

# Legislative and Regulatory Reform Act 2006

# **2006 CHAPTER 51**

#### PART 2

### REGULATORS

## Exercise of regulatory functions

# 21 Principles

- (1) Any person exercising a regulatory function to which this section applies must have regard to the principles in subsection (2) in the exercise of the function.
- (2) Those principles are that—
  - (a) regulatory activities should be carried out in a way which is transparent, accountable, proportionate and consistent;
  - (b) regulatory activities should be targeted only at cases in which action is needed.
- (3) The duty in subsection (1) is subject to any other requirement affecting the exercise of the regulatory function.

# 22 Code of practice

- (1) A Minister of the Crown may issue and from time to time revise a code of practice in relation to the exercise of regulatory functions.
- (2) Any person exercising a regulatory function to which this section applies must, except in a case where subsection (3) applies, have regard to the code in determining any general policy or principles by reference to which the person exercises the function.
- (3) Any person exercising a regulatory function to which this section applies which is a function of setting standards or giving guidance generally in relation to the exercise of other regulatory functions must have regard to the code in the exercise of the function.

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(4) The duties in subsections (2) and (3) are subject to any other requirement affecting the exercise of the regulatory function.

# 23 Code of practice: procedure

- (1) Where a Minister of the Crown proposes to issue or revise a code of practice under section 22, he shall prepare a draft of the code (or revised code).
- (2) The Minister shall, in preparing the draft, seek to secure that it is consistent with the principles specified in section 21(2).
- (3) The Minister shall consult the following about the draft—
  - (a) persons appearing to him to be representative of persons exercising regulatory functions;
  - (b) such other persons as he considers appropriate.
- (4) If the Minister determines to proceed with the draft (either in its original form or with modifications) he shall lay the draft before Parliament.
- (5) Where the draft laid before Parliament under subsection (4) is approved by resolution of each House of Parliament, the Minister may issue the code (or revised code).
- (6) A code (or revised code) issued under subsection (5) shall come into force on such date as the Minister may by order made by statutory instrument appoint.

# **Subordinate Legislation Made**

P1 S. 23(6) power fully exercised: 6.4.2008 appointed by {S.I. 2007/3548}, art. 2

# Functions to which sections 21 and 22 apply

- (1) Sections 21 and 22 apply to regulatory functions specified under this section.
- (2) A Minister of the Crown may by order in accordance with this section specify regulatory functions as functions to which sections 21 and 22 apply.
- (3) A Minister may not under subsection (2) specify—
  - (a) a regulatory function so far as exercisable in Scotland, if or to the extent that the function relates to matters which are not reserved matters;
  - (b) a regulatory function so far as exercisable in Northern Ireland, if or to the extent that the function relates to matters which are transferred matters; or
  - [F1(c) a Welsh regulatory function.]
- (4) [F2The Welsh Ministers] may by order in accordance with this section specify [F3Welsh regulatory functions] as functions to which sections 21 and 22 apply.

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- (6) Before making an order under this section, the authority making the order must consult the following—
  - (a) any person (other than the authority) whose functions are to be specified in the order;
  - (b) such other persons as the authority considers appropriate.

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- (7) An order under this section may make such consequential, supplementary, incidental, or transitional provision (including provision amending any enactment) as the authority making it considers appropriate; and may make different provision for different purposes.
- (8) An order under this section must be made by statutory instrument.
- (9) A Minister of the Crown may not make a statutory instrument containing an order under this section unless a draft has been laid before, and approved by resolution of, each House of Parliament.
- [F5(9A) The Welsh Ministers may not make a statutory instrument containing an order under this section unless a draft has been laid before, and approved by resolution of, the Assembly.]
  - (10) In this section—

"reserved matter" and "Scotland" have the same meanings as in the Scotland Act 1998 (c. 46);

"transferred matter" and "Northern Ireland" have the same meanings as in the Northern Ireland Act 1998 (c. 47);

"Wales" has the same meaning as in the [F6Government of Wales Act 2006].
F7...

- [F8(11) For the purposes of this section a regulatory function is a ""Welsh regulatory function" if or to the extent that it is exercisable in relation to Wales and is a function which—
  - (a) could be conferred by provision falling within the legislative competence of the National Assembly for Wales (see section 108A of the Government of Wales Act 2006), or
  - (b) relates to matters in respect of which functions are exercisable by the Welsh Ministers.]

### **Textual Amendments**

- F1 S. 24(3)(c) substituted (1.10.2016) by Enterprise Act 2016 (c. 12), ss. 17(a), 44(5); S.I. 2016/695, art. 3(a)
- Words in s. 24(4) substituted by The Government of Wales Act 2006 (Consequential Modifications and Transitional Provisions) Order 2007 (S.I. 2007/1388), arts. 1(2), 3, Sch. 1 para. 148(a)(the amendment coming into force immediately after the end of "the initial period" (which ended with the day of the first appointment of a First Minister on 25.5.2007) in accordance with art. 1(2)(3) of the amending S.I. and see ss. 46, 161(5) of Government of Wales Act 2006 (c. 32))
- F3 Words in s. 24(4) substituted (1.10.2016) by Enterprise Act 2016 (c. 12), ss. 17(b), 44(5); S.I. 2016/695, art. 3(a)
- F4 S. 24(5) omitted (4.7.2016) by virtue of Enterprise Act 2016 (c. 12), ss. 18, 44(2)(b)
- F5 S. 24(9A) inserted by The Government of Wales Act 2006 (Consequential Modifications and Transitional Provisions) Order 2007 (S.I. 2007/1388), arts. 1(2), 3, **Sch. 1 para. 148(b)**(the amendment coming into force immediately after the end of "the initial period" (which ended with the day of the first appointment of a First Minister on 25.5.2007) in accordance with art. 1(2)(3) of the amending S.I. and see ss. 46, 161(5) of Government of Wales Act 2006 (c. 32))
- **F6** Words in s. 24(10) substituted by The Government of Wales Act 2006 (Consequential Modifications and Transitional Provisions) Order 2007 (S.I. 2007/1388), arts. 1(2), 3, **Sch. 1 para. 148(c)** (the amendment coming into force immediately after the end of "the initial period" (which ended with the

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- day of the first appointment of a First Minister on 25.5.2007) in accordance with art. 1(2)(3) of the amending S.I. and see ss. 46, 161(5) of Government of Wales Act 2006 (c. 32))
- F7 Words in s. 24(10) omitted (1.4.2018) by virtue of Wales Act 2017 (c. 4), s. 71(4), Sch. 6 para. 66(2) (with Sch. 7 paras. 1, 6); S.I. 2017/1179, reg. 3(r)
- **F8** S. 24(11) inserted (1.4.2018) by Wales Act 2017 (c. 4), s. 71(4), **Sch. 6 para. 66(3)** (with Sch. 7 paras. 1, 6); S.I. 2017/1179, reg. 3(r)

## **Modifications etc. (not altering text)**

- C1 S. 24(6) excluded (12.1.2010) by Marine and Coastal Access Act 2009 (c. 23), ss. 3(2), 324; S.I. 2009/3345, art. 2, Sch. para. 1
- C2 S. 24(6) excluded (12.1.2010) by Marine and Coastal Access Act 2009 (c. 23), ss. 3(2), 324(3); S.I. 2009/3345, art. 2, Sch. para. 1

## **Changes to legislation:**

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Changes and effects yet to be applied to the whole Act associated Parts and Chapters: Whole provisions yet to be inserted into this Act (including any effects on those provisions):

s. 23A inserted by 2016 c. 12 s. 15