenancy to which section 3 applies, exists or has been terminated;

(b) any question or difference between the landlord and tenant arising out of or in connection with any such tenancy, whether the question or difference arises during the currency of or on the termination of the tenancy;

(c) any claim by the landlord or tenant of any such tenancy against the other which arises, by virtue of this Act or under any rule of law, custom or agreement, on or out of the termination of the tenancy or of any part of it;

(d) any other issue of fact or law relating to—

(i) any such tenancy or a 1991 Act tenancy; or

(ii) agriculture,

which the landlord or tenant reasonably require to have resolved.

(3) Such matters do not include any question as to—

(a) the validity of

(i) any bequest; or

(ii) any transfer,

of any interest under the lease constituting the tenancy; or

(b) whether any such transfer is in the best interests of the estate of a deceased person.

(4) Any application to the Land Court for a matter to be determined by it by virtue of this Act may be made by the landlord or tenant or by them jointly.

(5) Any other provision of an enactment which provides for the determination of any matter by the Land Court is without prejudice to this section.
62 Agreement to refer matters to arbitration

(1) Subject to subsection (2), where by virtue of this Act any matter may be determined by the Land Court, the matter may, if the landlord and tenant so agree at or after the time when the matter arises, instead of being so determined, be determined by—

(a) arbitration; or

(b) any other method of resolving the matter.

(2) Subsection (1) does not apply in relation to any matter which may be determined by the Land Court—

(a) in pursuance of section 20, 21 or 42(3); or

(b) on appeal.

63 Arbitration: procedure etc.

(1) This section applies to any arbitration to which a matter is referred by the landlord and tenant under section 62(1)(a).

(2) The agreement of the parties to refer the matter to arbitration has the effect of depriving each party of the right to—

(a) have the matter heard (or any issue in relation to the matter determined) by the Land Court (other than on appeal); and

(b) agree under section 62(1)(b) to another method of resolving the matter.

(3) It is for the landlord and tenant to agree whether the arbitration is conducted by—

(a) a single arbiter; or

(b) two arbiters (with or without an oversman),

and the arbiter or, as the case may be, each arbiter may be appointed by the parties or by a person nominated by them.

(4) The procedure to be followed at arbitration (including any matters to be taken into account by the arbiter and the matters to be contained in the arbiter’s award) is, subject to subsection (5), to be as the parties agree or, in the absence of such agreement, as the arbiter considers appropriate.

(5) Any provision by virtue of this Act that would apply to the Land Court as respects its consideration or determination of any matter had the matter not been referred to arbitration applies as respects the consideration or determination of the matter by arbitration.

(6) Any party to the arbitration may appeal to the Land Court against the arbiter’s award on a question of law within 28 days of the award; and in an appeal under this subsection the Court may—

(a) quash, confirm or vary the award or any part of it; and

(b) where the Court quashes the award or any part of it—

(i) remit the case to the arbiter for further procedure; and

(ii) direct the arbiter on any question of law relevant to the case.
64 Other provisions as to the resolution of disputes

(1) Section 62 (claims on termination of tenancy) of the 1991 Act applies to any claim referred to in section 61(2)(c) as it does to any claim referred to in section 60(2)(c) of that Act.

(2) Section 65 (recovery of compensation and other sums due) of that Act applies to any award or agreement by virtue of this Act as it does to any award or agreement under that Act.

(3) In section 66 (power to enable demand to remedy breach to be modified) of that Act, subsection (1) applies in relation to a matter which may be determined by the Land Court by virtue of this Act as it does in relation to a matter which may be determined by the Land Court under that Act.

65 Clauses in leases as to resolution of disputes

Any term of—

(a) a lease constituting a short limited duration tenancy, a limited duration tenancy or a tenancy to which section 3 applies; or

(b) any agreement in connection with such a lease (other than an agreement under section 62(1)),

that makes provision restricting any right of the landlord or tenant to apply to the Land Court by virtue of this Act to have a matter determined by the Court is, so far as it makes that provision, of no effect.

66 Amendment of the Scottish Land Court Act 1993

In the Scottish Land Court Act 1993 (c.45)—

(a) in subsection (6) of section 1 (the Land Court)—

(zi) after the word “enactment” there is inserted “, or under the Agricultural Holdings (Scotland) Act 2003 (asp 00)”;

(i) for the words “1993,” there is substituted “1993 or”;

(ii) the words “or the Agricultural Holdings (Scotland) Act 1991” are repealed;

(iii) after “any” in the third place where it appears there is inserted “such”;

(b) after subsection (7) of that section there is inserted—

“(7A) Subsection (7) above does not apply in respect of proceedings in connection with any matter which may be determined by the Land Court by virtue of the Agricultural Holdings (Scotland) Act 1991 (c.55) or the Agricultural Holdings (Scotland) Act 2003.”; and

(c) in Schedule 1 (the Land Court)—

(i) in sub-paragraph (2) of paragraph 6, after the word “shall” in the first place where it appears there is inserted “, subject to sub-paragraph (3) below”; and

(ii) after that sub-paragraph there is inserted—
“(3) There shall be no such review if the Court, when making a delegation in pursuance of this paragraph in relation to a matter before it in pursuance of the Agricultural Holdings (Scotland) Act 1991 (c.55) or the Agricultural Holdings (Scotland) Act 2003 (asp 00), so orders.”.

67 Power to amend Land Court’s jurisdiction

The Scottish Ministers may by order modify (any or all)—

(a) sections 61(2) and 62(2); and

(b) sections 60(2) and 61(2) (which make provision as to the resolution of disputes) of the 1991 Act.

68 Power of the Land Court to grant remedies etc.

(1) Where the Land Court has by virtue of the 1991 Act or this Act determined any matter, it may, in relation to the rights of any party, make such order or grant such remedy as it considers appropriate and, in particular, it may make or grant (any or all)—

(a) a decree of interdict (including an interim decree);

(b) an order ad factum praestandum or an order of specific implement (including in either case an interim order);

(c) an order of specific restitution;

(d) an order of reduction or rectification;

(e) an order of removal or ejection (but not an interim order);

(f) an order for damages or other substitutionary redress;

(g) a declarator.

(2) Where a matter before the Land Court by virtue of the 1991 Act or this Act concerns the removal or ejection of the tenant from the land to which the tenancy relates, the Court may order the finding of caution, or the giving of such undertaking as the Court considers appropriate, in relation to any liability of the landlord or tenant to the other which may arise from the landlord or, as the case may be, tenant remaining on the land pending the Court’s determination of the matter.

69 Remit from Land Court to the sheriff or Court of Session

(1) Where—

(a) a matter is before the Land Court for determination by virtue of the 1991 Act or this Act; and

(b) an action in respect of the matter could competently have been brought before a sheriff or in the Court of Session,

the Land Court may (at its own instance or following a request under subsection (2)(a) below) remit the case to the sheriff within whose jurisdiction the action could have been brought, or to the Court of Session, if it considers that to be appropriate.

(2) Any person with an interest in a matter that is before the Land Court for determination under this Act may make an application—

(a) to the Land Court requesting that it remit the matter to the Court of Session under subsection (1) above; or
(b) to the Court of Session craving it to require the Land Court so to remit the matter.

(3) Where an application is made under subsection (2)(b) above, the Court of Session may require the Land Court to remit the matter to it if it considers that it would be appropriate for it to determine the matter.

70 Remit to the Land Court by the sheriff or Court of Session

(1) In the Sheriff Courts (Scotland) Act 1971 (c.58), after subsection (2C) of section 37 (rements) there is inserted—

“(2D) In the case of any action in the sheriff court where the matter to which the action relates could competently be determined by the Land Court by virtue of the Agricultural Holdings (Scotland) Act 1991 (c.55) or the Agricultural Holdings (Scotland) Act 2003 (asp 00), the sheriff may (of his own accord or on the motion of any of the parties) at any stage remit the case to the Land Court if he is of the opinion that it is appropriate to do so.”.

(2) Where an action is before the Court of Session and the matter to which the action relates could competently be determined by the Land Court by virtue of the 1991 Act or this Act, it may (at its own instance or on the application of any party to the action) remit the case to the Land Court if it considers that to be appropriate.

71 Transmission of case where contingency

(1) The Land Court may, on an application by any of the parties, if it considers that there is contingency between a cause depending before the sheriff and a matter before the Court for determination by virtue of the 1991 Act or this Act, grant warrant to the clerk of the sheriff court for transmission of the case to the Land Court.

(2) In the Court of Session Act 1988 (c.36), after subsection (2) of section 33 (transmissions to Court on ground of contingency) there is inserted—

“(3) The Court may, on an application by any of the parties, if it is of the opinion that there is contingency between a matter before the Land Court for determination by virtue of the Agricultural Holdings (Scotland) Act 1991 (c.55) or the Agricultural Holdings (Scotland) Act 2003 (asp 00) and a cause depending before the Court, grant warrant to the clerk of the Land Court for transmission of the case to the Court from the Land Court.”.

72 Appeal from Land Court to Court of Session

(1) Subject to subsection (2), any party to a matter determined by the Land Court by virtue of the 1991 Act or this Act may appeal to the Court of Session against the determination on a question of law within 28 days of the determination; and in an appeal under this section the Court of Session may—

(a) quash, confirm or vary the determination or any part of it; and

(b) where the Court quashes the determination or any part of it—

(i) remit the case to the Land Court for further procedure; and

(ii) direct the Land Court on any question of law relevant to the case.

(2) A determination by the Land Court in an appeal may not be appealed against under subsection (1).
(3) The decision of the Court of Session in any appeal made under subsection (1) is final.

73 Expenses in sheriff court and Court of Session
Where the matter to which an action in the sheriff court or before the Court of Session relates could competently be or have been determined by the Land Court by virtue of the 1991 Act or this Act, the sheriff or, as the case may be, the Court must, without prejudice to any rule of law, take account of that fact in deciding what (if any) expenses to award.

74 Conduct of arbiter and setting aside of arbiter’s award
(1) Any person with an interest in a matter determined by an arbitration to which section 61A of the 1991 Act applies or conducted by virtue of section 62(1)(a) of this Act who has reasonable grounds for believing that—
   (a) the arbiter has misconducted himself during the course of the arbitration; or
   (b) the arbitration has been improperly procured,
may make an application to the Land Court for an order under subsection (2).

(2) Where, on such an application, the Land Court is satisfied that—
   (a) the arbiter has so misconducted himself, or the arbitration has been improperly procured, it may make an order setting aside the arbiter’s award;
   (b) the arbiter has so misconducted himself, it may make an order removing the arbiter.

PART 8
GENERAL PROVISIONS

75 Orders and regulations
(1) Any power of the Scottish Ministers to make orders or regulations under this Act is exercisable by statutory instrument.

(2) Any such power includes power—
   (a) to make such incidental, supplemental, consequential, transitional, transitory or saving provision as the Scottish Ministers consider necessary or expedient; and
   (b) to make different provision for different purposes.

(3) A statutory instrument containing—
   (a) an order under section 17(3)(b)(ii), 24(7), 58A(9) or, except where subsection (5) applies, section 76; or
   (b) regulations under section 24(3) or 25(2),
is subject to annulment in pursuance of a resolution of the Parliament.

(4) A statutory instrument containing—
   (a) an order under section 26(6), 27(6), 58(9), 67 or 77(4); or
   (b) regulations under section 32(7),
is not made unless a draft of the instrument has been laid before, and approved by resolution of, the Parliament.

(5) A statutory instrument containing an order under section 76 which amends an Act is not made unless a draft of the instrument has been laid before, and approved by resolution of, the Parliament.

76 Ancillary provision

The Scottish Ministers may by order make such incidental, supplemental, consequential, transitional, transitory or saving provision as they consider necessary or expedient for the purposes of or in consequence of this Act.

78 Interpretation

In this Act (unless the context requires otherwise)—

“the 1991 Act” means the Agricultural Holdings (Scotland) Act 1991 (c.55);

“1991 Act tenancy” is to be construed in accordance section 1;

“agriculture” is to be construed in accordance with section 85 (interpretation) of the 1991 Act; and “agricultural” and “non-agricultural” are to be construed accordingly;

“agricultural land” means land used for agriculture for the purposes of a trade or business;

“the Land Court” means the Scottish Land Court;

“landlord” means any person for the time being entitled to receive the rents from a tenancy and includes the executor, assignee, legatee, disponee, guardian, legal representative (within the meaning of Part I of the Children (Scotland) Act 1995 (c.36)) or permanent or interim trustee (within the meaning of the Bankruptcy (Scotland) Act 1985 (c.66)), of a landlord;

“limited duration tenancy” is to be construed in accordance with section 5;

“the Parliament” means the Scottish Parliament;

“short limited duration tenancy” is to be construed in accordance with section 4;

“tenant” means the holder of land under a tenancy constituted by any lease and includes the executor, assignee, legatee, disponee, guardian, legal representative (within the meaning of Part I of the Children (Scotland) Act 1995) or permanent or interim trustee (within the meaning of the Bankruptcy (Scotland) Act 1985), of a tenant;

“termination”, in relation to a tenancy, means the termination of the lease constituting the tenancy.

79 Amendments to enactments

The schedule, which makes amendments to enactments in consequence of this Act, has effect.

80 Short title, Crown application and commencement

(1) This Act may be cited as the Agricultural Holdings (Scotland) Act 2003.
(2) This Act binds the Crown.

(3) The provisions of this Act, except this section and sections 75, 76 and 78, come into force on such day as the Scottish Ministers may by order appoint.

(4) Different days may be so appointed for different provisions and for different purposes.
SCHEDULE
(introduced by section 79)
AMENDMENTS TO ENACTMENTS

Sheriff Courts (Scotland) Act 1907 (c.51)

1 After section 37 (notice of termination of tenancy) of the Sheriff Courts (Scotland) Act 1907 there is inserted—

“37A Exception for certain tenancies
The provisions of this Act relating to removings (including summary removings) shall not apply to or in relation to short limited duration tenancies or limited duration tenancies within the meaning of the Agricultural Holdings (Scotland) Act 2003 (asp 00).”.

Succession (Scotland) Act 1964 (c.41)

2 (1) In section 16 (provisions relating to leases) of the Succession (Scotland) Act 1964—
(a) in subsection (2), at the beginning there is inserted “Subject to subsection (4A),”; and
(b) in subsection (3)—
(i) at the beginning there is inserted “Subject to subsection (4C),”; and
(ii) in paragraph (b), for the words “sheriff on summary application by” there is substituted “relevant court on the application of”;
(c) in subsection (6)—
(i) for the words “to an arbiter to determine” there is substituted “for the determination of”; and
(ii) for the words from “Land” in the second place where it appears to “award” there is substituted “order or determination shall not be”; and
(iii) the words “the court or the arbiter is satisfied that” are repealed;
(d) in subsection (8), after the word “Act” in the second place where it appears there is inserted “or, as the case may be, section 20(2) and (3) of the 2003 Act,”; and
(e) after that subsection there is inserted—
“(8A) For the purposes of subsection (3)(b) above, the “relevant court” is—
(a) in the case of an interest under a lease constituting a 1991 Act tenancy, the Land Court; and
(b) in any other case, the sheriff,
and an application to the sheriff in any such other case shall be by summary application.”; and
(f) in subsection (9)—
(i) in the definition of “agricultural lease”, for the words from “or” in the first place where it appears to the end there is substituted “, or a lease of a croft within the meaning of section 3(1) of the Act of 1955, or a lease
constituting a 1991 Act tenancy, or a lease constituting a short limited duration tenancy or a limited duration tenancy”;

(ii) after the definition of “the 1991 Act” there is inserted—

“the 2003 Act” means the Agricultural Holdings (Scotland) Act 2003 (asp 00); and

(iii) at the end there is inserted—

“‘1991 Act tenancy’, ‘short limited duration tenancy’ and ‘limited duration tenancy’ shall be construed in accordance with the 2003 Act”.

(2) In section 29 (right of tenant to bequeath interest under lease) of that Act, in subsection (2), after the words “1991” there is inserted “or section 20 of the Agricultural Holdings (Scotland) Act 2003 (asp 00)”.

Conveyancing and Feudal Reform (Scotland) Act 1970 (c.35)

3 In paragraph 5 of Schedule 1 to the Conveyancing and Feudal Reform (Scotland) Act 1970 (land obligations not subject to variation or discharge under section 1 of that Act)—

(a) the word “of” in the first place where it appears is repealed;

(b) for paragraph (a) there is substituted—

“(a) constituting a 1991 Act tenancy, within the meaning of the Agricultural Holdings (Scotland) Act 2003 (asp 00);

(aa) constituting a short limited duration tenancy or a limited duration tenancy, within the meaning of that Act;”; and

(c) at the beginning of each of paragraphs (b) and (c) there is inserted the word “of”.

Land Tenure Reform (Scotland) Act 1974 (c.38)

4 In section 8 (which makes provision concerning property let under certain leases) of the Land Tenure Reform (Scotland) Act 1974, in subsection (5), for paragraph (a) there is substituted—

“(a) the land comprised in a lease constituting a 1991 Act tenancy, within the meaning of the Agricultural Holdings (Scotland) Act 2003 (asp 00);

(aa) the land comprised in a lease constituting a short limited duration tenancy or a limited duration tenancy, within the meaning of that Act;”.

Matrimonial Homes (Family Protection) (Scotland) Act 1981 (c.59)

5 In section 13 (transfer of tenancy) of the Matrimonial Homes (Family Protection) (Scotland) Act 1981—

(a) in subsection (7), for paragraph (b) there is substituted—

“(b) is on or pertains to land comprised in an agricultural lease;”; and

(b) in subsection (8), for the definition of “agricultural holding” there is substituted—

“agricultural lease” means a lease constituting a 1991 Act tenancy within the meaning of the Agricultural Holdings (Scotland) Act 2003 (asp 00)
or a lease constituting a limited duration tenancy or a short limited
duration tenancy (within the meaning of that Act);”.

Rent (Scotland) Act 1984 (c.58)

6 In section 25(1) (interpretation) of the Rent (Scotland) Act 1984, in the definition of
“statutorily protected tenant”, at the end there is added “, or a limited duration tenancy
(within the meaning of the Agricultural Holdings (Scotland) Act 2003 (asp 00)).”.

Law Reform (Miscellaneous Provisions) (Scotland) Act 1985 (c.73)

7 In section 7 (interpretation of sections 4 to 6) of the Law Reform (Miscellaneous
Provisions) (Scotland) Act 1985—

10 (a) in subsection (1)—

(i) in paragraph (b), the words “an agricultural holding,”, and the word “or”
    immediately preceding that paragraph, are repealed; and

(ii) after that paragraph there is inserted “; or

(c) where the lease is an agricultural lease.”; and

15 (b) in subsection (2), for the definition of “agricultural holding” there is substituted—

“agricultural lease” means a lease constituting a 1991 Act tenancy within
the meaning of the Agricultural Holdings (Scotland) Act 2003 (asp 00)
or a lease constituting a short limited duration tenancy or a limited
duration tenancy (within the meaning of that Act);”.

Agriculture Act 1986 (c.49)

8 The Agriculture Act 1986 is amended as follows.

9 In section 16 (rent arbitrations: milk quotas), after subsection (2) there is inserted—

“(2A) In this section, in relation to a reference under section 13 of the 1991 Act,
“arbiter” includes any other person determining the matter in respect of which
the reference is made.”.

10 (1) In paragraph 7(2) of Schedule 2 (tenants’ compensation for milk quota in Scotland), for
the word “arbitration” there is substituted “the Scottish Land Court”.

(2) In paragraph 10 of that Schedule, in sub-paragraph (1)—

(a) the words—

(i) from “the” in the third place where it appears to “that” in the second place
    where it appears; and

(ii) “shall be referred”,

are repealed;

(b) for the words from “to” in the first place where it appears in head (a) to the end of
that head there is substituted “may be referred to the Scottish Land Court under
section 60 of that Act”;
Agricultural Holdings (Scotland) Bill
Schedule—Amendments to enactments

(c) after the word “case,” where it appears in head (b) there is inserted “shall be referred, following a demand for referral made, by notice in writing at any time before the termination of the lease, by the landlord or tenant to the other,”; and

(d) for the words from “section” in the second place where it appears to the end there is substituted “the provisions of the 1991 Act and the Agricultural Holdings (Scotland) Act 2003 (asp 00), so far as applying to matters which fall to be determined under section 60 of the 1991 Act, shall apply to the matter referred to in this sub-paragraph.”.

(3) In paragraph 11 of that Schedule—

(a) in head (a) of sub-paragraph (1), for the words from “arbitration” to the end there is substituted “the Scottish Land Court under section 60 of that Act”;

(b) for sub-paragraph (4) there is substituted—

“(4) Where head (a) of sub-paragraph (1) above applies, the provisions of the 1991 Act and the Agricultural Holdings (Scotland) Act 2003 (asp 00), so far as applying to matters which may be determined under section 60 of the 1991 Act, shall apply to a claim referred to in that sub-paragraph.”;

(c) in sub-paragraph (5), for the words “an arbitration” there is substituted “a determination”;

(d) in sub-paragraph (6), in head (b), the words “by arbitration” are repealed; and

(e) after sub-paragraph (7) there is inserted—

“(8) In paragraph 10 above and in this paragraph, “arbiter” includes any other person to whom the matter is referred or, as the case may be, by whom the claim is determined.”.

The 1991 Act

The 1991 Act is amended as follows.

In section 4 (written leases and the revision of certain leases)—

(a) in subsection (1), for the word “arbitration” there is substituted “the Land Court”;

(b) in subsection (2)—

(i) for the words “arbiter shall by his award” there is substituted “Land Court shall in its determination”; and

(ii) for the word “arbiter” in the second place where it appears there is substituted “Land Court”;

(c) in subsection (3), for the words “arbiter may include in his award” there is substituted “Land Court may include in its determination”;

(d) in subsection (4)—

(i) for the words “award of an arbiter” there is substituted “determination of the Land Court”; and

(ii) for the word “award” in the second and third places where it appears there is in each case substituted “determination”.

In section 5 (fixed equipment and insurance premiums), subsection (5) is repealed.

In section 9 (arbitration as to permanent pasture)—
(a) in subsection (1), for the words from “landlord” to “of” in the fifth place where it appears, there is substituted “Land Court may determine”;  
(b) in subsection (2), for the words from the beginning to “award” there is substituted “The Land Court may in its determination”; and 
(c) in subsection (3)—
   (i) for the word “arbiter” there is substituted “Land Court”; and
   (ii) for the words “he may also by his award” there is substituted “it may also”.

In section 13 (variation of rent)—
(a) in subsection (1)—
   (i) for the words from “by” in the first place where it appears to “of” in the third place where it appears there is substituted “have determined by the Land Court”; and
   (ii) the words from “, and” to the end are repealed;
(b) in subsection (2), for the words from the beginning to “arbiter” there is substituted “In relation to such a question, the Land Court”; 
(d) in subsection (5), for the word “arbiter” there is substituted “Land Court”; 
(e) in subsection (7), for the word “arbiter” there is substituted “Land Court”; and 
(f) in subsection (8), for the word “arbitration” there is substituted “the Land Court”.

For section 14 (arbitrations under sections 4 and 5) substitute—

“14 Determination by the Land Court under sections 4 and 5

Where it appears to the Land Court—
(a) that, by reason of any provision which it is required by section 4 of this Act to include in its determination; or
(b) that, by reason of any provision included in its determination on any question as to the liability of a landlord or tenant under section 5 of this Act,

it is equitable that the rent of the holding should be varied, it may vary the rent accordingly.”.

In section 15 (increase of rent for certain improvements by landlord), subsection (3) is repealed.

In section 19 (payments for implements, etc., sold on quitting), subsection (3) is repealed.

In section 20 (removal of tenant for non-payment of rent)—
(a) in subsection (1), for “sheriff court” there is substituted “Land Court”; 
(b) in subsection (2)—
   (i) for “sheriff” there is substituted “Land Court”; and
   (ii) for “his” there is substituted “its”; and 
(c) subsection (4) is repealed.

In section 23 (consent by Land Court or arbitration on notices to quit)—
(a) in subsection (2), for the word “arbitration” there is substituted “the Land Court”;  
(b) in subsection (3)—  
   (i) for the words “the award of the arbiter in an arbitration” there is substituted “the determination of the Land Court”; and  
   (ii) for the words “arbiter’s award” there is substituted “Land Court’s determination”;  
(c) in subsection (4)—  
   (i) for the words “an arbitration” there is substituted “a determination”; and  
   (ii) for the words from “arbiter’s” to the end there is substituted “Land Court’s determination”; and  
(d) in subsection (5), for the words from “award” to “arbitration” there is substituted “determination”.

21 In section 31 (reduction of rent where tenant dispossessed of part of holding)—  
(a) in subsection (1), for the word “arbitration” there is substituted “the Land Court”; and  
(b) in subsection (2), for the word “arbiter” there is substituted “Land Court”.

22 In section 32 (further restrictions on operation of certain notices to quit)—  
(a) in subsection (3) for the word “arbitration” there is substituted “the Land Court”;  
(b) in subsection (4)—  
   (i) in paragraph (b), for the word “arbitration” there is substituted “Land Court’s determination”; and  
   (ii) in paragraph (c), for the words “arbiter’s award” there is substituted “Land Court’s determination”; and  
(c) in subsection (6), for the word “arbitration” there is substituted “Land Court’s determination”.

23 In section 34(6) (right to compensation for improvements), for the word “arbiter” there is substituted “Land Court”.

24 In section 36(4) (amount of compensation), for the word “arbiter” there is substituted “Land Court”.

25 In section 41 (direction by Land Court that holding be treated as market garden), in subsection (2), for the word “arbitration” there is substituted “the Land Court”.

26 In section 43 (compensation for disturbance)—  
(a) in subsection (3), for the words “of an arbitration to determine” there is substituted “arising from the determination of”; and  
(b) in subsection (5), for the words “arbiter finds to be” there is substituted “Land Court determines as”.

27 In section 46 (compensation for failure to repair or maintain fixed equipment)—  
(a) in subsection (2) for the word “arbitration” there is substituted “the Land Court”; and  
(b) in subsection (3)—
(i) for the word “arbitration” there is substituted “the Land Court”; and
(ii) for the word “award” there is substituted “determination”.

In section 49 (compensation provisions to apply to parts of holdings in certain cases), in subsection (2) for the words “arbiter, in assessing” there is substituted “Land Court, in determining”.

In section 50 (determination of claims for compensation where holding is divided)—
(a) for the word “arbiter” in each place where it appears there is substituted “Land Court”;
(b) for the word “award” there is substituted “determination”; and

(c) for the word “he” there is substituted “it”.

In section 52 (compensation for damage by game), for the word “arbitration” in each place where it appears there is substituted “the Land Court”.

In section 55 (provisions supplementary to section 54), in subsection (7) for the words from “the” in the fourth place where it appears to the end there is substituted “it shall be determined by the Land Court”.

In section 62 (claims on termination of tenancy)—
(a) for subsection (1) there is substituted—
“(1) This section applies to any claim referred to in section 60(2)(c) of this Act.”; and

(b) in subsection (5), for the words from “, an” to the end there is substituted—
“(a) an application has been made to the Land Court; or
(b) an arbiter has been appointed or any application has been made for the appointment of an arbiter,
to determine the claim”.

Sections 63 and 64 are repealed.

In section 66 (power to enable demand to remedy breach to be modified)—
(a) in subsection (1)—
(i) for the word “arbitration” there is substituted “the Land Court”; and
(ii) for the word “arbiter” in each place where it appears there is substituted “Land Court”;

(b) in subsection (2)—
(i) for the words “an arbiter” there is substituted “the Land Court”; and
(ii) the words “the arbiter or” and “by the arbiter” are repealed;

(c) after subsection (2) there is inserted—
“(2A) Where, by virtue of section 61(1) of this Act, an arbiter specifies under subsection (1)(a) above a period within which a breach should be remedied or the period for remediying a breach is extended by virtue of subsection (4) below, the Land Court may, on the application of the arbiter or the landlord, specify a date for the termination of the tenancy by notice to quit in the event of the tenant’s failure to remedy the breach within that period, being a date not
earlier than whichever of the two dates referred to in subsection (2) above is the later.”;

(d) in subsection (3)—
(i) after the word “(2)” there is inserted “or (2A)”;
(ii) for the word “arbiter” there is substituted “Land Court”; and

(e) in subsection (4)—
(i) for the word “arbiter” in the first, third and fourth places where it appears there is in each case substituted “Land Court”;
(ii) for the words “arbiter on an arbitration required by notice” there is substituted “Land Court in a determination required”;
(iii) for the words “his award” there is substituted “its determination”;
(iv) for the word “award” in the second place where it appears there is substituted “determination”; and
(v) for the word “he” there is substituted “it”.

35 In section 68 (sheep stock valuation)—

(a) in subsection (1)—
(i) for the words “69 to” in the first place where they appear there is substituted “71 and”;
(ii) for the word “arbitration” there is substituted “any method”; and
(iii) the words “and sections 69 to 72 of this Act” are repealed;

(b) after that subsection there is inserted—
“(1A) Where this section applies, the sheep stock valuation shall be determined by the Land Court in the manner provided for by virtue of this section.”;

(c) in subsection (2)—

(i) for the words “arbiter shall in his award” there is substituted “Land Court shall in its determination”; and
(ii) for the word “he” there is substituted “it”;

(d) in subsection (3), for the word “arbiter” there is substituted “Land Court”; and

(e) subsection (4) is repealed.

36 Sections 69 and 70 are repealed.

37 In section 71 (statement of sales of stock), after the word “or” in the first place where it appears there is inserted “, by virtue of section 61(1) of this Act,”.

38 In section 72 (interpretation of sections 68 to 71), paragraphs (b) and (c) are repealed.

39 In section 80 (determination of matters where the Scottish Ministers are landlord or tenant), paragraph (b) of subsection (2), and the word “or” immediately preceding that paragraph, are repealed.

40 Schedule 7 is repealed.

41 In Schedule 8 (supplementary provisions with respect to payments under section 56)—

(a) in paragraph 2—
(i) for the word “arbitration” there is substituted “the Land Court”; and
(ii) for the words “the Land Court in pursuance of section 61(2)” there is substituted “arbitration by virtue of section 61(1)”; and

(b) in paragraph 3, after the word “question” there is inserted “by the Land Court or”.

42 In Schedule 9 (valuation of sheep stock in respect of old leases)—

(a) in paragraph 1, after the word “or” there is inserted “, by virtue of section 61(1) of this Act,”; and
(b) in paragraph 4—

(i) after the word “shall,” there is inserted “where the valuer is the Land Court (and not an arbiter by virtue of section 61(1) of this Act), on the application of the parties,”; and
(ii) the words from “by” in the second place where it appears to “prices” in the first place where it appears are repealed.

43 In Schedule 10 (valuation of sheep stock in respect of leases entered into after 1st December 1986)—

(a) in paragraph 1, after the word “or” there is inserted “, by virtue of section 61(1) of this Act,”; and
(b) in paragraph 4—

(i) after the word “shall,” there is inserted “where the valuer is the Land Court (and not an arbiter appointed by virtue of section 61(1) of this Act), on the application of the parties,”; and
(ii) the words from “by” in the second place where it appears to “prices” in the first place where it appears are repealed.

Tribunals and Inquiries Act 1992 (c.53)

44 In Schedule 1 to the Tribunals and Inquiries Act 1992, in Part II (tribunals under supervision of the Scottish Committee of the Council on Tribunals), the entry relating to agriculture (that is to say, paragraph 46) is repealed.

Crofters (Scotland) Act 1993 (c.44)

45 In the Crofters (Scotland) Act 1993—

(a) in section 29 (miscellaneous provisions regarding subleases of crofts), in subsection (1), for the words from “a crofter” to the end there is substituted—

“(a) a crofter; or
(b) the tenant under a lease constituting a 1991 Act tenancy within the meaning of the Agricultural Holdings (Scotland) Act 2003 (asp 00) or under a lease constituting a short limited duration tenancy or a limited duration tenancy (within the meaning of that Act).”;

(b) in section 30 (compensation to crofter for improvements), in subsection (5)—

(i) after the words “1991” there is inserted “or of the Agricultural Holdings (Scotland) Act 2003 (asp 00)”;


(ii) for the words “that Act” in each place where they appear there is substituted “either of those Acts”; and

(c) in paragraph 11 of Schedule 2 (the statutory conditions)—

(i) after the words “1991” there is inserted “, or by virtue of section 46(3) of the Agricultural Holdings (Scotland) Act 2003 (asp 00)”;

and

(ii) the words from “, and that section” to the end are repealed.

**Criminal Justice and Public Order Act 1994 (c.33)**

46 In section 106 (contracting out of prisons) of the Criminal Justice and Public Order Act 1994, in subsection (3)(b), after the words “1991” there is inserted “and the Agricultural Holdings (Scotland) Act 2003 (asp 00)”.

**Town and Country Planning (Scotland) Act 1997 (c.8)**

47 In section 35 (notice etc. of applications to owners and agricultural tenants) of the Town and Country Planning (Scotland) Act 1997—

(a) in subsection (1)(a)(ii), for the word “holding” there is substituted “land”; and

(b) in subsection (7), for the definition of “agricultural holding” there is substituted—

““agricultural land” means land comprised in a lease constituting a 1991 Act tenancy within the meaning of the Agricultural Holdings (Scotland) Act 2003 (asp 00) or comprised in a lease constituting a short limited duration tenancy or a limited duration tenancy (within the meaning of that Act);”.

**Immigration and Asylum Act 1999 (c.33)**

48 In section 149 (contracting out of certain detention centres) of the Immigration and Asylum Act 1999, in subsection (3)(f), after the words “1991” there is inserted “and the Agricultural Holdings (Scotland) Act 2003 (asp 00)"
Agricultural Holdings (Scotland) Bill
[AS AMENDED AT STAGE 2]

An Act of the Scottish Parliament to amend the law relating to agricultural holdings under the Agricultural Holdings (Scotland) Act 1991; to provide for new forms of agricultural tenancies and to make provision in relation to these tenancies; to provide for the right of certain agricultural tenants to buy land; to provide for the use of certain agricultural land for non-agricultural purposes; to make special provision for certain agricultural tenancies where the tenant is a partnership; to make new provision for the resolution of disputes between landlords and tenants arising under agricultural tenancies; and for connected purposes.

Introduced by: Ross Finnie
On: 16 September 2002
Bill type: Executive Bill