



# Insolvency Act 1986

## 1986 CHAPTER 45

### PART XIII

#### INSOLVENCY PRACTITIONERS AND THEIR QUALIFICATION

*[<sup>F1</sup>Court sanction of insolvency practitioners in public interest cases*

#### **[<sup>F1</sup>391R Direct sanctions direction instead of order**

- (1) The Secretary of State may give a direction (a “direct sanctions direction”) in relation to a person acting as an insolvency practitioner to the relevant recognised professional body (instead of applying, or continuing with an application, for a direct sanctions order against the person) if the Secretary of State is satisfied that—
  - (a) condition 1 and at least one of conditions 2, 3, 4 and 5 are met in relation to the person (see section 391Q), and
  - (b) it is in the public interest for the direction to be given.
- (2) But the Secretary of State may not give a direct sanctions direction in relation to a person without that person's consent.
- (3) A direct sanctions direction may require the relevant recognised professional body to take all necessary steps to secure that—
  - (a) the person is no longer authorised (whether fully or partially) to act as an insolvency practitioner;
  - (b) the person is no longer fully authorised to act as an insolvency practitioner but remains partially authorised to act as such either in relation to companies or individuals, as specified in the direction;
  - (c) the person's authorisation to act as an insolvency practitioner is suspended for the period specified in the direction or until such time as the requirements so specified are complied with;
  - (d) the person must comply with such other requirements as may be specified in the direction while acting as an insolvency practitioner;

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*Changes to legislation: Insolvency Act 1986, Section 391R is up to date with all changes known to be in force on or before 19 April 2024. There are changes that may be brought into force at a future date. Changes that have been made appear in the content and are referenced with annotations. (See end of Document for details) View outstanding changes*

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- (e) the person makes such contribution as may be specified in the direction to one or more creditors of a company, individual or insolvent partnership in relation to which the person is acting or has acted as an insolvency practitioner.
- (4) A direct sanctions direction must not be given in relation to a person whose authorisation to act as an insolvency practitioner was granted by the Department of Enterprise, Trade and Investment in Northern Ireland (see section 390A(2)(b)).
- (5) A direct sanctions direction must not specify a contribution as mentioned in subsection (3)(e) which is more than the remuneration that the person has received or will receive in respect of acting as an insolvency practitioner in the case.
- (6) In this section “relevant recognised professional body” has the same meaning as in section 391O.]

#### Textual Amendments

- F1** Ss. 391O-391R and cross-heading inserted (1.10.2015 immediately after 2015 c. 20, s. 17 comes into force) by [Small Business, Enterprise and Employment Act 2015 \(c. 26\)](#), **ss. 141**, 164(1); S.I. 2015/1689, reg. 3(a) (with Sch. para. 18)

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

- C1** Pt. 13 applied (with modifications) (7.4.2017) by [Building Societies Act 1986 \(1986 c. 53\)](#), **Sch. 15A** (as amended by S.I. 2017/400, regs. 1(2), **2(4)**)
- C2** Pt. 13 applied (with modifications) (7.4.2017) by [Friendly Societies Act 1992 \(1992 c. 40\)](#), **Sch. 10** (as amended by S.I. 2017/400, regs. 1(2), **3**)
- C3** Pt. 13 applied (with modifications) (7.4.2017) by [Building Societies Act 1986 \(1986 c. 53\)](#), **Sch. 15** (as amended by S.I. 2017/400, regs. 1(2), **2(3)**)
- C4** Ss. 391A-391T applied (with modifications) (7.4.2017) by [Banking Act 2009 \(2009 c. 1\)](#), **s. 145** Table 2 (as amended by S.I. 2017/400, regs. 1(2), **5(10)**)
- C5** Ss. 391A-391T applied (with modifications) (7.4.2017) by [Banking Act 2009 \(2009 c. 1\)](#), **s. 103** (as amended by S.I. 2017/400, regs. 1(2), **5(4)**)
- C6** Ss. 390-391T applied (with modifications) (E.W.S.) (8.7.2021) by [The Payment and Electronic Money Institution Insolvency Regulations 2021 \(S.I. 2021/716\)](#), regs. 2, **37** (with reg. 5) (as amended (4.1.2024) by S.I. 2023/1399, regs. 1(2), **4**, 11)

**Changes to legislation:**

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**Changes and effects yet to be applied to the whole Act associated Parts and Chapters:**

- Act amendment to earlier affecting provision S.I. 1986/1999, art. 3, Sch. 1 Pt. 2 by [S.I. 2017/1119 Sch. 3 para. 1](#)
- Act savings and transitional provisions for amendments by S.I. 2022/1166 by [S.I. 2022/1172 Regulations](#)

Whole provisions yet to be inserted into this Act (including any effects on those provisions):

- s. 41HB(2) words substituted by [2018 c. 14 s. 1\(3\)\(b\)](#)