



Charities Act 2006

2006 CHAPTER 50

PART 4

MISCELLANEOUS AND GENERAL

Miscellaneous

72 Disclosure of information to and by Northern Ireland regulator

- (1) This section applies if a body (referred to in this section as “the Northern Ireland regulator”) is established to exercise functions in Northern Ireland which are similar in nature to the functions exercised in England and Wales by the Charity Commission.
- (2) The [^{F1}Secretary of State] may by regulations authorise relevant public authorities to disclose information to the Northern Ireland regulator for the purpose of enabling or assisting the Northern Ireland regulator to discharge any of its functions.
- (3) If the regulations authorise the disclosure of Revenue and Customs information, they must contain provision in relation to that disclosure which corresponds to the provision made in relation to the disclosure of such information by [^{F2}section 55 of the Charities Act 2011]^{F3}....
- (4) In the case of information disclosed to the Northern Ireland regulator pursuant to regulations made under this section, any power of the Northern Ireland regulator to disclose the information is exercisable subject to any express restriction subject to which the information was disclosed to the Northern Ireland regulator.
- (5) Subsection (4) does not apply in relation to Revenue and Customs information disclosed to the Northern Ireland regulator pursuant to regulations made under this section; but any such information may not be further disclosed except with the consent of the Commissioners for Her Majesty's Revenue and Customs.
- (6) Any person specified, or of a description specified, in regulations made under this section who discloses information in contravention of subsection (5) is guilty of an offence and liable—

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- (a) on summary conviction, to imprisonment for a term not exceeding [^{F4}the general limit in a magistrates' court] or to a fine not exceeding the statutory maximum, or both;
 - (b) on conviction on indictment, to imprisonment for a term not exceeding two years or to a fine, or both.
- (7) It is a defence for a person charged with an offence under subsection (5) of disclosing information to prove that he reasonably believed—
- (a) that the disclosure was lawful, or
 - (b) that the information had already and lawfully been made available to the public.
- (8) In the application of this section to Scotland or Northern Ireland, the reference to 12 months in subsection (6) is to be read as a reference to 6 months.
- (9) In this section—
- “relevant public authority” means—
- (a) any government department (other than a Northern Ireland department),
 - (b) any local authority in England, Wales or Scotland,
 - (c) any person who is a constable in England and Wales or Scotland,
 - (d) any other body or person discharging functions of a public nature (including a body or person discharging regulatory functions in relation to any description of activities), except a body or person whose functions are exercisable only or mainly in or as regards Northern Ireland and relate only or mainly to transferred matters;
- “Revenue and Customs information” means information held as mentioned in section 18(1) of the Commissioners for Revenue and Customs Act 2005 (c. 11);
- “transferred matter” has the same meaning as in the Northern Ireland Act 1998 (c. 47).

Textual Amendments

- F1** Words in s. 72(2) substituted (9.11.2016) by [The Transfer of Functions \(Elections, Referendums, Third Sector and Information\) Order 2016 \(S.I. 2016/997\)](#), art. 1(2), **Sch. 2 para. 19(2)(b)** (with art. 12)
- F2** Words in s. 72(3) substituted (14.3.2012) by [Charities Act 2011 \(c. 25\)](#), s. 355, **Sch. 7 para. 119** (with s. 20(2), [Sch. 8](#))
- F3** Words in s. 72(3) repealed (with effect in accordance with s. 1184(1) of the commencing Act) by [Corporation Tax Act 2010 \(c. 4\)](#), s. 1184(1), [Sch. 1 para. 493](#), **Sch. 3 Pt. 1** (with [Sch. 2](#))
- F4** Words in s. 72(6)(a) substituted (7.2.2023 at 12.00 p.m.) by [The Judicial Review and Courts Act 2022 \(Magistrates' Court Sentencing Powers\) Regulations 2023 \(S.I. 2023/149\)](#), regs. 1(2), 2(1), **Sch. Pt. 1**

Modifications etc. (not altering text)

- C1** S. 72 functions transferred (9.11.2016) by [The Transfer of Functions \(Elections, Referendums, Third Sector and Information\) Order 2016 \(S.I. 2016/997\)](#), arts. 1(2), **10(2)(e)** (with arts. 10(3), 11, 12)

Commencement Information

- I1** S. 72 in force at 27.2.2007 by [S.I. 2007/309](#), art. 2, **Sch.**

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73 Report on operation of this Act

- (1) The [^{F5}Secretary of State] must, before the end of the period of five years beginning with the day on which this Act is passed, appoint a person to review generally the operation of this Act.
- (2) The review must address, in particular, the following matters—
 - (a) the effect of the Act on—
 - (i) excepted charities,
 - (ii) public confidence in charities,
 - (iii) the level of charitable donations, and
 - (iv) the willingness of individuals to volunteer,
 - (b) the status of the Charity Commission as a government department, and
 - (c) any other matters the Minister considers appropriate.
- (3) After the person appointed under subsection (1) has completed his review, he must compile a report of his conclusions.
- (4) The [^{F6}Secretary of State] must lay before Parliament a copy of the report mentioned in subsection (3).
- (5) For the purposes of this section a charity is an excepted charity if—
 - (a) it falls within paragraph (b) or (c) of section 3A(2) of the 1993 Act (as amended by section 9 of this Act), or
 - (b) it does not fall within either of those paragraphs but, immediately before [^{F7}31 January 2009], it fell within section 3(5)(b) or (5B)(b) of the 1993 Act.
- [^{F8}(6) This section has effect, in relation to any time occurring on or after the commencement of the Charities Act 2011 as if—
 - (a) the reference in subsection (1) to the operation of this Act included (in relation to provisions of this Act repealed and re-enacted by the 2011 Act) a reference to the operation of the 2011 Act,
 - (b) the reference in subsection (2)(a) to the effect of the Act included (in relation to provisions of this Act repealed and re-enacted by the 2011 Act) a reference to the effect of the 2011 Act, and
 - (c) the reference in subsection (5)(a) to paragraph (b) or (c) of section 3A(2) of the 1993 Act (as amended by section 9 of this Act) were a reference to paragraph (b) or (c) of section 30(2) of the 2011 Act.]

Textual Amendments

- F5** Words in s. 73(1) substituted (9.11.2016) by [The Transfer of Functions \(Elections, Referendums, Third Sector and Information\) Order 2016 \(S.I. 2016/997\)](#), art. 1(2), [Sch. 2 para. 19\(2\)\(c\)](#) (with art. 12)
- F6** Words in s. 73(4) substituted (9.11.2016) by [The Transfer of Functions \(Elections, Referendums, Third Sector and Information\) Order 2016 \(S.I. 2016/997\)](#), art. 1(2), [Sch. 2 para. 19\(2\)\(c\)](#) (with art. 12)
- F7** Words in s. 73(5)(b) substituted (14.3.2012) by [Charities Act 2011 \(c. 25\)](#), s. 355, [Sch. 7 para. 120\(1\)](#) (with s. 20(2), [Sch. 8](#))
- F8** S. 73(6) inserted (14.3.2012) by [Charities Act 2011 \(c. 25\)](#), s. 355, [Sch. 7 para. 120\(2\)](#) (with s. 20(2), [Sch. 8](#))

Changes to legislation: There are currently no known outstanding effects for the Charities Act 2006, Part 4. (See end of Document for details)

Modifications etc. (not altering text)

- C2** S. 73 functions transferred (9.11.2016) by [The Transfer of Functions \(Elections, Referendums, Third Sector and Information\) Order 2016 \(S.I. 2016/997\)](#), arts. 1(2), **10(2)(e)** (with arts. 10(3), 11, 12)

Commencement Information

- I2** S. 73 in force at 31.1.2009 by [S.I. 2008/3267](#), art. 2, [Sch.](#) (with arts. 3-27) (as amended: (29.9.2009) by [S.I. 2009/2648](#), art. 3; (26.7.2010) by [S.I. 2010/1942](#), art. 2; and (1.8.2011) by [S.I. 2011/1725](#), arts. 1(2), 3, Sch. para. 6)

General

74 Orders and regulations

- (1) Any power of a relevant Minister to make an order or regulations under this Act is exercisable by statutory instrument.
- (2) Any such power—
- may be exercised so as to make different provision for different cases or descriptions of case or different purposes or areas, and
 - includes power to make such incidental, supplementary, consequential, transitory, transitional or saving provision as the relevant Minister considers appropriate.
- (3) Subject to subsection (4), orders or regulations made by a relevant Minister under this Act are to be subject to annulment in pursuance of a resolution of either House of Parliament.
- (4) Subsection (3) does not apply to—
- ^{F9}(a)
 - ^{F9}(b)
 - any regulations under section 72,
 - any order under section 75(4) which amends or repeals any provision of an Act or an Act of the Scottish Parliament,
 - any order under section ^{F10}... 77, or
 - any order under section 79(2).
- (5) No order or regulations within subsection (4) ^{F11}... (c), (d) or (e) may be made by a relevant Minister (whether alone or with other provisions) unless a draft of the order or regulations has been laid before, and approved by resolution of, each House of Parliament.
- ^{F12}(6)
- (7) In this section “relevant Minister” means the Secretary of State or the Minister for the Cabinet Office.

Textual Amendments

- F9** S. 74(4)(a)(b) repealed (14.3.2012) by [Charities Act 2011 \(c. 25\)](#), s. 355, Sch. 7 para. 121(1)(a), [Sch. 10](#) (with s. 20(2), [Sch. 8](#))

Changes to legislation: There are currently no known outstanding effects for the Charities Act 2006, Part 4. (See end of Document for details)

- F10** Words in s. 74(4)(e) repealed (14.3.2012) by [Charities Act 2011 \(c. 25\)](#), s. 355, Sch. 7 para. 121(1)(b), [Sch. 10](#) (with s. 20(2), [Sch. 8](#))
- F11** Words in s. 74(5) repealed (14.3.2012) by [Charities Act 2011 \(c. 25\)](#), s. 355, Sch. 7 para. 121(2), [Sch. 10](#) (with s. 20(2), [Sch. 8](#))
- F12** S. 74(6) repealed (14.3.2012) by [Charities Act 2011 \(c. 25\)](#), s. 355, Sch. 7 para. 121(3), [Sch. 10](#) (with s. 20(2), [Sch. 8](#))

75 Amendments, repeals, revocations and transitional provisions

- (1) Schedule 8 contains minor and consequential amendments.
- (2) Schedule 9 makes provision for the repeal and revocation of enactments (including enactments which are spent).
- (3) Schedule 10 contains transitional provisions and savings.
- (4) A relevant Minister may by order make—
 - (a) such supplementary, incidental or consequential provision, or
 - (b) such transitory, transitional or saving provision,as he considers appropriate for the general purposes, or any particular purposes, of this Act or in consequence of, or for giving full effect to, any provision made by this Act.
- (5) An order under subsection (4) may amend, repeal, revoke or otherwise modify any enactment (including an enactment restating, with or without modifications, an enactment amended by this Act).
- (6) In this section “relevant Minister” means the Secretary of State or the Minister for the Cabinet Office.

Commencement Information

- I3** S. 75 partly in force; s. 75(1) in force at Royal Assent for certain purposes, see s. 79(1)(g); s. 75(4)(5) in force at Royal Assent, see s. 79(1)(c)
- I4** S. 75(1)-(3) in force at 27.2.2007 for specified purposes by [S.I. 2007/309](#), art. 2, [Sch.](#)
- I5** S. 75(1)-(3) in force at 18.3.2008 for specified purposes by [S.I. 2008/751](#), art. 2, [Sch.](#)
- I6** S. 75(1)-(3) in force at 1.4.2008 for specified purposes by [S.I. 2008/945](#), art. 2, [Sch. 1](#) (with arts. 4, 5)
- I7** S. 75(1)(3) in force at 1.4.2008 for specified purposes by [S.I. 2007/3286](#), art. 3, [Sch. 2](#) (with art. 4)
- I8** S. 75(1)-(3) in force at 31.1.2009 for specified purposes by [S.I. 2008/3267](#), art. 2, [Sch.](#) (with arts. 3-27) (as amended: (29.9.2009) by [S.I. 2009/2648](#), art. 3; (26.7.2010) by [S.I. 2010/1942](#), art. 2; and (1.8.2011) by [S.I. 2011/1725](#), arts. 1(2), 3, Sch. para. 6)
- I9** S. 75(1)(2) in force at 30.9.2009 for specified purposes by [S.I. 2009/2648](#), art. 2(2)(c)
- I10** S. 75(1)-(3) in force at 1.6.2010 for specified purposes by [S.I. 2010/503](#), art. 2, [Sch. 1](#) (with [Sch. 2](#))
- I11** S. 75(1)-(3) in force at 1.8.2011 for specified purposes by [S.I. 2011/1728](#), art. 2, [Sch. 1](#) (with [Sch. 2](#))
- I12** S. 75(2)(3) in force at 28.11.2007 for specified purposes by [S.I. 2007/3286](#), art. 2, [Sch. 1](#)
- I13** S. 75(2)(3) in force at 1.4.2010 for specified purposes by [S.I. 2008/945](#), art. 2A, [Sch. 1A](#) (as inserted (30.3.2009) by [S.I. 2009/841](#), art. 2(2)(6))
- I14** S. 75(6) in force at 27.2.2007 by [S.I. 2007/309](#), art. 2, [Sch.](#)

^{F13}76 Pre-consolidation amendments

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Changes to legislation: There are currently no known outstanding effects for the Charities Act 2006, Part 4. (See end of Document for details)

Textual Amendments

- F13** S. 76 repealed (14.3.2012) by [Charities Act 2011 \(c. 25\)](#), s. 355, [Sch. 7 para. 122](#), [Sch. 10](#) (with s. 20(2), [Sch. 8](#))

77 Amendments reflecting changes in company law audit provisions

- (1) The [^{F14}Secretary of State] may by order make such amendments of the 1993 Act or this Act as he considers appropriate—
- (a) in consequence of, or in connection with, any changes made or to be made by any enactment to the provisions of company law relating to the accounts of charitable companies or to the auditing of, or preparation of reports in respect of, such accounts;
 - (b) for the purposes of, or in connection with, applying provisions of Schedule 5A to the 1993 Act (group accounts) to charitable companies that are not required to produce group accounts under company law.
- (2) In this section—
- “accounts” includes group accounts;
 - “amendments” includes repeals and modifications;
 - “charitable companies” means companies which are charities;
 - “company law” means the enactments relating to companies.

Textual Amendments

- F14** Words in s. 77 substituted (9.11.2016) by [The Transfer of Functions \(Elections, Referendums, Third Sector and Information\) Order 2016 \(S.I. 2016/997\)](#), art. 1(2), [Sch. 2 para. 19\(2\)\(d\)](#) (with art. 12)

Modifications etc. (not altering text)

- C3** S. 77 functions transferred (9.11.2016) by [The Transfer of Functions \(Elections, Referendums, Third Sector and Information\) Order 2016 \(S.I. 2016/997\)](#), arts. 1(2), [10\(2\)\(e\)](#) (with arts. 10(3), 11, 12)

78 Interpretation

- (1) In this Act—
- “the 1992 Act” means the Charities Act 1992 (c. 41);
 - “the 1993 Act” means the Charities Act 1993 (c. 10).
- (2) In this Act—
- ^{F15}(a)
 - (b) “charitable purposes” has [^{F16}(in accordance with section 2(2) of the Charities Act 2011) the meaning given by section 2(1) of that Act]; and
 - (c) “charity trustees” has the same meaning as in [^{F17}that Act];
- ^{F18} ...
- ^{F19}(3)
- (4) In this Act “enactment” includes—

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- (a) any provision of subordinate legislation (within the meaning of the Interpretation Act 1978 (c. 30)),
 - (b) a provision of a Measure of the Church Assembly or of the General Synod of the Church of England, and
 - (c) (in the context of section ^{F20}... 75(5)) any provision made by or under an Act of the Scottish Parliament or Northern Ireland legislation,
- and references to enactments include enactments passed or made after the passing of this Act.
- (5) In this Act “institution” means an institution whether incorporated or not, and includes a trust or undertaking.
- ^{F21}(6)
- (7) Subsections (2) to (5) apply except where the context otherwise requires.

Textual Amendments

- F15** S. 78(2)(a) repealed (14.3.2012) by [Charities Act 2011 \(c. 25\)](#), s. 355, [Sch. 7 para. 123\(1\)\(a\)](#), [Sch. 10](#) (with [s. 20\(2\)](#), [Sch. 8](#))
- F16** Words in s. 78(2)(b) substituted (14.3.2012) by [Charities Act 2011 \(c. 25\)](#), s. 355, [Sch. 7 para. 123\(1\)\(b\)](#), [Sch. 10](#) (with [s. 20\(2\)](#), [Sch. 8](#))
- F17** Words in s. 78(2)(c) substituted (14.3.2012) by [Charities Act 2011 \(c. 25\)](#), s. 355, [Sch. 7 para. 123\(1\)\(c\)](#) (with [s. 20\(2\)](#), [Sch. 8](#))
- F18** Words in s. 78(2) repealed (14.3.2012) by [Charities Act 2011 \(c. 25\)](#), s. 355, [Sch. 7 para. 123\(1\)\(d\)](#), [Sch. 10](#) (with [s. 20\(2\)](#), [Sch. 8](#))
- F19** S. 78(3) repealed (14.3.2012) by [Charities Act 2011 \(c. 25\)](#), s. 355, [Sch. 7 para. 123\(2\)](#), [Sch. 10](#) (with [s. 20\(2\)](#), [Sch. 8](#))
- F20** Words in s. 78(4)(c) repealed (14.3.2012) by [Charities Act 2011 \(c. 25\)](#), s. 355, [Sch. 7 para. 123\(3\)](#), [Sch. 10](#) (with [s. 20\(2\)](#), [Sch. 8](#))
- F21** Words in s. 78(6) omitted (9.11.2016) by virtue of [The Transfer of Functions \(Elections, Referendums, Third Sector and Information\) Order 2016 \(S.I. 2016/997\)](#), art. 1(2), [Sch. 2 para. 19\(3\)](#) (with art. 12)

79 Commencement

- (1) The following provisions come into force on the day on which this Act is passed—
- ^{F22}(a)
 - (b) section 74,
 - (c) section 75(4) and (5),
 - (d) section 78,
 - (e) section 77,
 - (f) this section and section 80, and
 - (g) the following provisions of Schedule 8—
 - paragraph 90(2),
 - ^{F23}...
- and section 75(1) so far as relating to those provisions.
- (2) Otherwise, this Act comes into force on such day as the [^{F24}Secretary of State] may by order appoint.
- (3) An order under subsection (2)—

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- (a) may appoint different days for different purposes or different areas;
- (b) make such provision as the [^{F25}Secretary of State] considers necessary or expedient for transitory, transitional or saving purposes in connection with the coming into force of any provision of this Act.

Textual Amendments

- F22** S. 79(1)(a) repealed (14.3.2012) by Charities Act 2011 (c. 25), s. 355, Sch. 7 para. 124(a), Sch. 10 (with s. 20(2), Sch. 8)
- F23** Words in s. 79(1)(g) repealed (14.3.2012) by Charities Act 2011 (c. 25), s. 355, Sch. 7 para. 124(b), Sch. 10 (with s. 20(2), Sch. 8)
- F24** Words in s. 79(2) substituted (9.11.2016) by The Transfer of Functions (Elections, Referendums, Third Sector and Information) Order 2016 (S.I. 2016/997), art. 1(2), Sch. 2 para. 19(2)(e) (with art. 12)
- F25** Words in s. 79(3) substituted (9.11.2016) by The Transfer of Functions (Elections, Referendums, Third Sector and Information) Order 2016 (S.I. 2016/997), art. 1(2), Sch. 2 para. 19(2)(e) (with art. 12)

Modifications etc. (not altering text)

- C4** S. 79 functions transferred (9.11.2016) by The Transfer of Functions (Elections, Referendums, Third Sector and Information) Order 2016 (S.I. 2016/997), arts. 1(2), 10(2)(e) (with arts. 10(3), 11, 12)

80 Short title and extent

- (1) This Act may be cited as the Charities Act 2006.
- (2) Subject to subsections (3) to (7), this Act extends to England and Wales only.
- (3) The following provisions extend also to Scotland—
 - ^{F26}(a)
 - ^{F26}(b)
 - (c) sections 72 and 74,
 - ^{F26}(d) and
 - (e) section 75(4) and (5), sections [^{F27}77] to 79 and this section.
- ^{F28}(4)
- (5) The following provisions extend also to Northern Ireland—
 - ^{F29}(a)
 - ^{F29}(b)
 - ^{F29}(c)
 - (d) sections 72 and 74,
 - ^{F29}(e) and
 - (f) section 75(4) and (5), sections [^{F30}77] to 79 and this section.
- ^{F31}(6)
- (7) Any amendment, repeal or revocation made by this Act has the same extent as the enactment to which it relates.
- ^{F32}(8)
- (9) Subsection (7) ^{F33}... does not apply to—
 - ^{F34}(a)

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- (b) [^{F35}the amendments] made by Schedule 8 in the Police, Factories, &c. (Miscellaneous Provisions) Act 1916 (c. 31), or
- (c) the repeal made in that Act by Schedule 9,
- which extend to England and Wales only.

Textual Amendments

- F26** S. 80(3)(a)(b)(d) repealed (14.3.2012) by [Charities Act 2011 \(c. 25\)](#), s. 355, Sch. 7 para. 125(a), **Sch. 10** (with s. 20(2), Sch. 8)
- F27** Figure in s. 80(3)(e) substituted (14.3.2012) by [Charities Act 2011 \(c. 25\)](#), s. 355, **Sch. 7 para. 125(b)** (with s. 20(2), Sch. 8)
- F28** S. 80(4) repealed (14.3.2012) by [Charities Act 2011 \(c. 25\)](#), s. 355, Sch. 7 para. 125(a), **Sch. 10** (with s. 20(2), Sch. 8)
- F29** S. 80(5)(a)-(c)(e) repealed (14.3.2012) by [Charities Act 2011 \(c. 25\)](#), s. 355, Sch. 7 para. 125(a), **Sch. 10** (with s. 20(2), Sch. 8)
- F30** Figure in s. 80(5)(f) substituted (14.3.2012) by [Charities Act 2011 \(c. 25\)](#), s. 355, **Sch. 7 para. 125(b)** (with s. 20(2), Sch. 8)
- F31** S. 80(6) repealed (14.3.2012) by [Charities Act 2011 \(c. 25\)](#), s. 355, Sch. 7 para. 125(a), **Sch. 10** (with s. 20(2), Sch. 8)
- F32** S. 80(8) repealed (14.3.2012) by [Charities Act 2011 \(c. 25\)](#), s. 355, Sch. 7 para. 125(a), **Sch. 10** (with s. 20(2), Sch. 8)
- F33** Word in s. 80(9) repealed (14.3.2012) by [Charities Act 2011 \(c. 25\)](#), s. 355, Sch. 7 para. 125(c)(i), **Sch. 10** (with s. 20(2), Sch. 8)
- F34** S. 80(9)(a) repealed (14.3.2012) by [Charities Act 2011 \(c. 25\)](#), s. 355, Sch. 7 para. 125(c)(i), **Sch. 10** (with s. 20(2), Sch. 8)
- F35** Words in s. 80(9)(b) substituted (14.3.2012) by [Charities Act 2011 \(c. 25\)](#), s. 355, Sch. 7 para. 125(c)(ii), **Sch. 10** (with s. 20(2), Sch. 8)

Changes to legislation:

There are currently no known outstanding effects for the Charities Act 2006, Part 4.