

Financial Services Act 2012

2012 CHAPTER 21

PART 5

INQUIRIES AND INVESTIGATIONS

Publication of reports

82 Publication of reports of inquiries and investigations

- (1) This section applies where a report is made to the Treasury under section 71 or 79.
- (2) Subject to subsection (3), the Treasury must publish the report in full.
- (3) The Treasury may withhold material in the report from publication to such extent—
 - (a) as is required by any statutory provision, enforceable EU obligation or rule of law, or
 - (b) as the Treasury consider to be necessary in the public interest, having regard in particular to the matters mentioned in subsection (4).
- (4) Those matters are—
 - (a) the extent to which withholding material might inhibit the allaying of public concern;
 - (b) the risk of harm or damage that could be avoided or reduced by withholding any material;
 - (c) any conditions of confidentiality subject to which any person acquired information that was given to the inquiry or used in the investigation.
- (5) In subsection (4)(b) "harm or damage" includes in particular—
 - (a) damage to national security or international relations;
 - (b) damage to the economic interests of the United Kingdom or a part of the United Kingdom;
 - (c) damage caused by disclosure of commercially sensitive information.
- (6) The Treasury must lay before Parliament whatever is published under subsection (2).

- (7) If the Treasury receive a report under section 71 or 79, but withhold all or part of the material in the report from publication, they must publish and lay before Parliament a statement of their reasons for not publishing the report in full.
- (8) Publication under subsection (2) or (7) is to be in such manner as the Treasury think fit.
- (9) References to a report under section 71 or 79 include references to an interim report required under section 69 or 78.