



Health and Social Care Act 2012

2012 CHAPTER 7

PART 4

NHS FOUNDATION TRUSTS & NHS TRUSTS

Mergers, acquisitions, separations and dissolution

168 Mergers

- (1) In section 56 of the National Health Service Act 2006 (mergers), in subsection (1)—
 - (a) in paragraph (b), after “NHS trust” insert “established under section 25”, and
 - (b) for the words from “authorisation” to the end substitute “the dissolution of the trusts and the establishment of a new NHS foundation trust.”
- (2) After that subsection insert—

“(1A) An application under this section may be made only with the approval of more than half of the members of the council of governors of each applicant (that is an NHS foundation trust).”
- (3) In subsection (2) of that section, omit—
 - (a) paragraph (c) (but not the “and” following it), and
 - (b) the words from “and must give” to the end.
- (4) Omit subsection (3) of that section.
- (5) For subsection (4) of that section substitute—

“(4) The regulator must grant the application if it is satisfied that such steps as are necessary to prepare for the dissolution of the trusts and the establishment of the proposed new trust have been taken.”
- (6) Omit subsections (5) to (10) of that section.
- (7) In subsection (11) of that section, for “On an authorisation being given under this section” substitute “On the grant of the application”.

Changes to legislation: Health and Social Care Act 2012, Section 168 is up to date with all changes known to be in force on or before 23 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](#)

Commencement Information

II S. 168 in force at 1.4.2013 by [S.I. 2013/671](#), **art. 2(3)**

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Changes and effects yet to be applied to :

- specified provision(s) amendment to earlier commencing SI 2012/1831 art. 10 by [S.I. 2012/2657 art. 15](#)

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):

- Pt. 9 Ch. 1B inserted by [2022 c. 31 s. 96](#)
- s. 102(4)(ba) inserted by S.I. 2019/93, Sch. 1 para. 13(3) (as substituted) by [S.I. 2019/1245 reg. 28](#) (This amendment not applied to legislation.gov.uk. The affecting statutory instrument has no legal effect. It was made under a procedure which meant that it ceased to have effect 28 days after signing unless it was debated and approved in Parliament within that time. It was not debated and approved within 28 days, so it has expired with no effect.)
- s. 105(3A)(3B) inserted by [2013 c. 24 Sch. 14 para. 21](#)
- s. 106(3A)(3B) inserted by [2013 c. 24 Sch. 14 para. 22](#)
- s. 250(2)-(2B) substituted for s. 250(2) by [2022 c. 31 s. 95\(2\)\(a\)](#)
- s. 250(6)-(6D) substituted for s. 250(6) by [2022 c. 31 s. 95\(2\)\(d\)](#)
- s. 251251ZA substituted for s. 251 by [2022 c. 31 s. 95\(3\)](#)
- s. 251C(6A) inserted by [2022 c. 31 s. 95\(4\)\(a\)](#)
- s. 259(1)(aa)(b) substituted for s. 259(1)(b) by [2022 c. 31 s. 98\(b\)](#)
- s. 259(1)(aa) words substituted by [S.I. 2023/98 Sch. para. 17\(11\)\(a\)\(iii\)](#) (This amendment comes in force at the same time as 2022 c. 31, s. 98 comes into force)
- s. 259(10A)(10B) inserted by [2022 c. 31 s. 98\(h\)](#)
- s. 304(5)(ja) inserted by [2022 c. 31 s. 95\(5\)](#)