

PART 2

EXEMPTED DEVELOPMENT

Interpretation
for this Part.

5. (1) In this Part—

“aerodrome” means any definite and limited area (including water) intended to be used, either wholly or in part, for or in connection with the landing or departure of aircraft;

“airport” means an area of land comprising an aerodrome and any buildings, roads and car parks connected to the aerodrome and used by the airport authority in connection with the operation thereof;

“airport operational building” means a building other than a hotel, required in connection with the movement or maintenance of aircraft, or with the embarking, disembarking, loading, discharge or transport of passengers, livestock or goods at an airport;

“amusement arcade” means premises used for the playing of gaming machines, video games or other amusement machines;

“betting office” means premises for the time being registered in the register of bookmaking offices kept by the Revenue Commissioners under the Betting Act, 1931 (No. 27 of 1931);

“business premises” means—

(a) any structure or other land (not being an excluded premises) which is normally used for the carrying on of any professional, commercial or industrial undertaking or any structure (not being an excluded premises) which is normally used for the provision therein of services to persons,

(b) a hotel or public house,

(c) any structure or other land used for the purposes of, or in connection with, the functions of a State authority;

“care” means personal care, including help with physical, intellectual or social needs;

“childminding” means the activity of minding no more than 6 children, including the children, if any, of the person minding, in the house of that person, for profit or gain;

“day centre” means non-residential premises used for social or recreational purposes or for the provision of care (including occupational training);

“Director of Telecommunications Regulation” means the Director of Telecommunications Regulation appointed under the Telecommunications (Miscellaneous Provisions) Act, 1996 (No. 34 of 1996);

“excluded premises” means—

- (a) any premises used for purposes of a religious, educational, cultural, recreational or medical character,
- (b) any guest house or other premises (not being a hotel) providing overnight guest accommodation, block of flats or apartments, club, boarding house or hostel,
- (c) any structure which was designed for use as one or more dwellings, except such a structure which was used as business premises immediately before 1 October, 1964 or is so used with permission under the Act;

“fish counter” means a device capable of mechanically or electrically enumerating fish as they pass a specific point or area;

“Greater Dublin Area” means the area comprising the County Borough of Dublin and the administrative counties of Dun Laoghaire-Rathdown, Fingal, Kildare, Meath, South Dublin and Wicklow;

“house” does not, as regards development of classes 1, 2, 3, 4, 6(b)(ii), 7 or 8 specified in column 1 of Part 1 of Schedule 2, or development to which articles 10(4) or 10(5) refer, include a building designed for use or used as 2 or more dwellings or a flat, an apartment or other dwelling within such a building;

“illuminated” in relation to any advertisement, sign or other advertisement structure means illuminated

internally or externally by artificial lighting, directly or by reflection, for the purpose of advertisement, announcement or direction;

“industrial building” means a structure (not being a shop, or a structure in or adjacent to and belonging to a quarry or mine) used for the carrying on of any industrial process;

“light industrial building” means an industrial building in which the processes carried on or the plant or machinery installed are such as could be carried on or installed in any residential area without detriment to the amenity of that area by reason of noise, vibration, smell, fumes, smoke, soot, ash, dust or grit;

"industrial process" means any process which is carried on in the course of trade or business, other than agriculture, and which is-

- (a) for or incidental to the making of any article or part of an article, or
- (b) for or incidental to the altering, repairing, ornamenting, finishing, cleaning, washing, packing, canning, adapting for sale, breaking up or demolition of any article, including the getting, dressing or treatment of minerals,

and for the purposes of this paragraph, "article" includes-

- (i) a vehicle, aircraft, ship or vessel, or
- (ii) a sound recording, film, broadcast, cable programme, publication and computer program or other original database;

“industrial undertaker” means a person by whom an industrial process is carried on and “industrial undertaking” shall be construed accordingly;

“mobile telephony” means public mobile telephony;

“painting” includes any application of colour;

“repository” means a structure (excluding any land occupied therewith) where storage is the principal use and where no business is transacted other than business incidental to such storage;

“shop” means a structure used for any or all of the following purposes, where the sale, display or service is principally to visiting members of the public—

- (a) for the retail sale of goods,
- (b) as a post office,
- (c) for the sale of tickets or as a travel agency,
- (d) for the sale of sandwiches or other food for consumption off the premises, where the sale of such food is subsidiary to the main retail use,
- (e) for hairdressing,
- (f) for the display of goods for sale,
- (g) for the hiring out of domestic or personal goods or articles,
- (h) as a launderette or dry cleaners,
- (i) for the reception of goods to be washed, cleaned or repaired,

but does not include any use associated with the provision of funeral services or as a funeral home, or as a hotel, a restaurant or a public house, or for the sale of hot food for consumption off the premises, except under paragraph (d) above, or any use to which class 2 or 3 of Part 4 of Schedule 2 applies;

“supermarket” means a self-service shop selling mainly food;

“telecommunications network” means the whole of the telecommunications infrastructure and any associated physical infrastructure of any network operator;

“telecommunications service” means services which consist wholly or partly in the transmission or routing of signals on a telecommunications network or both transmission and routing;

“wholesale warehouse” means a structure where business, principally of a wholesale nature is transacted, and goods are stored or displayed

incidentally to the transaction of that business.

- (2) In Schedule 2, unless the context otherwise requires, any reference to the height of a structure, plant or machinery shall be construed as a reference to its height when measured from ground level, and for that purpose “ground level” means the level of the ground immediately adjacent to the structure, plant or machinery or, where the level of the ground where it is situated or is to be situated is not uniform, the level of the lowest part of the ground adjacent to it.

Exempted
Development.

6. (1) Subject to article 7, development of a class specified in column 1 of Part 1 of Schedule 2 shall be exempted development for the purposes of the Act, provided that such development complies with the conditions and limitations specified in column 2 of the said Part 1 opposite the mention of that class in the said column 1.
- (2) (a) Subject to article 9, development consisting of the use of a structure or other land for the exhibition of advertisements of a class specified in column 1 of Part 2 of Schedule 2 shall be exempted development for the purposes of the Act, provided that—
 - (i) such development complies with the conditions and limitations specified in column 2 of the said Part 2 opposite the mention of that class in the said column 1, and
 - (ii) the structure or other land shall not be used for the exhibition of any advertisement other than an advertisement of a class which is specified in column 1 of the said Part 2 and which complies with the conditions and limitations specified in column 2 of the said Part 2 opposite the mention of that class in the said column 1.
- (b) Subject to article 9, development consisting of the erection of any advertisement structure for the exhibition of an advertisement of any one of the classes specified in column 1 of Part 2 of Schedule 2 shall be exempted development for the purposes of the Act, provided that—
 - (i) the area of such advertisement structure which is used for the exhibition of an advertisement

does not exceed the area, if any, specified in column 2 of the said Part 2 opposite the mention of that class in the said column 1,

(ii) the advertisement structure is not used for the exhibition of advertisements other than advertisements of the class to which the exemption relates,

(iii) further to section 57 of the Act, the advertisement structure is not erected on a protected structure or a proposed protected structure save an advertisement structure referred to in Classes 5, 9 or 15 of column 1 of Part 2 of Schedule 2,

(iv) further to section 82 of the Act, the advertisement structure is not located on the exterior of a structure where the structure concerned is located within an architectural conservation area or an area specified as an architectural conservation area in a development plan for the area or, pending the variation of a development plan or the making of a new development plan, in the draft development plan, so as to materially affect the character of the area, save an advertisement structure referred to in Classes 5, 9 or 15 of column 1 of Part 2 of Schedule 2, and

(v) where the advertisement structure is within a Gaeltacht area, any advertisement exhibited is—

(I) in Irish, or

(II) in Irish and other languages, with prominence given to the Irish text, and identical content in all versions of the text.

(3) Subject to article 9, in areas other than a city, a town or an area specified in section 19(1)(b) of the Act or the excluded areas as defined in section 9 of the Local Government (Reorganisation) Act, 1985 (No. 7 of 1985), development of a class specified in column 1 of Part 3 of Schedule 2 shall be exempted development for the purposes of the Act, provided that such development complies with the conditions and limitations specified in column 2 of the said Part 3

opposite the mention of that class in the said column 1.

- (4) (a) Subject to paragraph (b), the carrying out of such works as are necessary to secure compliance with the Building Regulations, 1997 (S.I. No. 497 of 1997) shall, in the case of development consisting of the construction of a dwelling or dwellings in respect of which permission under Part IV of the Act of 1963 was granted before 1 June 1992, be exempted development.

(b) Paragraph (a) shall not apply in the case of development consisting of the construction of a building designed for use as 2 or more separate dwellings.

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| Development under other enactments. | 7. | (1) Works consisting of or incidental to the carrying out of development referred to in section 84 (4) (a) of the Environmental Protection Agency Act, 1992 (No. 7 of 1992) for the purpose of giving effect to a condition attached to a licence or revised licence granted by the Environmental Protection Agency under Part IV of the said Act shall be exempted development. |
| | | (2) Works consisting of or incidental to the carrying out of development referred to in section 54(4) (a) of the Waste Management Act, 1996 (No. 10 of 1996) for the purpose of giving effect to a condition attached to a licence or revised licence granted by the Environmental Protection Agency under Part V of the said Act shall be exempted development. |
| Works specified in a drainage scheme | 8. | Works specified in a drainage scheme confirmed by the Minister for Finance under Part II of the Arterial Drainage Act, 1945 (No. 3 of 1945) or the Arterial Drainage (Amendment) Act, 1995 (No. 14 of 1995), carried out by, on behalf of, or in partnership with, the Commissioners, with such additions, omissions, variations and deviations or other works incidental thereto, as may be found necessary by the Commissioners or their agent or partner in the course of the works, shall be exempted development. |
| Restrictions on exemption. | 9. | (1) Development to which article 6 relates shall not be exempted development for the purposes of the Act—

(a) if the carrying out of such development would—

(i) contravene a condition attached to a |

permission under the Act or be inconsistent with any use specified in a permission under the Act,

- (ii) consist of or comprise the formation, laying out or material widening of a means of access to a public road the surfaced carriageway of which exceeds 4 metres in width,
- (iii) endanger public safety by reason of traffic hazard or obstruction of road users,
- (iv) except in the case of a porch to which class 7 specified in column 1 of Part 1 of Schedule 2 applies and which complies with the conditions and limitations specified in column 2 of the said Part 1 opposite the mention of that class in the said column 1, comprise the construction, erection, extension or renewal of a building on any street so as to bring forward the building, or any part of the building, beyond the front wall of the building on either side thereof or beyond a line determined as the building line in a development plan for the area or, pending the variation of a development plan or the making of a new development plan, in the draft variation of the development plan or the draft development plan,
- (v) consist of or comprise the carrying out under a public road of works other than a connection to a wired broadcast relay service, sewer, water main, gas main or electricity supply line or cable, or any works to which class 25, 26 or 31 (a) specified in column 1 of Part 1 of Schedule 2 applies,
- (vi) interfere with the character of a landscape, or a view or prospect of special amenity value or special interest, the preservation of which is an objective of a development plan for the area in which the development is proposed or, pending the variation of a development plan or the making of a new development plan, in the draft variation of the development plan or the draft development plan,
- (vii) consist of or comprise the excavation, alteration or demolition (other than peat extraction) of places, caves, sites, features or

other objects of archaeological, geological, historical, scientific or ecological interest, the preservation of which is an objective of a development plan for the area in which the development is proposed or, pending the variation of a development plan or the making of a new development plan, in the draft variation of the development plan or the draft development plan, save any excavation, pursuant to and in accordance with a licence granted under section 26 of the National Monuments Act, 1930 (No. 2 of 1930),

- (viii) consist of or comprise the extension, alteration, repair or renewal of an unauthorised structure or a structure the use of which is an unauthorised use,
- (ix) consist of the demolition or such alteration of a building or other structure as would preclude or restrict the continuance of an existing use of a building or other structure where it is an objective of the planning authority to ensure that the building or other structure would remain available for such use and such objective has been specified in a development plan for the area or, pending the variation of a development plan or the making of a new development plan, in the draft variation of the development plan or the draft development plan,
- (x) consist of the fencing or enclosure of any land habitually open to or used by the public during the 10 years preceding such fencing or enclosure for recreational purposes or as a means of access to any seashore, mountain, lakeshore, riverbank or other place of natural beauty or recreational utility,
- (xi) obstruct any public right of way,
- (xii) further to the provisions of section 82 of the Act, consist of or comprise the carrying out of works to the exterior of a structure, where the structure concerned is located within an architectural conservation area or an area specified as an architectural conservation area in a development plan for the area or, pending the variation of a development plan or the

making of a new development plan, in the draft variation of the development plan or the draft development plan and the development would materially affect the character of the area,

- (b) in an area to which a special amenity area order relates, if such development would be development:—
 - (i) of class 1, 3, 11, 16, 21, 22, 27, 28, 29, 31, (other than paragraph (a) thereof), 33 (c) (including the laying out and use of land for golf or pitch and putt or sports involving the use of motor vehicles, aircraft or firearms), 39, 44 or 50(a) specified in column 1 of Part 1 of Schedule 2, or
 - (ii) consisting of the use of a structure or other land for the exhibition of advertisements of class 1, 4, 6, 11, 16 or 17 specified in column 1 of Part 2 of the said Schedule or the erection of an advertisement structure for the exhibition of any advertisement of any of the said classes, or
 - (iii) of class 3, 5, 6, 7, 8, 9, 10, 11, 12 or 13 specified in column 1 of Part 3 of the said Schedule, or
 - (iv) of any class of Parts 1, 2 or 3 of Schedule 2 not referred to in subparagraphs (i), (ii) and (iii) where it is stated in the order made under section 202 of the Act that such development shall be prevented or limited,
- (c) if it is development to which Part 10 applies, unless the development is required by or under any statutory provision (other than the Act or these Regulations) to comply with procedures for the purpose of giving effect to the Council Directive,
- (d) if it consists of the provision of, or modifications to, an establishment, and could have significant repercussions on major accident hazards.

- (2) Sub-article (1)(a)(vi) shall not apply where the development consists of the construction by any electricity undertaking of an overhead line or cable not exceeding 100 metres in length for the purpose of conducting electricity from a distribution or transmission line to any premises.
- Changes of use. 10. (1) Development which consists of a change of use within any one of the classes of use specified in Part 4 of Schedule 2, shall be exempted development for the purposes of the Act, provided that the development, if carried out would not—
- (a) involve the carrying out of any works other than works which are exempted development,
 - (b) contravene a condition attached to a permission under the Act,
 - (c) be inconsistent with any use specified or included in such a permission, or
 - (d) be a development where the existing use is an unauthorised use, save where such change of use consists of the resumption of a use which is not unauthorised and which has not been abandoned.
- (2) (a) A use which is ordinarily incidental to any use specified in Part 4 of Schedule 2 is not excluded from that use as an incident thereto merely by reason of its being specified in the said Part of the said Schedule as a separate use.
- (b) Nothing in any class in Part 4 of the Schedule 2 shall include any use—
- (i) as an amusement arcade,
 - (ii) as a motor service station,
 - (iii) for the sale or leasing, or display for sale or leasing, of motor vehicles,
 - (iv) for a taxi or hackney business or for the hire of motor vehicles,
 - (v) as a scrap yard, or a yard for the breaking of motor vehicles,

(vi) for the storage or distribution of minerals,

(vii) as a supermarket, the total net retail sales space of which exceeds 3,500 square metres in the greater Dublin Area and 3,000 square metres in the remainder of the State,

(vii) as a retail warehouse, the total gross retail sales space of which exceeds 6,000 square metres (including any ancillary garden centre), or

(viii) as a shop, associated with a petrol station, the total net retail sales space of which exceeds 100 square metres.

(3) Development consisting of the provision within a building occupied by, or under the control of, a State authority of a shop or restaurant for visiting members of the public shall be exempted development for the purposes of the Act.

(4) Development consisting of the use of not more than 4 bedrooms in a house, where each bedroom is used for the accommodation of not more than 4 persons as overnight guest accommodation, shall be exempted development for the purposes of the Act, provided that such development would not contravene a condition attached to a permission under the Act or be inconsistent with any use specified or included in such a permission.

(5) Development consisting of the use of a house for child minding shall be exempted development for the purposes of the Act.

Saver for certain development.

11. Development commenced prior to the coming into operation of this Part and which was exempted development for the purposes of the Act of 1963 or the 1994 Regulations, shall notwithstanding the repeal of that Act and the revocation of those Regulations, continue to be exempted development for the purposes of the Act.