



# Companies (Audit, Investigations and Community Enterprise) Act 2004

## 2004 CHAPTER 27

### PART 1

#### AUDITORS, ACCOUNTS, DIRECTORS' LIABILITIES AND INVESTIGATIONS

### CHAPTER 4

#### INVESTIGATIONS

## 22 Protection in relation to certain disclosures

After section 448 of the Companies Act 1985 (c. 6) insert—

### **“448A Protection in relation to certain disclosures: information provided to Secretary of State**

- (1) A person who makes a relevant disclosure is not liable by reason only of that disclosure in any proceedings relating to a breach of an obligation of confidence.
- (2) A relevant disclosure is a disclosure which satisfies each of the following conditions—
  - (a) it is made to the Secretary of State otherwise than in compliance with a requirement under this Part;
  - (b) it is of a kind that the person making the disclosure could be required to make in pursuance of this Part;
  - (c) the person who makes the disclosure does so in good faith and in the reasonable belief that the disclosure is capable of assisting the Secretary of State for the purposes of the exercise of his functions under this Part;

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**Changes to legislation:** There are currently no known outstanding effects for the Companies (Audit, Investigations and Community Enterprise) Act 2004, Section 22. (See end of Document for details)

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- (d) the information disclosed is not more than is reasonably necessary for the purpose of assisting the Secretary of State for the purposes of the exercise of those functions;
  - (e) the disclosure is not one falling within subsection (3) or (4).
- (3) A disclosure falls within this subsection if the disclosure is prohibited by virtue of any enactment.
- (4) A disclosure falls within this subsection if—
- (a) it is made by a person carrying on the business of banking or by a lawyer, and
  - (b) it involves the disclosure of information in respect of which he owes an obligation of confidence in that capacity.
- (5) An enactment includes an enactment—
- (a) comprised in, or in an instrument made under, an Act of the Scottish Parliament;
  - (b) comprised in subordinate legislation (within the meaning of the Interpretation Act 1978);
  - (c) whenever passed or made.”

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**Commencement Information**

**II** S. 22 in force at 6.4.2005 by [S.I. 2004/3322](#), [art. 2\(2\)](#), [Sch. 2](#) (with [arts. 4-13](#))

**Changes to legislation:**

There are currently no known outstanding effects for the Companies (Audit, Investigations and Community Enterprise) Act 2004, Section 22.