

# Two Monthly Report on the status on the non-devolved provisions of the Coronavirus Act 2020: March 2022

Presented to Parliament pursuant to section 97(8)  
of the Coronavirus Act 2020



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## **Two-monthly reports on the status of the non-devolved provisions of the Coronavirus Act 2020: Addendum**

Since May 2020, the Government has published two-monthly reports on the status of the non-devolved provisions of the Coronavirus Act 2020 (“the Act”), as per section 97 of the Act. To date, including this report, twelve such reports have been published on Gov.uk<sup>1</sup>.

Whilst section 42 (Statutory sick pay: funding of employers’ liabilities: Northern Ireland) and section 43 (Statutory sick pay: power to disapply waiting period limitation: Northern Ireland) of the Act apply only to Northern Ireland, they are within the meaning of section 97(6) of the Act and so their status should be reported in the two-monthly reports. This is because section 42 is not within the legislative competence of the Northern Ireland Assembly, and section 43 requires consent of the Secretary of State and confers on the Secretary of State the power to make regulations in respect of Northern Ireland.

Sections 42 and 43 came into force on 25 March 2020 and have remained in force and in use throughout the pandemic. Section 42 has allowed small and medium employers in Northern Ireland, with fewer than 250 employees, to claim back the costs of two weeks’ Statutory Sick Pay (SSP) for absences related to COVID-19, which has been an important part of the wider package of support for businesses. Section 43 allows SSP to be payable from day one for employees in Northern Ireland with an absence related to COVID-19 and therefore provides additional support for impacted employees. In the previous two-monthly reports, information in the Status Table for section 39 applies also to section 42, and similarly the information covering section 40 applies to section 43. Updates on the status of these provisions for the latest reporting period are provided in the Status Table in this two-monthly report.

The Department of Health and Social Care apologises for this omission in the previous reports.

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<sup>1</sup> [Coronavirus Act reports - GOV.UK \(www.gov.uk\)](https://www.gov.uk)

## Introduction

Throughout the COVID-19 pandemic, the Government has aimed to protect the lives and livelihoods of people across the country; the Coronavirus Act 2020 (“the Act”) has been a key part of this. 25 March 2022 marks two-years since the Act gained Royal Assent and hence the default expiry date for non-devolved, temporary provisions in the Act. This is a significant moment as we reflect on the progress made in the fight against COVID-19, on how the Act has helped us get to the position we are in now and how it has enabled innovations in the delivery of some public services.

Whilst the pandemic is not yet over, we are now in a much better position and can move into a new phase of managing the virus in England. As part of the COVID-19 Response: Living with COVID-19 plan<sup>2</sup>, published on 21 February 2022, the Government set out its plan to do so. The Devolved Governments are in the process of setting out how they will manage this transition in Scotland<sup>3</sup>, Wales<sup>4</sup>, and Northern Ireland.

The Government’s objective in the next phase of the COVID-19 response is to enable the country to manage COVID-19 like other respiratory illnesses, while minimising mortality and retaining the ability to respond if a new variant emerges with more dangerous properties than the Omicron variant, or during periods of waning immunity, that could again threaten to place the NHS under unsustainable pressure. To meet this objective, the Government’s plan is structured around four principles:

1. Living with COVID-19: removing domestic restrictions while encouraging safer behaviours through public health advice, in common with longstanding ways of managing most other respiratory illnesses;
2. Protecting people most vulnerable to COVID-19: vaccination guided by Joint Committee on Vaccination and Immunisation (JCVI) advice, and deploying targeted testing;
3. Maintaining resilience: ongoing surveillance, contingency planning and the ability to reintroduce key capabilities such as mass vaccination and testing in an emergency; and
4. Securing innovations and opportunities from the COVID-19 response, including investment in life sciences.

## The Government’s response

During the pandemic, the Government introduced regulations and legislation involving unprecedented government intervention to protect public health, and support individuals, businesses and public services.

In March 2020, the UK Government introduced the Act as well as regulations under the Public Health (Control of Disease) Act 1984 (“the Public Health Act”) which introduced a stay-at-home order, commonly referred to as lockdown. Since that time these two Acts of Parliament have been a key part of the Government’s response to reduce the risk of transmission in our communities, protect and support the NHS, and save lives. As well as efforts to tackle the direct health impacts of the virus, the Act complements regulations made under the Public Health Act and has enabled the Government to take action to support individuals, businesses, and the economy. It has also safeguarded the capacity and resilience of the health and care systems, and supported continued delivery of essential public services.

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<sup>2</sup> [COVID-19 Response - Living with COVID-19.docx \(publishing.service.gov.uk\)](#)

<sup>3</sup> [Living safely with COVID - gov.scot \(www.gov.scot\)](#)

<sup>4</sup> [Wales’ long-term COVID-19 transition from pandemic to endemic | GOV.WALES](#)

Over the last two years the Government has not hesitated to take tough action to address the course of the pandemic. In September 2021, the Government published its 'COVID-19 Response: Autumn and Winter Plan'<sup>5</sup>, a comprehensive plan for managing the virus over the colder months. This set out Plan A for England, based on booster vaccinations, testing and isolation, guidance on safer behaviours and measures at the border. The publication also outlined a Plan B which could be deployed if the situation deteriorated, which included the compulsory use of face coverings in most public indoor venues, the mandatory use of the NHS COVID Pass in certain settings and advice to work from home where possible.

On 24 November 2021, when scientists in South Africa reported a new variant, which was subsequently named the Omicron variant, the Government acted swiftly, initially through travel restrictions and then through accelerating and extending the booster campaign and introducing Plan B measures aiming to slow transmission. Although the Omicron variant drove prevalence of the virus to an unprecedented high, adherence to Plan B and wider behaviour changes, as well as large-scale testing, appeared to slow the growth sufficiently to buy time for the extended booster campaign. The Government was able to revert to Plan A on 27 January 2022.

Following the return to Plan A, and the continued progress made throughout the country, on 21 February 2022, the Government published the COVID-19 Response: Living with COVID-19 plan<sup>6</sup>. As part of the implementation of the living with COVID-19 strategy, the last domestic restrictions under the Public Health Act were expired early on 24 February 2022.

## What the Act was designed to achieve

The Act was designed to help maintain critical public services and societal functions, support individuals and business and protect public health. The Act achieves this across five key areas:

1. **Increasing the available health and social care workforce:** The Act removes barriers to allow suitably experienced people to be part of the workforce during this period (such as recently retired NHS staff and social workers returning to work).
2. **Easing and reacting to the burden on frontline staff:** The Act reduces the number of administrative tasks frontline staff have to perform, so that actions can be focussed where most needed and public services maintained.
3. **Supporting people:** The Act makes it easier for people and businesses impacted by COVID-19 to access financial support when they need it.
4. **Containing and slowing the virus:** The Act facilitates actions that mitigate the spread of the virus.
5. **Managing the deceased with respect and dignity:** The Act enables the death management system to deal with increased demand for its services.

## Status of the Act

When the Act was passed by Parliament, a two-year lifespan was agreed for all the temporary provisions to ensure the Government had the necessary powers to respond to the pandemic for a proportionate amount of time. The Government has removed powers throughout the pandemic which were no longer needed. Thanks to the progress made in the fight against the virus, the Government has been able to expire many of the non-devolved, temporary provisions in the Act, before March 2022. Of the remaining non-devolved, temporary provisions, 17 of these expire at midnight on 24 March 2022. This includes:

- **Section 2:** Emergency registration of nurses and other health and care professionals.
- **Section 6:** Emergency registration of social workers: England and Wales.

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<sup>5</sup> [COVID-19 Response: Autumn and Winter Plan 2021 - GOV.UK \(www.gov.uk\)](https://www.gov.uk/government/publications/covid-19-response-autumn-and-winter-plan-2021)

<sup>6</sup> [COVID-19 Response - Living with COVID-19.docx \(publishing.service.gov.uk\)](https://publishing.service.gov.uk/government/uploads/system/uploads/attachment_data/file/107442/covid-19-response-living-with-covid-19.docx)

- **Section 14:** NHS Continuing Healthcare Assessments: England.
- **Section 18:** Registrations of deaths and still-births.
- **Section 19:** Confirmatory medical certificate not required for cremations: England and Wales.
- **Section 22:** Appointment of temporary Judicial Commissioners.
- **Section 38:** Temporary continuity: education, training and childcare.
- **Section 39-41:** Statutory Sick Pay: funding of employers' liabilities; power to disapply waiting period limitation; modification of regulation making powers.
- **Section 42:** Statutory Sick Pay: Funding of employers' liabilities: Northern Ireland.
- **Section 45:** NHS pension schemes: suspension of restrictions on return to work: England and Wales.
- **Section 50:** Power to suspend port operations.
- **Section 58:** Powers in relation to transportation, storage and disposal of dead bodies.
- **Section 75 (2) and (3):** Disapplication of limit under section 8 of the Industrial Development Act 1982.
- **Section 81:** Residential tenancies in England and Wales: protection from eviction.
- **Section 82:** Business tenancies in England and Wales: protection from forfeiture.

Four of the remaining temporary, non-devolved provisions will be expired within six months. These provisions have helped reduce disruption to important public services during the pandemic and have informed longer-term reform. Therefore, the Government is seeking approval to make them permanent through other primary legislation, which is currently before Parliament and due to come into force over the spring and summer. In each case, a final six-month extension is necessary to ensure there is no gap in the legislation that enables public service delivery. The relevant provisions are:

- **Section 30:** Suspension of requirement to hold inquest with jury: England and Wales.
- **Sections 53 to 55:** Remote hearing provisions for courts and tribunals.

The Government is also seeking to extend section 43 of the Act, which enables the suspension of the waiting days' rule for Statutory Sick Pay for absences related to COVID-19 in Northern Ireland.

Under section 89 of the Act, there are several permanent provisions within the Act, excluded from the automatic sunset at midnight on 24 March 2022, which would require new primary legislation to repeal. Some of these provisions are still necessary to support the recovery from the pandemic. The Government committed in the Living with COVID-19 plan to removing unnecessary provisions from the statute book as soon as possible and will look for opportunities to do so as the Government's legislative programme proceeds.

## **The impacts of the Act**

This report summarises the impacts of the Act over the latest two-month period. The temporary provisions which have been in force over this period have been valuable throughout the lifespan of the Act and have continued to play an important role across the five key areas the Act was designed to support, including facilitating recovery.

### **Increasing the available health and social care workforce**

Protecting the NHS has been at the forefront of the Government's response throughout the pandemic to ensure the best possible level of care is provided to those most in need. One key way the Act has facilitated this is by increasing the available health and social care workforce.

Section 2 of the Act has enabled the Nursing and Midwifery Council (NMC) to temporarily register nurses, midwives and, in England, nursing associates. It has also enabled the Health and Care Professions Council (HCPC) to temporarily register paramedics, operating department practitioners, radiographers, and other professionals. Temporary registration of



these professionals has provided the NHS with additional workforce capacity to deal with the impact of the pandemic and support vaccine rollout. In December 2021, in response to the spread of the Omicron variant, the NMC agreed to allow overseas nurses awaiting full registration to access the temporary register, to support with increased cases and hospitalisations. An additional 307 nurses were registered because of this change. There were nearly 15,000 registrants on the NMC register as of 31 December 2021, and over 10,000 on the HCPC emergency register as of 12 January 2022. Although the temporary registers will close to new registrants at midnight on 24 March 2022, section 89 of the Act means that those already on the temporary register remain able to practise and to be registered under the usual process. The Department of Health and Social Care announced on 16 March that this will cease at the end of September 2022, at which point the emergency registers will close. This six-month period allows for those who wish to join the permanent registers to do so. Following the success of these temporary registers, the Department of Health and Social Care will seek to amend legislation to enable the NMC and the HCPC to establish temporary registers to support emergency response arrangements in future.

Similarly, section 6 of the Act has allowed the creation of a temporary register to enable social workers who had recently left the profession to register so they could provide support to social care providers facing pressures from COVID-19. This power has been used continuously since it came into force in March 2020, and there are currently around 6,500 social workers on the temporary register. This has provided a valuable contingency in employers' planning during the pandemic and has continued to support and safeguard vulnerable adults, children and families during restrictions and winter pressures. The temporary register will close to new registrants at midnight on 24 March 2022, but those already on the register are able to continue to practise under their temporary registration until the register closes fully. This will happen when the Secretary of State for Education makes a declaration that emergency conditions no longer exist. Temporary registrants are able to seek registration on the permanent register should they wish to continue to practise.

Section 14 of the Act provided relevant NHS bodies with the option not to comply with the requirement to carry out NHS Continuing Healthcare assessments before discharging a patient from hospital into the community. Continuing Healthcare assessments were paused nationally from 19 March to 31 August 2020 and were reintroduced from 1 September 2020. This temporary measure freed up capacity by allowing local health and social care systems the flexibility to release Continuing Healthcare assessment staff as required to support other pressures and enabled patients to be discharged from hospital more rapidly. These powers in the Act remained in place until this Spring in case they were needed again during the pandemic response, as an option of last resort to support NHS capacity and address pressures during winter. These powers are no longer deemed to be needed and so this provision in the Act will expire at midnight on 24 March 2022.

Section 45 of the Act suspended rules in the NHS Pension Scheme, for England and Wales, to allow retired and partially retired NHS staff to return to work or increase their working commitments without having their pension benefits suspended. This meant that retired and partially retired staff could work more flexibly during peak periods of the pandemic when the NHS needed increased capacity, and also contribute valuable capacity to the vaccine rollout. Between 19 January 2022 and 8 March 2022, this workforce has continued to support in the administration of vaccines, with around 2.7 million doses being delivered across England in this period. The Department for Health and Social Care has consulted on proposals to continue the easements in section 45 to 31 October 2022, via amendments to NHS Pension Scheme regulations. 990 responses were received to the consultation, and the Government published its response on 10 March 2022 confirming its intention to proceed with the proposals.

## **Easing and reacting to the burden on frontline staff**

Throughout the pandemic it has been vital to ensure that essential public services were able to cope with extraordinary pressures resulting from COVID-19. The Act has had an important role in reducing the impact of the virus by easing and reacting to the burden on frontline staff.

Section 11 of the Act was introduced to ensure any gaps in indemnity cover for NHS clinical negligence would not delay or prevent care during the pandemic. Without extra indemnity cover, novel and flexible approaches could not have gone ahead. Section 11 has allowed the Government to fill these gaps and move quickly to respond to the pandemic. Section 11 also provides reassurance to patients that they will have a route of redress should they suffer harm while receiving care related to COVID-19 and to clinicians, so they do not need to worry about indemnity arrangements. Section 11 is a permanent provision and will remain in place to ensure that claims under this indemnity cover can continue to be handled.

The Schedule 20 (section 50) powers in the Act ensured the Government has had the power to act quickly and effectively if an outbreak of COVID-19 meant there were insufficient staff to adequately protect the UK's borders, by instructing ports to close. There was a high threshold for the use of the power, and it would only have been used if the Secretary of State of the Home Department believed that it was necessary, proportionate, and there was a real and significant risk to border security; and only after all other reasonably practicable avenues had been exhausted. Although these powers have not needed to be used, they have proved a vital contingency in the Government's response to the pandemic. With the lifting of restrictions, for example the removal of the legal requirement to self-isolate from 24 February 2022, it is proportionate for this provision to expire as intended.

Sections 53-55 of the Act have supported the courts and tribunals system to continue to function throughout the pandemic and ensure people have been able to access justice. These provisions have allowed thousands of hearings to take place since the Act came into force in March 2020. There are currently over 11,000 hearings each week using remote technology across 3,200 virtual courtrooms. As of February 2022, around 35-40% of hearings each day include one or more parties joining remotely. The provisions have allowed the courts to deal promptly and safely with proceedings, avoid unnecessary social contact and travel, and allow key services within the justice system to continue to be delivered while upholding the principle of open justice. These provisions have also been vital in supporting court recovery and helping courts work through the backlog of cases as quickly and efficiently as possible by enabling preliminary hearings to take place remotely so that courtrooms can be reserved for more hearings (particularly trials) that must happen in court. Subject to Parliamentary approval, the provision for remote hearings will be made permanent via the Police, Crime, Sentencing and Courts Bill, which is due to come into force over the summer. The Coronavirus Act 2020 (Delay in Expiry: Inquests, Courts and Tribunals, and Statutory Sick Pay) (England and Wales, and Northern Ireland) Regulations 2022 seek to extend sections 53-55 in the Act, for a period of up to six-months, to ensure there is no gap in the legislation underpinning these powers.

The powers under section 22 of the Act have allowed the Secretary of State of the Home Department, on a request from the Investigatory Powers Commissioner, to make Regulations to provide for temporary Judicial Commissioners to be appointed by the Investigatory Powers Commissioner if there were insufficient Judicial Commissioners available to effectively fulfil their functions under the Investigatory Powers Act 2016. Regulations were made on 26 March 2020 for 12 months and ten temporary Judicial Commissioners were appointed for an initial six-month term. They were not reappointed following this and those Regulations expired in March 2021. As such, the powers under section 22 of the Act were suspended as of April 2021. Given the vital role Judicial Commissioners play in protecting our national security and the prevention of serious crime, it was proportionate to keep this power suspended in case it needed to be revived in future. However, with domestic restrictions ending as of 24 February 2022, it is right for this power to expire as intended.

## Supporting people

The Government has been, and continues to be, committed to protecting people's jobs and livelihoods throughout the pandemic, while also supporting businesses and public services. This support has been facilitated by various provisions available under the Act.

The power under section 39 of the Act has allowed small and medium employers with fewer than 250 employees to claim back the costs of two weeks' Statutory Sick Pay (SSP) for absences related to COVID-19. The SSP rebate scheme was reintroduced as part of a broader package of support to businesses in response to the Omicron variant. The scheme closed to new claims on 17 March 2022 and employers have until 24 March 2022 to submit their final claims.

Section 75 of the Act allows for financial assistance designated as coronavirus-related, provided to businesses under section 8 of the Industrial Development Act 1982 ("the IDA"), not to count towards the overall limit on assistance that can be provided under section 8 of the IDA. This ensures that urgent assistance to businesses, whether in relation to coronavirus or more routine future provisions of grants, loans and loan guarantees is not hampered or delayed by the section 8 limit being reached. This has enabled businesses to access loan schemes such as the Bounce Back Loan Scheme, Coronavirus Business Interruption Loan Scheme, Coronavirus Large Business Interruption Loan Scheme, and the Future Fund. These schemes closed on 31 March 2021 and in total, provided more than £79 billion worth of finance through more than 1.6 million facilities. The Recovery Loan scheme is also providing significant support to businesses to aid their recovery from the pandemic. To ensure transparency of expenditure under the IDA, the Business Secretary already reports annually to Parliament and has gone further in relation to the Coronavirus Act, by reporting to Parliament on a quarterly basis, to ensure full transparency on spend related to COVID-19. The latest report published is Q3-2021 (July-September) which was published on 7 March 2022. Actual spend by HMG for the period 1 July – 30 September 2021 was over £3 billion with an additional new contingent liability incurred for this period of £2 billion. Section 75 (1) is a permanent provision and will continue to support the recovery from the pandemic. This ensures that the financial limits set out in section 8 of the IDA do not hinder the allocation of vital Government schemes for businesses such as the Help to Grow scheme, the Automotive Transformation Fund, and the Offshore Wind Manufacturing Investment Scheme.

The powers in section 76 of the Act have allowed the Government to provide an extraordinary level of support to both people and businesses through the Coronavirus Job Retention Scheme (CJRS), Self-Employment Income Support Scheme (SEISS) and the one-off payment to working households receiving tax credits. After running continuously for nineteen months, the CJRS and SEISS closed on 30 September 2021. The CJRS has succeeded in supporting 11.7 million jobs and 1.3 million employers across the UK, with employer claims totalling £70 billion, aiding businesses, and protecting livelihoods. The SEISS has paid out over £28 billion, across all five grants, to nearly 3 million self-employed individuals and has been one of the most generous schemes for the self-employed in the world. The working households receiving tax credit scheme remains in place following an extension in September 2021. Under this extension, HMRC is making one-off payments to a small number of eligible customers based on their finalised tax credits awards and has powers to make payments into the 2022/23 tax year. Section 76 is a permanent provision and will remain in place to underpin compliance, including recovering CJRS and SEISS grants where claimants were overpaid or ineligible, and allowing late payment, usually linked to complaints, to be made.

Since the start of the pandemic, section 82 of the Act has prevented commercial landlords from evicting tenants owing to the non-payment of rent. Remit Consulting estimate the total potential shortfall of rent by March 2022, to be in excess of £8 billion since the start of the

pandemic<sup>7</sup>. It is clear from the lower levels of rent paid that there would have been substantial scope for evictions for the non-payment of rent if the current tenant protection measures had not been in place, resulting in business failures and job losses. These measures have protected businesses and the jobs that they support during enforced sector closures and partial closures at a time when trading was restricted and have provided breathing space for landlords and tenants to negotiate outstanding arrears while businesses continue to recover. To address the high level of unpaid rent that has accrued throughout the pandemic, the Government introduced the Commercial Rent (Coronavirus) Bill, which comes into force as an Act of Parliament on 24 March 2022. The Commercial Rent (Coronavirus) Act ringfences rent debt built up due to enforced closures and introduces a binding arbitration process to resolve these debts as a last resort. This will continue to protect businesses whilst the final outstanding rent arrears owing to the pandemic are resolved.

The powers under section 81 of the Act have protected renters in the private and social rented sectors from eviction by requiring landlords to provide a longer period of notice when seeking possession of the property, in all but the most serious circumstances. These measures have applied to most renters in the private and social sectors, covering 8.4 million households. In response to the improving public health situation, the rollout of the vaccination programme and the easing of most national lockdown restrictions, notice periods for evictions from residential tenancies returned to the pre-COVID lengths on 1 October 2021. Whilst the measures were in place, they gave tenants more time before the landlord could bring possession proceedings and thus delayed the point at which the tenant might be required to leave their home. This provided more time for tenants to seek to resolve the issue, find alternative accommodation or make alternative arrangements safely – thereby reducing the risk of transmission that arises from movement and homelessness, and reducing the subsequent pressure on public services. These measures have worked: homelessness statistics showed a 41% reduction in households owed a homelessness duty following the end of an assured shorthold tenancy in 2020/21, compared with 2019/20. Alongside this, Ministry of Justice statistics showed that reported applications to the courts for possession by private and social landlords between October and December 2021 were down 43% compared to the same quarter in 2019, while repossessions by county court bailiffs were down by 64%. The Government is committed to delivering a better deal for renters, including repealing Section 21 of the Housing Act 1988. A White Paper detailing the package of reforms to the private rented sector will be brought forward in Spring this year and legislation will follow in due course.

### **Containing and slowing the virus**

The Government's objective has always been to save lives and protect the NHS. Containing and slowing the virus has been a key part of the Government's response to the pandemic.

Schedule 17 (section 38) of the Act has supported schools and education settings by providing powers to issue a temporary continuity direction and issue a notice disapplying or modifying one or more of a set of enactments (listed in the Schedule). The power to issue temporary continuity directions has ensured that the Secretary of State for Education has had statutory powers to make sure Government guidance has been carefully followed as the sector responded to and recovered from the impacts of COVID-19. Where restrictions have been planned in educational institutions locally which have fallen outside of national guidance, the power has reinforced the Government's ability to respond and work locally to ensure any restrictions are as minimally disruptive as possible. The Secretary of State for Education issued a new remote education temporary continuity direction for academic year 2021/22, which will remain in force until midnight on 24 March 2022, providing clarity to the sector about what is expected and ensuring consistency with the previous academic year. Modification and

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<sup>7</sup> [Research from Remit Consulting predicts the shortfall in rent unpaid by business occupiers is expected to exceed £8.0 billion by the end of the moratorium on eviction of commercial tenants — Remit Consulting](#)

disapplication notices have been issued to carefully manage the sector's response to COVID-19 and provide clarity and protection to prevent individuals and bodies from breaching duties in the light of the COVID-19 pandemic. Since March 2020, 39 notices have been issued.

Other provisions in the Act have also helped to slow transmission of the virus. Under section 40 of the Act, SSP was made payable from day 1. This power has encouraged and enabled people to adhere to public health advice and self-isolation requirements, therefore reducing the risk of further infection. Similarly, the power under section 41 of the Act has ensured that regulations could keep in step with the latest guidance, for example with new categories of employees who were required to self-isolate and as a result of being considered incapable of work. This power also allowed relevant notifications (i.e. from the Test and Trace scheme) to be used as a trigger for SSP eligibility to ensure people could adhere to self-isolate regulations. The powers under section 40 and 41 of the Act have been critical to help reduce infection levels throughout the country. However with the legal requirement to self-isolating ceasing on 24 February 2022, the Government considers that these powers are no longer necessary and as such will expire at midnight on 24 March 2022.

### **Managing the deceased with respect and dignity**

The steps the Government has taken throughout the pandemic have been designed to save lives. Due to the significant impact of the Government's vaccination and booster programmes, the death rate has been vastly reduced. Regrettably, and despite the Government's best efforts, people have suffered the loss of loved ones due to COVID-19. The Government has always been committed to ensuring the deceased are treated with the upmost respect and dignity and existing procedures were modified to reflect this.

Section 18 of the Act has modified procedures in relation to death and still-birth registration and management. This safely expanded the list of people who could register a death to include funeral directors acting on behalf of the family, and it enabled those required to give information about a death or still-birth to do so by telephone or other means instead of in person. These measures have widened the scope of who could certify a cause of death and enabled medical practitioners to complete and sign a Medical Certificate of Cause of Death when the attending doctor was not available (due to illness, self-isolation or any other reason), thus preventing delays to the death management process and associated pressures building on the health service. They also enabled deaths to be registered when access to offices was not possible and have more generally reduced the footfall at register offices, by allowing deaths to be registered by telephone rather than face to face and for associated documents to be sent electronically, rather than by hand. This has enabled deaths to be registered without delay and facilitated the timely arrangement of funerals. The provisions have also benefited the recovery of other registration services, such as birth registrations. In readiness for this provision in the Act ending, the Government has been exploring legislative change opportunities for civil registration and has progressed with an Electronic Communications Act 2000 Order and Regulations, which came into force during December 2021. These allow some of registration easements in the Coronavirus Act to continue, such as electronic transfer of documentation, as well as other improvements to the registration system, such as enabling pre-population of some data required, thus reducing the time needed for face-to-face registration.

The power under section 19 of the Act has contributed to pandemic response and national recovery by removing from the cremation process the requirement for input from a second health professional. This increased health professionals' capacity to focus on frontline duties. It also helped to reduce pressure on the death management process by supporting timely cremations. This provision has applied to all cremations where the death had not been referred to the coroner. Statutory implementation of the Medical Examiner scheme is expected in 2022, which is expected to remove the requirement for the confirmatory medical certificate. It is therefore the Government's intention that the confirmatory medical certificate will not return between expiry of this provision in the Act and the implementation of the statutory Medical

Examiner scheme. On 4 March 2022, the Cremation (England and Wales) (Amendment) Regulations 2022 was laid before Parliament to accomplish this, with permanent removal of the confirmatory medical certificate coming into force on 25 March, pending any motion to pray against the amendment.

The powers under section 30 of the Act allow most inquests where COVID-19 is suspected as the cause of death to take place without a jury. Coroners across England and Wales have been significantly impacted by lockdown restrictions in the conduct of inquests, all of which must be held in public and a number of which must be held with a jury (such as non-natural deaths in custody). Requiring jury inquests where COVID-19 is suspected as the cause of death would have disproportionately added to the demand on local authority funded coroner services, adversely impacting their ability to operate and exacerbating backlogs. Section 30 has supported efforts to keep coroner services functioning in light of continuing pressures, to mitigate the impact of the increased demands of the pandemic and to assist their recovery plans. The Judicial Review and Courts Bill, which is currently before Parliament and expected to receive Royal Assent this summer, contains a measure which effectively replicates the powers in section 30 of the Coronavirus Act. To avoid a gap in legislation, which would cause confusion and disruption to coroner services and likely increase backlogs, section 30 of the Act has been extended for a maximum of six months by the Coronavirus Act 2020 (Delay in Expiry: Inquests, Courts and Tribunals, and Statutory Sick Pay) (England and Wales, and Northern Ireland) Regulations 2022, subject to the approval of Parliament.

The powers under section 58 were introduced to ensure that the UK was prepared for a reasonable worst-case scenario of the potential number of deaths from COVID-19. Scientific modelling at the time indicated that the number of people who might die was likely to significantly exceed the national or local capacity to manage the deceased. These powers were split into information gathering powers and powers of direction. The information gathering powers (also known as Part 1 powers) enabled local authorities and Government to develop a more comprehensive understanding of where pressures were occurring in the death management system, allowing for targeted interventions to support existing procedures. The Part 1 powers also enabled local authorities and others to maintain an accurate picture of the capacity of the death management system in their area so they could identify and address emerging issues. The powers of direction (also known as Part 2 powers) were extraordinary measures which could have been activated by the appropriate national authority. These would have allowed national or local governments to take control of a component or components of the death management process. These powers were only intended to be used in extreme circumstances, where scientific evidence and operational advice suggested local capacity could otherwise be overwhelmed. Part 3 allowed for central Government to intervene if a local authority was unable to manage the death management system effectively. Additional powers, under Part 4, were introduced as an amendment to the Bill during its passage through the House to ensure that the wishes of the deceased were respected if powers of direction were needed. As all parts of these powers were suspended prior to March 2022 (Parts 2 and 3 as of April 2021 and Parts 1 and 4 as of October 2021), it is right for these powers to expire as intended at midnight on 24 March 2022.

## **Equalities and Human Rights**

The Government recognises the impact that some of provisions within the Act have had on people's lives, however, the Government is confident that these powers have been facilitative and supporting and have helped to save lives.

Throughout the pandemic, the Government has taken action quickly and decisively to protect public health. The Government has maintained a cautious approach and ensured that any action is proportionate, in place for as short a time as possible and subject to appropriate checks and balances. For example, the Government expired many of the non-devolved, temporary powers early.

The Government has considered its Public Sector Equality Duty<sup>8</sup> in assessing the impacts of retaining, suspending, or expiring provisions throughout the lifespan of the Act. The Government is extending five of the temporary, non-devolved provisions in the Act, subject to approval from Parliament. Four of these provisions have enabled innovations in the delivery of public services and the Government is seeking approval to make them permanent through other primary legislation currently before Parliament and due to come into force over the spring and summer. In the case of these four provisions, a final six-month extension is necessary in order to ensure there is no gap in the legislation that enables public service delivery. The Government is extending one temporary, non-devolved provision relating to Statutory Sick Pay on the formal request of the Department for Communities in Northern Ireland.

The pandemic has shone a light on the inequalities that exist across the country. The Government is determined to continue addressing the pre-existing socio-economic and health inequalities which have contributed to the unequal effect of COVID-19 across our society. The causes of these inequalities are varied and will require a wide-ranging long-term response, encompassing levelling up health, the economy, welfare and more. The Office for Health Improvement and Disparities will work across the Department of Health and Social Care, the rest of government, the healthcare system, local government and industry and work to shift our focus towards preventing ill health, in particular in the places and communities where there are the most significant disparities.

## **Reporting and Accountability Arrangements for the Coronavirus Act**

The Government recognises the vital importance of Parliamentary scrutiny and built-in checks and balances on the use of the Act. For example, Part 2 of the Act includes various arrangements to facilitate accountability and transparency over the use of powers set out in Part 1.

The Government has continued regularly to review the temporary, non-devolved powers in the Act and, in line with the evolving situation, suspended and expired powers early where they were no longer needed. The temporary, non-devolved powers in the Act are subject to a six-monthly renewal vote in the House of the Commons on the motion "that the temporary provisions of the Coronavirus Act 2020 should not yet expire". To date, three six-monthly reviews have taken place, in September 2020, March 2021 and most recently in September 2021.

Under section 98 of the Act, the requirement to hold these six-monthly reviews continues so long as at least one temporary, non-devolved provision remains active. As the Government is seeking the extension of five temporary, non-devolved provisions of the Act, via The Coronavirus Act 2020 (Delay in Expiry: Inquests, Courts and Tribunals, and Statutory Sick Pay) (England and Wales, and Northern Ireland) Regulations 2022, a fourth six-monthly review renewal vote will be held, as required under the Act, to seek approval that these temporary provisions in the Act should not yet expire.

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<sup>8</sup> [Coronavirus Act 2020: equality impact assessment - GOV.UK \(www.gov.uk\)](https://www.gov.uk/government/uploads/system/uploads/attachment_data/file/92222/coronavirus-act-2020-equality-impact-assessment.pdf)

The Secretary of State for Health and Social Care is required to prepare and publish a report on the status of the main non-devolved provisions in the Act relating to every two-month period during the operation of the Act. The report must set out for each of the provisions: (a) whether it is in force at the end of each two-month period, and (b) whether Ministers have, during that period, exercised powers under the Act to change the status of any provisions. This report is the twelfth such report. The Secretary of State for Health and Social Care is required to publish these reports so long as at least one temporary, non-devolved provision remains in force.

While there is the legal obligation to report on the non-devolved provisions of the Act, under Part 2, there is not the same obligation for devolved matters. Each Devolved Government has its own arrangements for reporting on these, and on other powers within their legislative competence for tackling the pandemic, which will continue should powers be extended in their respective nations. For example, the Scottish Government publishes a report on the use of the emergency powers contained within the Act and the Coronavirus (Scotland) Act 2020 every two months and will continue to do so, so long as powers remain in force. However, as the Act contains powers which relate to each nation, extensive engagement has taken place with the Devolved Governments on the approach across the UK.

### **Mechanism to Change the Status of Provisions**

The Government has always sought to balance the need to be able to respond effectively to the pandemic with a commitment to maintain powers for the shortest possible time, to expire provisions which are no longer necessary or proportionate and to only extend provisions beyond their intended sunset date where absolutely needed.

Section 88 of the Act allows for the suspension of provisions, should scientific advice and public health situation mean that they are no longer required. They could then be revived again should circumstances and advice change, allowing the Government to be cautious in their approach. As such, before being automatically expired, section 22 in the Act was suspended as of 21 April 2021, following the one-year review along with Parts 2 and 3 of Schedule 28 (section 58).

Section 90(1) of the Act allows for the early expiry of powers, before their intended sunset date. The Government expired many of the original temporary, non-devolved provisions early. Regulations to expire powers early have been laid under the draft affirmative procedure, and so have been subject to approval by both Houses of Parliament before coming into force. Section 90(1) was used to expire the provisions under section 10 of the Act (in relation to England) in December 2020, a further twelve provisions in July 2021, and a further seven provisions and parts of an eighth in December 2021.

Section 90(2) allows for powers to be extended beyond their automatic sunset date, for periods of up to six-months at a time. The Coronavirus Act 2020 (Delay in Expiry: Inquests, Courts and Tribunals, and Statutory Sick Pay) (England and Wales, and Northern Ireland) Regulations 2022 seek to extend five temporary, non-devolved provisions.

A status table has been published and provides up to date information on the status of all provisions, including devolved provisions, in the Act. This has been updated regularly, and will continue to be updated until all temporary, non-devolved provisions have expired. This is available on Gov.uk:

<https://www.gov.uk/government/publications/coronavirus-act-2020-status>

### **Appropriateness Statement**

Each two-monthly report must contain a statement that the Secretary of State for Health and Social Care is satisfied that the status of the non-devolved provisions is appropriate. The Secretary of State for Health and Social Care, Sajid Javid, has made the following statement regarding the status of provisions in the Act in accordance with section 97(1)(b):



***“I am satisfied that the status of those provisions of Part 1 of the Coronavirus Act 2020 which are my responsibility (within the meaning of section 97(6) of that Act) is appropriate.”***

## Status Table

Section (All Part 1) And Schedules	Provision	Status	Use of provision since Royal Assent
1	Meaning of 'coronavirus' and related terminology	Came into force on Royal Assent	No change in terminology
2 <i>Sch 1</i>	Emergency registration of nurses and other health and care professionals	Due to expire at midnight on 24 March 2022 as per section 89	<p>These provisions have enabled the Nursing and Midwifery Council (NMC) to temporarily register nurses, midwives and (in England) nursing associates. They have also enabled the Health and Care Professions Council (HCPC) to temporarily register paramedics, operating department practitioners, radiographers, and other professionals. The purpose of the temporary registration of these professionals was to provide the NHS with additional workforce capacity to deal with the impact of the pandemic. In December 2021, in response to the Omicron variant, the NMC agreed to allow overseas nurses awaiting full registration to access the temporary register, to support with increased cases and hospitalisations. An additional 307 nurses were registered as a result of this change.</p> <p>The provision was used from the time it was enacted, providing the NHS with additional workforce capacity to deal with the impact of the pandemic and support vaccine rollout.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• As of 31 December 2021, there were nearly 15,000 registrants are on the NMC's temporary register.</li> <li>• As of 12 January 2022, there were over 10,000 registrants are on the HCPC's temporary register.</li> </ul> <p>Although the temporary registers will close to new registrants at midnight on 24 March 2022, section 89 of the Act means that those already on the temporary register remain able to practise for as long as a state of emergency exists. The Department of Health and Social Care announced on 16 March that this will cease at the end of September 2022, at which point the emergency registers will close. This six-month period allows for those who wish to join the permanent registers to do so. Following the success of these registers, the Department of Health and Social Care will seek to amend legislation to enable the NMC and the HCPC to establish temporary registers to support emergency response arrangements in future.</p>

6 Sch 5	Emergency registration of social workers: England and Wales	Due to expire at midnight on 24 March 2022 as per section 89	<p>This provision has allowed the creation of a temporary register of social workers who have recently left the profession so that they could provide support to social care providers facing pressures from COVID-19.</p> <p>This power has been used continuously since enactment, and there are currently around 6,500 temporary registrants. The availability of temporary registrants within the social care sector has provided a valuable contingency in employers' planning during the pandemic and has continued to support and safeguard vulnerable adults, children and families during restrictions and winter pressures.</p> <p>The temporary register will close to new registrants at midnight on 24 March 2022, but existing registrants are able to continue to practise under their temporary registration until the register closes fully. This will happen when the Secretary of State for Education makes a declaration that emergency conditions no longer exist. Temporary registrants will be able to seek restoration to the permanent register should they wish to continue to practise.</p>
8 Sch 7	Emergency volunteering leave	Expired	Following the one-year review, a Statutory Instrument was laid under the draft affirmative procedure on 21 April 2021 and debated and approved by both Houses. The Statutory Instrument came into force on 16 July 2021 and expired these provisions.
9	Compensation for emergency volunteers	Expired	
10 and Sch 8	Temporary modification of mental health and mental capacity legislation	Expired (in relation to England)	These powers were expired in relation to England on 10 December 2020.
11	Indemnity for health service activity: England and Wales	Came into force on Royal Assent	<p>Section 11 of the Act was introduced to ensure any gaps in indemnity cover for NHS clinical negligence would not delay or prevent care during the pandemic. Without extra indemnity cover, novel and flexible approaches could not have gone ahead.</p> <p>Section 11 has allowed the Government to fill these gaps and move quickly to respond to the pandemic. Section 11 also provides reassurance to patients that they will have a route of redress should they suffer harm while receiving care related to COVID-19 and to clinicians, so they do not need to worry about indemnity arrangements.</p> <p>As per section 89 of the Act, section 11 is not a temporary provision and is therefore not subject to the automatic expiry date of midnight on 24 March 2022. This power will remain in place to allow claims covered by the indemnities provided to be handled now and in future, and for continuation of the</p>

			<p>range of services that it currently enables, as well as new arrangements that it may be required to enable in future. It is anticipated that the need for future arrangements will be limited, and any indemnities provided would be subject to appropriate prior scrutiny.</p>
14	NHS Continuing Healthcare Assessments	Due to expire at midnight on 24 March 2022 as per section 89	<p>Section 14 of the Act has provided relevant NHS bodies with the option not to comply with the requirement to carry out NHS Continuing Healthcare assessments before discharging a patient from hospital, and in the community.</p> <p>While Continuing Healthcare assessments were paused nationally from 19 March to 31 August 2020, they were reintroduced from 1 September 2020 following publication of Restart Guidance on 21 August 2020. This freed up capacity by (a) allowing local health and social care systems the flexibility to release Continuing Healthcare assessment staff as required to support other pressures and (b) in practice, enabling patients to be discharged from hospital more rapidly.</p> <p>At a national level, the provision had been retained in case it was needed to support timely discharge from hospital and the effective prioritisation of health and social care staff and resources. This meant that the measure could be relied upon quickly if necessary, without the need to make regulations to revive it, and provided an option of last resort to support NHS capacity and help address pressures over winter, if necessary.</p> <p>These powers are no longer deemed to be needed in their current form beyond the COVID-19 pandemic scenario, therefore there are no plans to bring forward any legislation to delay Continuing Healthcare assessments in the longer term.</p>
15 <i>Sch 12</i>	Local authority care and support	Part 1 expired in relation to England	<p>Following the one-year review, a Statutory Instrument was laid under the draft affirmative procedure on 21 April 2021 and was debated and approved by both Houses. The Statutory Instrument came into force on 16 July 2021, expiring Part 1 of Sch 12 and section 15 as far as it relates to those parts (i.e. in relation to England).</p>

<p>18 Sch 13</p>	<p>Registration of deaths and still-births etc</p>	<p>Due to expire at midnight on 24 March 2022 as per section 89</p>	<p>These provisions have reduced the burdens placed on frontline services and assisted in the managing of the deceased with respect and dignity. Without these provisions, deaths would have needed to be registered in person by informants and additional natural deaths referred to the coroner (as medical practitioners would not have the power to certify the death), placing an unnecessary burden on that service as well as causing extra distress and delay for families, with a risk of delay to associated bereavement processes such as funerals.</p> <p>These measures have widened the scope of those who can certify a cause of death; they have enabled medical practitioners to complete and sign a Medical Certificate of Cause of Death when the attending doctor has not been available (due to illness, self-isolation or any other reason), thus preventing delays to the death management process and associated pressures building on the health service. They have enabled deaths to be registered when access to offices has not been possible, and, more generally, reduced footfall at register offices by allowing deaths to be registered by telephone, rather than face to face, and for associated documents to be electronically sent, rather than by hand. This has enabled deaths to be registered without delay and facilitated the timely arrangement of funerals. The provisions have also benefited the ongoing recovery of other registration services which cannot be delivered remotely, such as the registering of births and marriages.</p> <p>The modifications to the certification and registration of deaths have been vital in meeting pressure placed on the NHS, the local registration service, and the coronial service by the pandemic. While the easements have been available, the underpinning advice has always been to only use them when and where needed.</p> <p>The easements have assisted in the availability of medical practitioners to complete Medical Certificates which has been impacted by various factors, including the backlog in medical procedures; the need to ensure delivery of the vaccine; vacancies; absences due to sickness or isolating; and in some areas, leave postponed during the pandemic emergency. Besides working well, the easements have proved popular with bereaved families, and trusts have reported</p>
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			<p>positive working arrangements with register offices.</p> <p>The easements have not only assisted response in times of excess death, but they have proved more beneficial than this, accelerating the adoption of up-to-date working practices. It is recognised that some stakeholders had concerns about the reduced number of protections as a result of the easements, however the National Medical Examiner is not aware of any significant examples of negative events which have arisen.</p> <p>These easements have been widely welcomed by the public and the funeral sector. The General Register Office attends weekly meetings with the sector and has attended the annual Cremation and Burial Communication Education Event (joint conference of The Cremation Society of Great Britain and the Federation of Burial and Cremation Authorities) at which the positive impact of the easements has been reported. The sector overwhelmingly wishes for the easements to continue post-pandemic.</p>
19	Confirmatory medical certificate not required for cremations: England and Wales	Due to expire at midnight on 24 March 2022 as per section 89	<p>The power under section 19 of the Act has contributed to pandemic response and national recovery, by removing from the cremation process the requirement for input from a second health professional, thereby increasing their capacity to focus on frontline duties. It also helped to reduce pressure on the death management process by supporting timely cremations.</p> <p>This provision has applied to all cremations where the death had not been referred to the coroner.</p> <p>Statutory implementation of the Medical Examiner scheme is expected in 2022, which is expected to remove the requirement for the confirmatory medical certificate. It is therefore the Government's intention that the confirmatory medical certificate will not return between expiry of this provision in the Act and the implementation of the statutory Medical Examiner scheme. On 4 March 2022, the Cremation (England and Wales) (Amendment) 2022 was laid before Parliament to accomplish this.</p> <p>As per section 89 of the Act, section 19(11) is not temporary and therefore not subject to the renewal vote or sunset date of the Act.</p>

22	Appointment of temporary Judicial Commissioners	Suspended  Due to expire at midnight on 24 March 2022 as per section 89	<p>The provision allowed the Secretary of State of the Home Department, on a request from the Investigatory Powers Commissioner, to make Regulations to provide for temporary Judicial Commissioners to be appointed by the Investigatory Powers Commissioner, in the event that there were insufficient Judicial Commissioners available to effectively fulfil their functions under the Investigatory Powers Act 2016.</p> <p>Regulations were made on 26 March 2020 for 12 months and ten temporary Judicial Commissioners were appointed for an initial six-month term. They were not reappointed following this and those regulations expired in March 2021. As such, the powers were suspended as of April 2021, following the one-year review.</p> <p>Given the vital role Judicial Commissioners play in protecting our national security and the prevention of serious crime, it was proportionate to keep this power suspended, in case it was needed to be revived in future. However, with domestic restrictions ending as of 24 February 2022, it is right for this power to expire as intended.</p>
23	Time limits in relation to urgent warrants etc under Investigatory Powers Act	Expired	Following the last six-month review, a Statutory Instrument was laid under the draft affirmative procedure on 27 October 2021 and was debated and approved by both Houses. The Statutory Instrument came into force on 9 December 2021 which expired this provision.
24	Extension of time limits for retention of fingerprints and DNA profiles	Expired	Following the one-year review, a Statutory Instrument was laid under the draft affirmative procedure on 21 April 2021 and was debated and approved by both Houses. The Statutory Instrument came into force on 16 July 2021 which expired this provision.
25	Power to require information relating to food supply chains	Expired	Following the one-year review, a Statutory Instrument was laid under the draft affirmative procedure on 21 April 2021 and was debated and approved by both Houses. The Statutory Instrument came into force on 16 July 2021 which expired these provisions.
26	Authorities which may require information	Expired	
27	Restrictions on use and disclosure of information	Expired	
28 <i>Sch 15</i>	Enforcement of requirement to provide information	Expired	
29	Meaning of 'food supply chain' and related expressions	Expired	
30	Suspension of requirement to hold	Came into force on Royal Assent	The powers under section 30 of the Act allow most inquests where COVID-19 is

	<p>inquests with jury: England and Wales</p>	<p>Extended for up to six-months, subject to Parliamentary approval</p>	<p>suspected as the cause of death to take place without a jury.</p> <p>Coroners across England and Wales have been significantly impacted by lockdown restrictions in the conduct of inquests, all of which must be held in public and a number of which must be held with a jury (such as non-natural deaths in custody). Coroners have universally reported difficulties in hearing jury and non-jury complex inquests due to social distancing requirements, and backlogs have accumulated.</p> <p>Requiring jury inquests where COVID-19 is suspected as the cause of death would have disproportionately added to the demand on local authority funded coroner services, adversely impacting their ability to operate and exacerbating backlogs. Section 30 has supported efforts to keep coroner services functioning in light of continuing pressures, to mitigate the impact of the increased demands of the pandemic and to assist their recovery plans.</p> <p>Statistics are not held on how many deaths have been reported to the coroner where the deceased was diagnosed with COVID-19. However, coroner statistics for 2020 published in May 2021 showed an 18% increase in reported deaths in state detention - 562 deaths in 2020, up from 478 in 2019. A number of these would have been natural cause deaths and added to inquest backlogs had they needed a jury. There were 3,845 natural cause inquest conclusions in 2020, a number of which would have been where COVID-19 had been suspected as the cause and would also have increased backlogs if they had needed to be held with a jury.</p> <p>In steady state between around 450 and 575 jury inquests are held annually across England and Wales, but in 2020 only 239 such inquests were held due largely to social distancing restrictions, with potentially at least that number again having been adjourned. If coroners had needed to schedule COVID-19 related jury inquests, these inquests would have had to dovetail with cases already in the system – the Chief Coroner’s office estimates that additional jury inquests could become stuck in the system up to 2025. This would have caused additional distress to bereaved people waiting for the inquests into the deaths of their relatives and friends.</p> <p>The Judicial Review and Courts Bill, which is currently before Parliament and expected</p>
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			to receive Royal Assent this summer, contains a measure which effectively replicates section 30. Therefore, to avoid a gap in legislation, which would cause confusion and disruption to coroner services and likely increase backlogs, these powers have been extended by the Coronavirus Act 2020 (Delay in Expiry: Inquests, Courts and Tribunals, and Statutory Sick Pay) (England and Wales, and Northern Ireland) Regulations 2022, subject to the approval of Parliament.
37 Sch 16	Temporary closure of educational institutions and childcare premises	Expired	Following the last six-month review, a Statutory Instrument was laid under the draft affirmative procedure on 27 October 2021 and was debated and approved by both Houses. The Statutory Instrument came into force on 9 December 2021 which expired this provision.
38 Sch 17	Temporary continuity: education, training and childcare	Due to expire at midnight on 24 March 2022 as per section 89	<p>Schedule 17 (section 38) of the Act has continued to support schools and education settings, by providing powers to a) issue a temporary continuity direction and b) issue a notice disapplying or modifying one or more of a set of enactments (listed in the Schedule).</p> <p>Although no notices or directions have been issued within this reporting period, on 26 August 2021, the Secretary of State for Education issued a new remote education temporary continuity direction for academic year 2021/22, providing clarity to the sector about what is expected and ensuring consistency with the previous academic year. This direction remains live until the provision expires at midnight on 24 March 2022.</p> <p><b>Modification and disapplication notices</b> have been issued to carefully manage the sector's response to COVID-19. The notices have also provided clarity and protection to prevent individuals and bodies from breaching duties in light of the COVID-19 pandemic. Since March 2020, 39 notices have been issued.</p> <p><b>The power to issue temporary continuity directions</b> has ensured that the Secretary of State has statutory power to make sure Government guidance is being carefully followed as the sector responds to and recovers from the impacts of COVID-19. Where restrictions have been planned in educational institutions locally which have fallen outside of national guidance, the power has reinforced the Government's ability to respond and work locally to ensure</p>

			any restrictions are as minimally disruptive as possible.
39	Statutory sick pay: funding of employers' liabilities	Due to expire at midnight on 24 March 2022 as per section 89	The power under section 39 of the Act has allowed small and medium employers with fewer than 250 employees to claim back the costs of two weeks' Statutory Sick Pay (SSP) for absences related to COVID-19.
42	Statutory sick pay: funding of employers' liabilities: Northern Ireland	Due to expire at midnight on 24 March 2022 as per section 89	The Government announced the reintroduction of the scheme on 21 December 2021. The scheme has enabled firms with eligible absences between 21 December 2021 and 17 March 2022 to claim back the costs of two weeks' SSP per eligible employee. Firms were able to make claims retrospectively since 19 January 2022 and had until 24 March to submit their final claims. The rebate has been an important part of the wider package of support for businesses.
40	Statutory sick pay: power to disapply waiting period limitation	Due to expire at midnight on 24 March 2022 as per section 89	These powers have allowed for the suspension of the waiting days' rule for absences related to COVID-19. This means that SSP is payable from day one for employees who are unable to work as a result of COVID-19 and therefore provides additional support for impacted employees.
43	Statutory sick pay: power to disapply waiting period limitation: Northern Ireland	S43 extended for NI, subject to parliamentary approval	<p>The provisions came into force on Royal Assent of the Act and have been used throughout the pandemic. Section 40, which applies to England, Scotland and Wales, is due to expire at midnight on 24 March 2022. Section 43, which applies to Northern Ireland, has been extended for a period of six-months by the Coronavirus Act 2020 (Delay in Expiry: Inquests, Courts and Tribunals, and Statutory Sick Pay) (England and Wales, and Northern Ireland) Regulations 2022, subject to Parliamentary approval.</p> <p>No data is currently available on the effects of this provision, given that employers are not mandated to report SSP payment to Government.</p>
41	Statutory sick pay: modification of regulation making powers	Due to expire at midnight on 24 March 2022 as per section 89	This power has allowed for regulations which provide for employees to be treated as incapable of work (and therefore eligible for SSP) to do so by reference to the latest guidance issued by the UK health authorities. This has ensured that regulations could keep in step with the latest guidance, for example with new categories of employees who were required to self-isolate and as a result of being considered incapable of work, and thereby supported delivery of SSP for impacted employees.

			<p>This power was used in the Statutory Sick Pay (Coronavirus) (Suspension of Waiting Days and General Amendment) Regulations 2020 which came into force on 28 March 2020 and remain in place until section 41 expires at midnight on 24 March 2022. These Regulations referenced guidance issued by the Chief Medical Officers or Deputy Chief Medical Officers so that regulations have continued to apply as and when the guidance has been updated.</p> <p>The power in section 41 has also allowed the Government to use relevant notifications, i.e. from the Test and Trace scheme, to trigger SSP eligibility. The provision came into force on Royal Assent of the Act.</p>
45	NHS pension schemes: suspension of restrictions on return to work: England and Wales	Due to expire at midnight on 24 March 2022 as per section 89	<p>Section 45 of the Act has suspended rules in the NHS Pension Scheme, for England and Wales, to allow retired and partially retired NHS staff to return to work or increase their working commitments, without having their pension benefits suspended.</p> <p>This has allowed staff to work more flexibly during peak periods of the pandemic when the NHS needed increased capacity, and also contribute valuable capacity to the vaccine rollout.</p> <p>Between 19 January 2022 and 8 March 2022, this workforce has continued to support in the administration of vaccines, with around 2.7 million doses being delivered across England in this period.</p> <p>The Department for Health and Social Care has consulted on proposals to continue the easements in section 45 to 31 October 2022, via amendments to NHS Pension Scheme regulations which are due to take effect immediately following the expiry of section 45. 990 responses were received to the consultation, and the Government published its response on 10 March 2022 confirming its intention to proceed with the proposals.</p>
50 Sch 20	Power to suspend port operations	Due to expire at midnight on 24 March 2022 as per section 89	<p>The Schedule 20 (section 50) powers in the Act have ensured the Government had the power to act quickly and effectively if an outbreak of COVID-19 meant there were insufficient staff to adequately protect the UK's borders, by instructing ports to close.</p> <p>There was a high threshold for the use of the power, and it would only have been used if the Secretary of State for the Home Department believed that it was necessary, proportionate, and there was a real and</p>

			<p>significant risk to border security; and only after all other reasonably practicable avenues had been exhausted.</p> <p>Although these powers have not needed to be used, they have been a vital contingency in the Government's response to the pandemic. With the lifting of restrictions, for example the removal of the legal requirement to self-isolate from 24 February 2022, it is proportionate for this provision to expire as intended.</p>
51 <i>Sch 21</i>	Powers relating to potentially infectious persons	Expired	<p>Following the last six-month review, a Statutory Instrument was laid under the draft affirmative procedure on 27 October 2021 and was debated and approved by both Houses. The Statutory Instrument came into force on 9 December 2021 which expired this provision.</p> <p>As these powers were expired, a notice was also published on <a href="https://www.gov.uk">gov.uk</a> on 27 October 2021 and in the <a href="#">London Gazette</a> on 28 October 2021 to revoke the declaration which activated the use of these powers.</p>
52 <i>Sch 22</i>	Powers to issue directions relating to events, gatherings and premises	Expired	<p>Following the last six-month review, a Statutory Instrument was laid under the draft affirmative procedure on 27 October 2021 and was debated and approved by both Houses. The Statutory Instrument came into force on 9 December 2021 which expired this provision.</p>
53 <i>Sch 23</i>	Expansion of availability of live links in criminal proceedings	<p>Came into force on Royal Assent</p> <p>Extended for up to six-months, subject to Parliamentary approval</p>	<p>Sections 53-55 of the Act were introduced to allow the courts and tribunals system to continue to function throughout the pandemic and ensure people were able to access justice.</p> <p>The provisions have allowed thousands of hearings to take place since the Act came into force, with over 11,000 hearings per week currently taking place using remote technology across 3,200 virtual courtrooms.</p>
54 <i>Sch 24</i>	Expansion of availability of live links in other criminal hearings	<p>Came into force on Royal Assent</p> <p>Extended for up to six-months, subject to Parliamentary approval</p>	<p>As of February 2022, around 35-40% of hearings each day include one or more parties joining remotely, down from 88% at the height of lockdown in 2020.</p>
55 <i>Sch 25</i>	Public participation in proceedings conducted by video or audio	<p>Came into force on Royal Assent</p> <p>Extended for up to six-months, subject to Parliamentary approval</p>	<p>The provisions have allowed the courts to deal promptly and safely with proceedings, avoid unnecessary social contact and travel, and allow key services within the justice system to continue to be delivered while upholding the principle of open justice.</p> <p>These provisions have also been vital in supporting court recovery and helping courts work through the backlog of cases as</p>

			<p>quickly and efficiently as possible by enabling preliminary hearings to take place remotely so that courtrooms could be reserved for more hearings (particularly trials) that must happen in court.</p> <p>For example from March 2020, there was a steady increase in outstanding cases in the Crown Court which reached a peak of over 50% in June 2021. This increase has begun to decline as courts continue to work through the backlog.</p> <p>Provisions included in the Police, Crime, Sentencing and Courts Bill (introduced in March 2021) will make these powers permanent, subject to Parliamentary approval of the Bill. The Coronavirus Act 2020 (Delay in Expiry: Inquests, Courts and Tribunals, and Statutory Sick Pay) (England and Wales, and Northern Ireland) Regulations 2022 seek to extend the provisions in the Act for a period of up to six-months, to ensure there is no gap in the legislation underpinning these powers.</p>
56 Sch 26	Live links in magistrates' court appeals against requirements or restrictions imposed on a potentially infectious person	Expired	Following the last six-month review, a Statutory Instrument was laid under the draft affirmative procedure on 27 October 2021 and was debated and approved by both Houses. The Statutory Instrument came into force on 9 December 2021 which expired this provision.
58 Sch 28	Powers in relation to transportation, storage and disposal of dead bodies etc	Suspended  Due to expire at midnight on 24 March 2022 as per section 89	<p>The powers under section 58 were introduced to ensure that the UK was prepared for a reasonable worst-case scenario of the number of deaths from COVID-19. Scientific modelling at the time indicated that the number of people who might die was likely to significantly exceed the national or local capacity to manage the deceased.</p> <p>The section 58 powers were split into information gathering powers and powers of direction.</p> <p><b>Part 1 Powers</b></p> <p>The information gathering powers (also known as Part 1 powers) enabled local authorities and Government to develop a more comprehensive understanding of where pressures were occurring in the death management system, allowing for targeted interventions to support existing procedures.</p> <p>London, Lincolnshire and Merseyside made explicit use of these powers where</p>

			<p>voluntary engagement with the sector proved inadequate. Local authorities were not required to inform the government if they had used the Part 1 powers to obtain this information.</p> <p>The Part 1 powers also enabled local authorities and others to maintain an accurate picture of the capacity of the death management system in their area so they could identify and address emerging issues.</p> <p><b>Part 2 and 3 Powers</b></p> <p>The powers of direction were extraordinary measures which could have been activated by the appropriate national authority. These would have allowed national or local governments to take control of a component or components of the death management process. These powers were only intended to be used in extreme circumstances, where scientific evidence and operational advice suggested local capacity could otherwise be overwhelmed. Part 3 allowed for central government to intervene if a local authority was unable to manage the death management system effectively.</p> <p><b>Part 4 Powers</b></p> <p>Part 4 was introduced as an amendment to the Bill during its passage through the House to ensure that the wishes of the deceased were respected if powers of direction were needed.</p> <p>As all parts of these powers were suspended prior to March 2022 (Parts 2 and 3 as of April 2021 and Parts 1 and 4 as of October 2021) it is right for these powers to expire as intended.</p>
59	Elections and referendums due to be held in England in period after 15 March 2020	Came into force on Royal Assent	As per section 89 of the Act, sections 59-61 are not temporary and therefore not subject to the sunset date of temporary provisions within the Act. These powers only applied to elections held on or before 6 May 2021.
60	Postponement of elections due to be held on 7 May 2020	Came into force on Royal Assent	The provisions came into force on Royal Assent and most such polls were postponed to 6 May 2021.
61	Power to postpone certain other elections and referendums	Came into force on Royal Assent	These provisions enabled returning officers to avoid running polls at a time when the pandemic was developing in the UK. The use of polling stations and related activity would have increased the spread of the virus. These provisions allowed staff to be readily re-deployed to other duties to support the response to the pandemic.

			<p>They also supported the aim of protecting public health by containing and slowing the spread of the virus.</p> <p>The May 2021 elections took place successfully following the action plan the Government published to deliver them in a COVID-secure way.</p>
62	Power to postpone a recall petition under the Recall of MPs Act 2015	Came into force on Royal Assent	<p>As per section 89 of the Act, section 62 is not temporary and therefore not subject to the renewal vote or sunset date of temporary provisions within the Act.</p> <p>This provision allowed Petition Officers the possibility to defer the petition. It ensured the electorate in that constituency had the ability to make their views known (i.e. by attending a petition signing station) at a later date without having to act in a way contrary to public health guidance. It allowed staff to be freed up from being on standby for any electoral event during the period up until 6 May 2021. This meant they could be readily re-deployed to other duties to support the response to the pandemic as needed.</p> <p>Between when the Act came into force and 6 May 2021, no recall petitions were triggered.</p>
63	Power to make supplementary etc provision	Came into force on Royal Assent	<p>As per section 89 of the Act, section 63 is not temporary and therefore not subject to the renewal vote or sunset date of temporary provisions within the Act.</p> <p>No Statutory Instruments have been made over the latest reporting period on this matter.</p> <p>A Statutory Instrument was made on 3 April 2020: The Local Government and Police and Crime Commissioner (Coronavirus) (Postponement of Elections and Referendums) (England and Wales) Regulations 2020, SI 2020/395.</p> <p>A Statutory Instrument was made on 15 April 2020: The Local Government (Coronavirus) (Structural Changes) (Consequential Amendments) (England) Regulations 2020 (SI 2020/426) which ensured that local government reorganisation in Buckinghamshire and Northamptonshire, which had been dependant on local elections taking place throughout those areas in May 2020, was still implemented, ensuring continued effective delivery of local public services in those areas.</p>

			<p>Another Statutory Instrument was made on 1 September 2020: Postponed Elections and Referendums (Coronavirus) and Policy Development Grants (Amendment) Regulations 2020 (SI 2020/926) which deals with various matters relating to polls where the electoral timetable had started so that the candidate position, their expenditure and how paperwork from the poll, including postal votes, are addressed.</p> <p>This provision has supported the benefits brought about by the postponement of the polls which have supported the aim of protecting public health by containing and slowing the spread of the virus.</p> <p>This power can be used retroactively. If these powers were to expire, it would prevent the ability to use these powers retroactively and issues relating to elections held prior to May 2021 (e.g. changes needing to be made to funding) could not be addressed. Therefore, this power was excluded from the section 89 expiry date.</p>
71	Signatures of Treasury Commissioners	Expired	Following the one-year review, a Statutory Instrument was laid under the draft affirmative procedure on 21 April 2021 and was debated and approved by both Houses. The Statutory Instrument came into force on 16 July 2021 which expired this provision.
72	Power under section 143 of the Social Security Administration Act 1992	Came into force on Royal Assent	As per section 89 of the Act, sections 72-74 are not temporary and therefore not subject to the renewal vote or sunset date of the Act.
73	Power under the section 145 of the Social Security Administration Act 1992	Came into force on Royal Assent	These powers were taken to enable the Government to respond flexibly to the pandemic through the National Insurance system. The government has made a range of significant interventions to support employers including but not limited to the Coronavirus Job Retention Scheme and the Statutory Sick Pay rebate scheme. At this time, the Government does not consider further support is required but remains ready to do whatever is required to support the economic recovery from COVID-19.
74	Power under section 5 of the National Insurance Contributions Act 2015	Came into force on Royal Assent	<p>As agreed during the drafting of the Act, these provisions only modify the powers for Statutory Instruments made 2 years from Royal Assent of the Act. Therefore, the modification to these powers expire under their own terms at midnight on 24 March 2022, rather than expiring under section 89 of the Act, as is the case for the temporary provisions</p>



75	Disapplication of limit under section 8 of the Industrial Development Act 1982	Came into force on Royal Assent 75 (2) and (3) due to expire at midnight on 24 March 2022 as per section 89	<p>Section 75 of the Act has allowed for financial assistance provided to businesses under section 8 of the Industrial Development Act 1982, which is designated as coronavirus-related, to not count towards the overall limit on assistance that can be provided to business under section 8 of the latter Act.</p> <p>This change has ensured that urgent assistance to businesses, whether in relation to coronavirus or more routine future provisions of grants, loans and loan guarantees is not hampered or delayed by the fact the section 8 limit has been reached. This power has enabled businesses to access loan schemes such as the Bounce Back Loan Scheme, Coronavirus Business Interruption Loan Scheme, Coronavirus Large Business Interruption Loan Scheme, and the Future Fund. These schemes closed on 31 March 2021 and collectively approved more than £79 billion worth of finance through more than 1.6 million facilities. The Recovery Loan scheme will also provide significant support to businesses to aid their recovery from the pandemic.</p> <p>To ensure transparency of expenditure under the Industrial Development Act, the Business Secretary already reports annually to Parliament. However, the Business Secretary has gone further in relation to the Coronavirus Act and will continue to report to Parliament on a quarterly basis, to ensure full transparency on spend related to COVID-19. The latest report published is Q3-2021 (July-September), which was published on 7 March 2022. Actual spend by HMG for the period 1 July – 30 September 2021 was £345,600,487 with an additional new contingent liability incurred for this period of £2,353,852,730. Since March 2020, actual expenditure of assistance provided by HMG is £3,617,960,250, with all contingent liability of assistance provided being £72,677,811,019.</p> <p>As per section 89 of the Act, section 75 (1) is not a temporary provision and is therefore not subject to the automatic expiry date of temporary provisions at the end of 24 March 2022. This ensures that the limit for financial assistance under the Industrial Development Act section 8 is not breached, which would jeopardise all existing and future schemes relying on the Industrial Development Act, such as Help to Grow,</p>
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			the Automotive Transformation Fund (ATF) and Offshore Wind Manufacturing Investment Scheme (OWMIS).
76	HMRC functions	Came into force on Royal Assent	<p>As per section 89 of the Act, section 76 is not temporary and therefore not subject to the renewal vote or sunset date of the temporary provisions in the Act.</p> <p>The Government has used this power to direct HMRC to have new functions relating to the payment and management of amounts in respect of the Coronavirus Job Retention Scheme (CJRS), the Self-Employment Income Support Scheme (SEISS), the Eat Out to Help Out Scheme and the one-off payments to working households receiving tax credits (WHOOOP).</p> <p>The powers in section 76 enable HMRC to undertake the vital legacy work required for the economy-wide coronavirus schemes, including recovering fraudulent or overclaimed grants.</p> <p><u>Coronavirus Job Retention Scheme</u> After running continuously for nineteen months, the scheme closed on 30 September 2021. The CJRS has succeeded in supporting 11.7 million jobs and 1.3 million employers across the UK with employer claims totalling £70 billion, aiding businesses and protecting livelihoods.</p> <p><u>Self-Employment Income Support Scheme</u> Applications for the fifth and final SEISS grant closed on 30 September 2021. The SEISS has paid out over £28 billion across all five grants to nearly 3 million self-employed individuals and has been one of the most generous schemes for the self-employed in the world.</p> <p><u>Working households receiving tax credits scheme</u> This scheme remains in place following an extension in September 2021. Under this extension, HMRC is making one-off payments to a small number of eligible customers based on their finalised tax credits awards and has powers to make payments into the 2022/23 tax year.</p> <p>Section 76 continues to underpin:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Compliance, including recovering both CJRS and SEISS grants where claimants were overpaid/ineligible.</li> </ul>

			<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Making late payments. For CJRS/ SEISS, these are usually linked to complaints that can take several months to work through the system. The WHOOP was extended in September 2021, and HMRC is making one-off payments to a small number of eligible customers based on their finalised tax credits awards.</li> </ul>
77	Up-rating of working tax credit etc	Expired	Following the last six-month review, a Statutory Instrument was laid under the draft affirmative procedure on 27 October 2021 and was debated and approved by both Houses. The Statutory Instrument came into force on 9 December 2021 which expired this provision.
78	Local authority meetings	Expired	Following the last six-month review, a Statutory Instrument was laid under the draft affirmative procedure on 27 October 2021 and was debated and approved by both Houses. The Statutory Instrument came into force on 9 December 2021 which expired this provision.
79	Extension of Business Improvement Districts (BID) arrangements: England	Expired	Following the one-year review, a Statutory Instrument was laid under the draft affirmative procedure on 21 April 2021 and was debated and approved by both Houses. The Statutory Instrument came into force on 16 July 2021 which expired this provision.
81 <i>Sch 29</i>	Residential tenancies in England and Wales: protection from eviction	Suspended  Due to expire at midnight on 24 March 2022 as per section 89	<p>The powers under section 81 of the Act protected renters in the private and social rented sectors from eviction by requiring landlords to provide a longer period of notice when seeking possession of the property, in all but the most serious circumstances. These measures applied to most renters in the private and social sectors, covering 8.4 million households.</p> <p>In response to the improving public health situation, the rollout of the vaccination programme and the easing of most national lockdown restrictions, notice periods for evictions from residential tenancies returned to the pre-COVID lengths on 1 October 2021.</p> <p>Whilst the measures were in place, they gave tenants more time before the landlord could bring possession proceedings and thus delayed the point at which the tenant might be required to leave their home. This provided more time for tenants to seek to resolve the issue, find alternative accommodation or make alternative arrangements safely – thereby reducing the risk of transmission that arises from</p>

			<p>movement and homelessness, and reducing the subsequent pressure on public services.</p> <p>These measures worked: homelessness statistics showed a 41% reduction in households owed a homelessness duty following the end of an assured shorthold tenancy in 2020/21, compared with 2019/20. Whilst this is in large part a reflection that bailiff possession activity was restricted during this period, it also demonstrates that landlords were not able to progress cases to court as quickly as they have been previously, helping ensure that tenants were able to remain in their homes. Alongside this, Ministry of Justice statistics showed that reported applications to the courts for possession by private and social landlords between October and December 2021 were down 43% compared to the same quarter in 2019, while repossessions by county court bailiffs were down by 64%.</p> <p>The Government is committed to delivering a better deal for renters, including repealing Section 21 of the Housing Act 1988. A White Paper detailing the package of reforms to the private rented sector will be brought forward in Spring this year and legislation will follow in due course.</p>
82	Business tenancies in England and Wales: protection from forfeiture etc	Due to expire at midnight on 24 March 2022 as per section 89	<p>Section 82 has prevented commercial landlords from evicting tenants owing to non-payment of rent, protecting businesses and the jobs that they support during enforced sector closures and partial closures at a time when trading was still restricted.</p> <p>The measures then provided breathing space for landlords and tenants to negotiate outstanding arrears while businesses continued to recover as restrictions were eased across England and Wales, until 24 March 2022.</p> <p>Data from Remit Consulting indicated that while overall rent collection was at 83.3%, 35 days past the most recent due date in December 2021, this is far below the 99% of rent collected pre-pandemic in December 2019. It is clear from the lower levels of rent paid that there would have been substantial scope for evictions for the non-payment of rent if the current tenant protection measures had not been in place, resulting in business failures and job losses. Whilst rent collection rates have continued to increase throughout the pandemic, Remit</p>

			<p>Consulting estimate the total potential shortfall of rent to be in excess of £8 billion since the start of the pandemic by March 2022.</p> <p>To address the high level of unpaid rent that has accrued throughout the pandemic, Government introduced the Commercial Rent (Coronavirus) Bill, which comes into force as an Act of Parliament on 24 March 2022. The Commercial Rent (Coronavirus) Act ringfences rent debt built up due to enforced closures and introduces a binding arbitration process to resolve these debts as a last resort.</p>
84	Postponement of General Synod Elections	Expired	<p>Following the one-year review, a Statutory Instrument was laid under the draft affirmative procedure on 21 April 2021 and was debated and approved by both Houses. The Statutory Instrument came into force on 16 July 2021 which expired this provision.</p> <p>For the avoidance of doubt the Statutory Instrument saves the operation of General Synod of the Church of England (Postponement of Elections) Order 2020, SI 2020/526 and General Synod of the Church of England (Postponement of Elections) (Amendment) Order 2020, SI 2020/1123.</p>

## Changes to status during reporting period

Section number (and relevant Schedule number where applicable)	Measure	Type of change	Details of change	Secondary legislation making the change
Section 30	Suspension of requirement to hold inquests with jury: England and Wales	Extended under section 90(2)	An SI was made on 23 March 2022 which seeks to extend these powers for a maximum of six-months.	The Coronavirus Act 2020 (Delay in Expiry: Inquests, Courts and Tribunals, and Statutory Sick Pay) (England and Wales, and Northern Ireland) Regulations 2022
Section 43	Statutory sick pay: power to disapply waiting period limitation: Northern Ireland	Extended for NI under section 90(2)	An SI was made on 23 March 2022 which seeks to extend these powers on behalf of NI.	The Coronavirus Act 2020 (Delay in Expiry: Inquests, Courts and Tribunals, and Statutory Sick Pay) (England and Wales, and Northern Ireland) Regulations 2022
Section 53 (Schedule 23)	Expansion of availability of live links in criminal proceedings	Extended under section 90(2)	An SI was made on 23 March 2022 which seeks to extend these powers for a maximum of six-months.	The Coronavirus Act 2020 (Delay in Expiry: Inquests, Courts and Tribunals, and Statutory Sick Pay) (England and Wales, and Northern Ireland) Regulations 2022
Section 54 (Schedule 24)	Expansion of availability of live links in other criminal hearings	Extended under section 90(2)	An SI was made on 23 March 2022 which seeks to extend these powers for a maximum of six-months.	The Coronavirus Act 2020 (Delay in Expiry: Inquests, Courts and Tribunals, and Statutory Sick Pay) (England and Wales, and Northern Ireland) Regulations 2022
Section 55 (Schedule 25)	Public participation in proceedings by video or audio	Extended under section 90(2)	An SI was made on 23 March 2022 which seeks to extend these powers for a maximum of six-months.	The Coronavirus Act 2020 (Delay in Expiry: Inquests, Courts and Tribunals, and Statutory Sick Pay) (England and Wales, and Northern Ireland) Regulations 2022
Section 2 (Schedule 1)	Emergency registration of nurses and other health and care professionals	Due to expire as per section 89	As per section 89 of the Act, the temporary powers automatically expire at midnight on 24 March 2022	N/A

Section 6 (Schedule 5)	Emergency registration of social workers: England and Wales	Due to expire as per section 89	As per section 89 of the Act, the temporary powers automatically expire at midnight on 24 March 2022	N/A
Section 14	NHS Continuing Healthcare Assessments	Due to expire as per section 89	As per section 89 of the Act, the temporary powers automatically expire at midnight on 24 March 2022	N/A
Section 18 (Schedule 13)	Registration of deaths and still-births etc	Due to expire as per section 89	As per section 89 of the Act, the temporary powers automatically expire at midnight on 24 March 2022	N/A
Section 19	Confirmatory medical certificate not required for cremations: England and Wales	Due to expire as per section 89	As per section 89 of the Act, the temporary powers automatically expire at midnight on 24 March 2022	N/A
Section 22	Appointment of temporary Judicial Commissioners	Due to expire as per section 89	As per section 89 of the Act, the temporary powers automatically expire at midnight on 24 March 2022	N/A
Section 38 (Schedule 17)	Temporary continuity: education, training and childcare	Due to expire as per section 89	As per section 89 of the Act, the temporary powers automatically expire at midnight on 24 March 2022	N/A
Section 39	Statutory sick pay: funding of employers' liabilities	Due to expire as per section 89	As per section 89 of the Act, the temporary powers automatically expire at midnight on 24 March 2022	N/A
Section 40	Statutory sick pay: power to disapply waiting period limitation	Due to expire as per section 89	As per section 89 of the Act, the temporary powers automatically expire at midnight on 24 March 2022	N/A
Section 41	Statutory sick pay: modification of regulation making powers	Due to expire as per section 89	As per section 89 of the Act, the temporary powers automatically expire at midnight on 24 March 2022	N/A
Section 42	Statutory sick pay: funding of employers' liabilities: Northern Ireland	Due to expire as per section 89	As per section 89 of the Act, the temporary powers automatically expire at midnight on 24 March 2022	N/A

Section 45	NHS pension schemes: suspension of restrictions on return to work: England and Wales	Due to expire as per section 89	As per section 89 of the Act, the temporary powers automatically expire at midnight on 24 March 2022	N/A
Section 50 (Schedule 20)	Power to suspend port operations	Due to expire as per section 89	As per section 89 of the Act, the temporary powers automatically expire at midnight on 24 March 2022	N/A
Section 58 (Schedule 28)	Powers in relation to transportation, storage and disposal of dead bodies etc	Due to expire as per section 89	As per section 89 of the Act, the temporary powers automatically expire at midnight on 24 March 2022	N/A
Section 75 (2) and (3)	Disapplication of limit under section 8 of the Industrial Development Act 1982	Due to expire as per section 89	As per section 89 of the Act, the temporary powers automatically expire at midnight on 24 March 2022	N/A
Section 81 (Schedule 29)	Residential tenancies in England and Wales: protection from eviction	Due to expire as per section 89	As per section 89 of the Act, the temporary powers automatically expire at midnight on 24 March 2022	N/A
Section 82	Business tenancies in England and Wales: protection from forfeiture etc	Due to expire as per section 89	As per section 89 of the Act, the temporary powers automatically expire at midnight on 24 March 2022	N/A

### Changes to status since enactment of the act

Section number (and relevant Schedule number where applicable)	Measure	Type of change	Details of change	Secondary legislation making the change
Section 8	Emergency Volunteering Leave	Expired under section 90(1)	An SI was laid on 21 April 2021 which came into force on 16 July 2021 to expire these powers.	<a href="#">The Coronavirus Act 2020 (Early Expiry) Regulations 2021 (legislation.gov.uk)</a>
Section 9	Compensation for Emergency Volunteers	Expired under section 90(1)	An SI was laid on 21 April 2021 which came into force on 16 July 2021 to expire these powers.	<a href="#">The Coronavirus Act 2020 (Early Expiry) Regulations 2021 (legislation.gov.uk)</a>



Section 15 (part 1 of Schedule 12)	Local authority care and support.	Expired under section 90(1)	An SI was laid on 21 April 2021 which came into force on 16 July 2021 to expire these powers.	<a href="#">The Coronavirus Act 2020 (Early Expiry) Regulations 2021 (legislation.gov.uk)</a>
Section 24	Extension of time limits for retention of fingerprints and DNA profiles.	Expired under section 90(1)	An SI was laid on 21 April 2021 which came into force on 16 July 2021 to expire these powers.	<a href="#">The Coronavirus Act 2020 (Early Expiry) Regulations 2021 (legislation.gov.uk)</a>
Section 25	Power to require information relating to food supply chains	Expired under section 90(1)	An SI was laid on 21 April 2021 which came into force on 16 July 2021 to expire these powers.	<a href="#">The Coronavirus Act 2020 (Early Expiry) Regulations 2021 (legislation.gov.uk)</a>
Section 26	Authorities which may require information	Expired under section 90(1)	An SI was laid on 21 April 2021 which came into force on 16 July 2021 to expire these powers.	<a href="#">The Coronavirus Act 2020 (Early Expiry) Regulations 2021 (legislation.gov.uk)</a>
Section 27	Restrictions on use and disclosure of information	Expired under section 90(1)	An SI was laid on 21 April 2021 which came into force on 16 July 2021 to expire these powers.	<a href="#">The Coronavirus Act 2020 (Early Expiry) Regulations 2021 (legislation.gov.uk)</a>
Section 28	Enforcement of requirement to provide information	Expired under section 90(1)	An SI was laid on 21 April 2021 which came into force on 16 July 2021 to expire these powers.	<a href="#">The Coronavirus Act 2020 (Early Expiry) Regulations 2021 (legislation.gov.uk)</a>
Section 29	Meaning of 'food supply chain' and related expressions	Expired under section 90(1)	An SI was laid on 21 April 2021 which came into force on 16 July 2021 to expire these powers.	<a href="#">The Coronavirus Act 2020 (Early Expiry) Regulations 2021 (legislation.gov.uk)</a>
Section 71	Signatures of Treasury Commissioners.	Expired under section 90(1)	An SI was laid on 21 April 2021 which came into force on 16 July 2021 to expire these powers.	<a href="#">The Coronavirus Act 2020 (Early Expiry) Regulations 2021 (legislation.gov.uk)</a>
Section 79	Business Improvement Districts (BIDs).	Expired under section 90(1)	An SI was laid on 21 April 2021 which came into force on 16 July 2021 to expire these powers.	<a href="#">The Coronavirus Act 2020 (Early Expiry) Regulations 2021 (legislation.gov.uk)</a>
Section 84	Postponement of General Synod elections.	Expired under section 90(1)	An SI was laid on 21 April 2021 which came into force on 16 July 2021 to expire these powers.	<a href="#">The Coronavirus Act 2020 (Early Expiry) Regulations 2021 (legislation.gov.uk)</a>
Section 22	Appointment of temporary Judicial Commissioners	Suspended under section 88(2)	An SI was made on 20 April 2021 which came into force on 21 April	<a href="#">The Coronavirus Act 2020 (Suspension: Temporary Judicial Commissioners,</a>

			2021 to suspend these powers.	<a href="#">Urgent Warrants, and Disposal of Bodies) Regulations 2021</a>
Section 23	Time limits in relation to urgent warrants etc under Investigatory Powers Act	Suspended under section 88(2)	An SI was made on 20 April 2021 which came into force on 21 April 2021 to suspend these powers.	<a href="#">The Coronavirus Act 2020 (Suspension: Temporary Judicial Commissioners, Urgent Warrants, and Disposal of Bodies) Regulations 2021</a>
Section 58 (parts 2 and 3)	Powers in relation to transportation, storage and disposal of dead bodies etc	Suspended under section 88(2)	An SI was made on 20 April 2021 which came into force on 21 April 2021 to suspend these powers.	<a href="#">The Coronavirus Act 2020 (Suspension: Temporary Judicial Commissioners, Urgent Warrants, and Disposal of Bodies) Regulations 2021</a>
Section 81 (Schedule 29)	Residential tenancies: England and Wales: Protection from eviction	Suspended under section 88(2)	An SI was made on 8 September 2021 which came into force on 1 October 2021 to suspend these powers.	<a href="#">The Coronavirus Act 2020 (Residential Tenancies and Notices) (Amendment and Suspension) (England) Regulations 2021</a>
Section 58 (Schedule 28) parts 1, 4 and 5	Powers in relation to transportation, storage and disposal of dead bodies etc	Suspended under section 88(2)	An SI was made on 27 October 2021 which came into force on 28 October 2021 to suspend these powers.	<a href="#">The Coronavirus Act 2020 (Suspension: Disposal of Bodies) (England) Regulations 2021</a> (legislation.gov.uk)
Section 23	Time limits in relation to urgent warrants etc under Investigatory Powers Act	Expired under section 90(1)	An SI was laid on 27 October 2021 which came into force on 9 December 2021 to expire these powers.	<a href="#">The Coronavirus Act 2020 (Early Expiry) (No. 2) Regulations 2021</a> (legislation.gov.uk)
Section 37 (Schedule 16)	Temporary closure of educational institutions and childcare premises	Expired under section 90(1)	An SI was laid on 27 October 2021 which came into force on 9 December 2021 to expire these powers.	<a href="#">The Coronavirus Act 2020 (Early Expiry) (No. 2) Regulations 2021</a> (legislation.gov.uk)
Parts of paragraph 5(5) and parts of paragraph 5(6) of Schedule 17 (section 38)	Temporary continuity: education, training and childcare	Expired under section 90(1)	An SI was laid on 27 October 2021 which came into force on 9 December 2021 to expire these powers.	<a href="#">The Coronavirus Act 2020 (Early Expiry) (No. 2) Regulations 2021</a> (legislation.gov.uk)
Section 51 (Schedule 21)	Powers relating to potentially infectious persons	Expired under section 90(1)	An SI was laid on 27 October 2021 which came into force on 9 December 2021 to expire these powers.	<a href="#">The Coronavirus Act 2020 (Early Expiry) (No. 2) Regulations 2021</a> (legislation.gov.uk)

Section 52 (Schedule 22)	Powers to issue directions relating to events, gatherings and premises	Expired under section 90(1)	An SI was laid on 27 October 2021 which came into force on 9 December 2021 to expire these powers.	<a href="#">The Coronavirus Act 2020 (Early Expiry) (No. 2) Regulations 2021 (legislation.gov.uk)</a>
Section 56 (Schedule 26)	Live links in magistrates' court appeals against requirements or restrictions imposed on a potentially infectious person	Expired under section 90(1)	An SI was laid on 27 October 2021 which came into force on 9 December 2021 to expire these powers.	<a href="#">The Coronavirus Act 2020 (Early Expiry) (No. 2) Regulations 2021 (legislation.gov.uk)</a>
Section 77	Uprating of working tax credits etc	Expired under section 90(1)	An SI was laid on 27 October 2021 which came into force on 9 December 2021 to expire these powers.	<a href="#">The Coronavirus Act 2020 (Early Expiry) (No. 2) Regulations 2021 (legislation.gov.uk)</a>
Section 78	Local Authority Meetings	Expired under section 90(1)	An SI was laid on 27 October 2021 which came into force on 9 December 2021 to expire these powers.	<a href="#">The Coronavirus Act 2020 (Early Expiry) (No. 2) Regulations 2021 (legislation.gov.uk)</a>
<b>Mental Health and Mental Capacity</b>				
Section 10,	Temporary modification of mental health and mental capacity legislation	Commencement under section 87(2)	Section 10(1) came into force on 27 March 2020 in relation to Wales and has been expired in relation to England.	<a href="#">The Coronavirus Act 2020 (Commencement No. 1) (Wales) Regulations 2020 (SI 2020/336)</a>
Section 10,	Temporary modification of mental health and mental capacity legislation	Commencement under section 87(2)	Section 10(3) and (4) came into force on 2 April 2020 in Northern Ireland.	<a href="#">The Coronavirus Act 2020 (Commencement No.1) Order (Northern Ireland) 2020 (SI 2020/58)</a>
Schedule 8	Temporary modification of mental health and mental capacity legislation	Commencement under section 87(2)	Schedule 8 (paragraphs 1 to 2 and paragraphs 11 to 13) came into force on 27 March 2020 in relation to Wales. Schedule 8 is now expired in relation to England.	<a href="#">The Coronavirus Act 2020 (Commencement No. 1) (Wales) Regulations 2020 (SI 2020/366)</a>
Schedule 10	Temporary modification of mental health and mental capacity legislation	Commencement under section 87(2)	Schedule 10 came into force on 2 April 2020 in Northern Ireland.	<a href="#">The Coronavirus Act 2020 (Commencement No.1) Order (Northern Ireland) 2020 (SI 2020/58)</a>
Schedule 11	Temporary modification of mental health and mental capacity legislation	Commencement under section 87(2)	Schedule 11 (paragraphs 1 to 10, 19, 20 (so far as it relates to paragraphs 5 and 9 only) and 22) came into	<a href="#">The Coronavirus Act 2020 (Commencement No.1) Order (Northern Ireland) 2020 (SI 2020/58)</a>

			force on 2 April 2020 in Northern Ireland.	
Section 10 (1) and parts 1 and 2 of Schedule 8 Parts 5, 6, 7 and 8 of Schedule 8	Temporary modification of mental health and mental capacity legislation	Expired	The early sunseting of these provisions was made on 8 December 2020 and came into force 9 December 2020.	<a href="#">The Coronavirus Act 2020 (Expiry of Mental Health Provisions) (England and Wales) Regulations 2020 (SI 2020/1467)</a>
<b>NHS and local authority care and support</b>				
Section 15, Schedule 12	Local Authority care and support	Commencement under section 87(2)	Section 15 (in relation to England) and part 1 of Schedule 12 (powers and duties of local authorities in England) came into force on 31 March 2020	<a href="#">The Coronavirus Act 2020 (Commencement No. 2) Regulations 2020 (SI 2020/388)</a>
Section 15, Schedule 12	Local Authority care and support	Commencement under section 87(2)	Section 15 (in relation to Wales) and part 2 of Schedule 12 (powers and duties of local authorities in Wales) came into force on 1 April 2020	<a href="#">The Coronavirus Act 2020 (Commencement No. 1) (Wales) Regulations 2020 (SI 2020/366)</a>
Section 16	Duty of local authority to assess needs: Scotland	Commencement under section 87(2)	Came into force on 5 April 2020	<a href="#">The Coronavirus Act 2020 (Commencement No. 1) (Scotland) Regulations 2020 (SI 2020/121)</a>
Section 17	Section 16: further provision	Commencement under section 87(2)	Came into force on 5 April 2020	<a href="#">The Coronavirus Act 2020 (Commencement No. 1) (Scotland) Regulations 2020 (SI 2020/121)</a>
<b>Registration of deaths and stillbirths</b>				
Section 18, Schedule 13	Registration of deaths and stillbirths etc	Commencement under section 87(2)	Came into force on 26 March 2020	<a href="#">The Coronavirus Act 2020 (Commencement No. 1) Regulations 2020 (SI 2020/361)</a>
Section 19	Confirmatory medical certificate not required for cremations: England and Wales	Commencement under section 87(2)	Came into force on 26 March 2020	<a href="#">The Coronavirus Act 2020 (Commencement No. 1) Regulations 2020 (SI 2020/361)</a>
Section 21	Modifications of requirements regarding medical certificates for	Commencement under section 87(2)	Came into force on 26 March 2020	<a href="#">The Coronavirus Act 2020 (Commencement No. 1) Regulations 2020 (SI 2020/361)</a>

	cremations: Northern Ireland			
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