



Communications Act 2003

2003 CHAPTER 21

PART 3

TELEVISION AND RADIO SERVICES [F1ETC]

^{F1F1}CHAPTER 4

REGULATORY PROVISIONS

Special obligations for Channel 4

295 Involvement of C4 Corporation in programme-making

- (1) The regulatory regime for Channel 4 includes a condition requiring C4C not to be involved, except to such extent as OFCOM may allow, in the making of programmes to be broadcast on Channel 4.
- (2) In this section “programme” does not include an advertisement.

Commencement Information

II S. 295 in force at 29.12.2003 by S.I. 2003/3142, art. 3(1), **Sch. 1** (with art. 11)

296 Schools programmes on Channel 4

- (1) The regulatory regime for Channel 4 includes the conditions that OFCOM consider appropriate for securing that what appears to them to be a suitable proportion of the programmes which are included in Channel 4 are schools programmes.
- (2) A licence under the 1990 Act to provide Channel 4 may also include conditions authorised by the following provisions of this section.

Changes to legislation: Communications Act 2003, Cross Heading: Special obligations for Channel 4 is up to date with all changes known to be in force on or before 25 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

- (3) The conditions authorised by this section include conditions requiring C4C—
 - (a) to finance the production of schools programmes; and
 - (b) to acquire schools programmes provided by other persons.
- (4) The conditions authorised by this section include conditions requiring C4C to ensure that schools programmes on Channel 4—
 - (a) are of high quality; and
 - (b) are suitable to meet the needs of schools throughout the United Kingdom.
- (5) The conditions authorised by this section include conditions specifying the minimum number of hours in term time, or within normal school hours, that are to be allocated to the broadcasting of schools programmes on Channel 4.
- (6) The conditions authorised by this section include conditions requiring C4C to provide such material for use in connection with the schools programmes broadcast by them as may be necessary to secure that effective use is made of those programmes in schools.
- (7) The conditions authorised by this section include conditions requiring C4C from time to time to consult such persons who—
 - (a) are concerned with schools or with the production of schools programmes, or
 - (b) have an interest in schools or in the production of schools programmes,
 as OFCOM think fit.
- (8) Before imposing a condition under this section, OFCOM must consult C4C.
- (9) The requirement to consult is satisfied, in the case of the imposition of a condition by way of a variation of a licence, by compliance with section 3(4)(b) of the 1990 Act (obligation to give opportunity to make representations about variation).
- (10) In determining for the purposes of subsection (1) what proportion of the programmes included in Channel 4 should be schools programmes, OFCOM must take into account services, facilities and materials which C4C provide to schools, or make available for schools, otherwise than by the inclusion of programmes in Channel 4.
- (11) Section 34 of the 1990 Act (requirement as to schools programmes in relation to all licensed public service channels taken together) shall cease to have effect.
- (12) In this section “schools programmes” means programmes which are intended for use in schools.

Commencement Information

I2 S. 296 in force at 29.12.2003 by S.I. 2003/3142, art. 3(1), Sch. 1 (with art. 11)

297 Channel 4 contribution towards national television archive

- (1) Section 185 of the 1990 Act (contributions towards maintenance of the national television archive) shall be amended as follows.
- (2) In subsections (1) and (3), after “Channel 3” there shall be inserted “, Channel 4”.
- (3) In subsection (5), at the end there shall be inserted—

““Channel 4 licence” means—

Changes to legislation: Communications Act 2003, Cross Heading: Special obligations for Channel 4 is up to date with all changes known to be in force on or before 25 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](#)

- (a) the licence referred to in section 231(1)(b) of the Communications Act 2003; and
 - (b) a licence renewing that licence on the first or any subsequent occasion.”
- (4) This section has effect in relation only to financial years beginning after the television transfer date.

Commencement Information

I3 S. 297 in force at 29.12.2003 by S.I. 2003/3142, art. 3(1), **Sch. 1** (with art. 11)

Changes to legislation:

Communications Act 2003, Cross Heading: Special obligations for Channel 4 is up to date with all changes known to be in force on or before 25 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.

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Changes and effects yet to be applied to :

- specified provision(s) amendment to earlier commencing SI 2003/1900, art. 3(2) by [S.I. 2003/3142 art. 1\(3\)](#)
- specified provision(s) amendment to earlier commencing SI 2003/3142 by [S.I. 2004/1492 art. 2](#)
- specified provision(s) amendment to earlier commencing SI 2003/3142 by [S.I. 2004/697 art. 2](#)
- specified provision(s) amendment to earlier commencing SI 2003/3142 art. 4 Sch. 2 by [S.I. 2004/545 art. 2](#)

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. 124Q(7)(a) words substituted by [2013 c. 22 Sch. 9 para. 52](#)
- s. 148A and cross-heading inserted by [2022 c. 46 s. 73\(2\)](#)
- s. 368E(5)(d)(e) inserted by [2017 c. 30 s. 94\(3\)](#)
- s. 402(2A)(za)(zb) inserted by [2022 c. 46 Sch. para. 2](#)
- Sch. 3A para. 21(6) inserted by [2022 c. 46 Sch. para. 3\(5\)\(b\)](#)
- Sch. 3A para. 37(3)(aza) inserted by [2022 c. 46 Sch. para. 3\(9\)](#)
- Sch. 3A para. 84(1)(aza) inserted by [2022 c. 46 Sch. para. 3\(10\)](#)
- Sch. 3A para. 103(1)(ca) inserted by [2022 c. 46 s. 70](#)
- Sch. 3A para. 119A inserted by [2022 c. 46 s. 72](#)
- Sch. 3A Pt. 4ZA inserted by [2022 c. 46 s. 67\(1\)](#)