



Economic Crime (Transparency and Enforcement) Act 2022

2022 CHAPTER 10

PART 1

REGISTRATION OF OVERSEAS ENTITIES

Introduction

1 Overview

This Part—

- (a) sets up a register of overseas entities, which will include information about their beneficial owners (sections 3 to 32), and
- (b) makes provision that, broadly speaking, is designed to compel overseas entities to register if they own land (sections 33 and 34).

Commencement Information

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| I1 | S. 1 not in force at Royal Assent, see s. 69 |
| I2 | S. 1 in force at 1.8.2022 for specified purposes by S.I. 2022/876, reg. 3(a) |
| I3 | S. 1 in force at 12.10.2022 in so far as not already in force by S.I. 2022/1039, reg. 2(a) |

2 Definition of “overseas entity” etc

- (1) In this Part “overseas entity” means a legal entity that is governed by the law of a country or territory outside the United Kingdom.
- (2) In this Part “legal entity” means a body corporate, partnership or other entity that (in each case) is a legal person under the law by which it is governed.

Changes to legislation: There are currently no known outstanding effects for the Economic Crime (Transparency and Enforcement) Act 2022, PART 1. (See end of Document for details)

Commencement Information

- I4** S. 2 not in force at Royal Assent, see **s. 69**
I5 S. 2 in force at 1.8.2022 for specified purposes by **S.I. 2022/876, reg. 3(a)**
I6 S. 2 in force at 12.10.2022 in so far as not already in force by **S.I. 2022/1039, reg. 2(a)**

The register and registration

3 Register of overseas entities

- (1) The registrar of companies for England and Wales (“the registrar”) must keep a register of overseas entities in accordance with this Part.
- (2) The register is to consist of—
 - (a) a list of registered overseas entities,
 - (b) documents delivered to the registrar under this Part or regulations made under it^[F1], or otherwise in connection with the register],
 - ^[F2](ba) documents delivered to the registrar under or by virtue of Part 35 of the Companies Act 2006 in connection with the register or the delivery of other documents that, on registration, will form part of the register,] and
 - (c) any other information required to be included in the register by this Part or regulations made under it.
- (3) The list of registered overseas entities must contain the name of each overseas entity that—
 - (a) has made an application for registration in accordance with the requirements of this Part (see section 4), and
 - (b) has not been removed from the list under section 10.

Textual Amendments

- F1** Words in s. 3(2)(b) omitted (26.10.2023 for specified purposes) by virtue of **Economic Crime and Corporate Transparency Act 2023 (c. 56), ss. 156(a), 219(1)(2)(b)**
F2 S. 3(2)(ba) inserted (26.10.2023 for specified purposes) by **Economic Crime and Corporate Transparency Act 2023 (c. 56), ss. 156(b), 219(1)(2)(b)**

Commencement Information

- I7** S. 3 not in force at Royal Assent, see **s. 69**
I8 S. 3 in force at 1.8.2022 for specified purposes by **S.I. 2022/876, reg. 3(b)**
I9 S. 3 in force at 12.10.2022 in so far as not already in force by **S.I. 2022/1039, reg. 2(a)**

4 Application for registration

- (1) An application by an overseas entity for registration must be delivered to the registrar and contain—
 - (a) the statement and information listed in row 1, 2 or 3 of the table, and, where applicable, the statement and information mentioned in subsection (3),
 - (b) a statement that the entity has complied with section 12 (duty to take steps to identify registrable beneficial owners etc),

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- (c) anything required by regulations under section 16 (verification of registrable beneficial owners and managing officers) to be delivered to the registrar, and
- (d) the name and contact details of an individual who may be contacted about the application.

(2) This is the table—

	<i>Statement</i>	<i>Information</i>
1	A statement: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> (a) that the entity has identified one or more registrable beneficial owners and that it has no reasonable cause to believe there are others, and (b) that the entity is able to provide the required information about each registrable beneficial owner it has identified. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> 1. The required information about the entity. 2. The required information about each registrable beneficial owner that the entity has identified.
2	A statement that the entity has no reasonable cause to believe that it has any registrable beneficial owners.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> 1. The required information about the entity. 2. The required information about each managing officer of the entity.
3	A statement: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> (a) that the entity has reasonable cause to believe that there is at least one registrable beneficial owner that it has not identified, (b) that the entity is not able to provide the required information about one or more of the registrable beneficial owners it has identified, or (c) that paragraphs (a) and (b) both apply. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> 1. The required information about the entity. 2. The required information about each managing officer of the entity. 3. The required information about each registrable beneficial owner that the entity has identified or so much of that information as it has been able to obtain.

(3) Where an application includes information that a registrable beneficial owner is a trustee (see paragraphs 3(1)(f) and 5(1)(h) of Schedule 1), the application must also include—

- (a) the required information about the trust or so much of that information as the overseas entity has been able to obtain, and
- (b) a statement as to whether the entity has any reasonable cause to believe that there is required information about the trust that it has not been able to obtain.

(4) For the required information, see Schedule 1.

(5) For the meaning of “registrable beneficial owner”, see Schedule 2.

(6) The Secretary of State may by regulations specify additional statements or information that must be included in an application under this section.

(7) Regulations under subsection (6) are subject to the negative resolution procedure.

Changes to legislation: There are currently no known outstanding effects for the Economic Crime (Transparency and Enforcement) Act 2022, PART 1. (See end of Document for details)

Commencement Information

- I10** S. 4 not in force at Royal Assent, see [s. 69](#)
- I11** S. 4 in force at 1.8.2022 for specified purposes by [S.I. 2022/876, reg. 3\(b\)](#)
- I12** S. 4 in force at 12.10.2022 in so far as not already in force by [S.I. 2022/1039, reg. 2\(a\)](#)

5 Registration and allocation of overseas entity ID

- (1) On the registration of an overseas entity under this Part, the registrar must—
- record the date of registration in the register,
 - allocate an overseas entity ID to the entity, and
 - record the overseas entity ID in the register.
- (2) Overseas entity IDs are to be in such form, consisting of one or more sequences of figures or letters, as the registrar may determine.
- (3) The registrar may adopt a new form of overseas entity ID and make such changes to existing overseas entity IDs as appear necessary.
- (4) A change of an overseas entity ID has effect from the date on which the overseas entity is notified by the registrar of the change.

Commencement Information

- I13** S. 5 not in force at Royal Assent, see [s. 69](#)
- I14** S. 5 in force at 1.8.2022 for specified purposes by [S.I. 2022/876, reg. 3\(b\)](#)
- I15** S. 5 in force at 12.10.2022 in so far as not already in force by [S.I. 2022/1039, reg. 2\(a\)](#)

6 Notice of registration

- (1) On the registration of an overseas entity under this Part, the registrar must notify the overseas entity that it has been registered.
- (2) The notice must state—
- the date of registration, and
 - the overseas entity ID allocated to the entity.
- (3) The notice must also contain information about—
- the updating duty under section 7 and the consequences of failing to comply with it;
 - applying under section 9 for removal from the list of registered overseas entities.

Commencement Information

- I16** S. 6 not in force at Royal Assent, see [s. 69](#)
- I17** S. 6 in force at 1.8.2022 for specified purposes by [S.I. 2022/876, reg. 3\(b\)](#)
- I18** S. 6 in force at 12.10.2022 in so far as not already in force by [S.I. 2022/1039, reg. 2\(a\)](#)

Changes to legislation: There are currently no known outstanding effects for the Economic Crime (Transparency and Enforcement) Act 2022, PART 1. (See end of Document for details)

Updating

7 Updating duty

- (1) A registered overseas entity must, within the period of 14 days after each update period, deliver to the registrar—
- (a) the statement and information listed in row 1, 2 or 3 of the table in section 4(2), and, where applicable, the [F³statement and information mentioned][F³statements and information mentioned] in subsection (3),
 - (b) the statement in row 1 of the table set out in subsection (2) or the statement and information listed in row 2 of that table, and, where applicable, the [F⁴statement and information mentioned][F⁴statements and information mentioned] in subsection (4),
 - (c) a statement that the entity has complied with section 12 (duty to take steps to identify registrable beneficial owners etc),
 - (d) anything required by regulations under section 16 (verification of registrable beneficial owners and managing officers) to be delivered to the registrar, and
 - (e) the name and contact details of an individual who may be contacted about the statements and information.
- (2) This is the table referred to in subsection (1)(b)—

	<i>Statement</i>	<i>Information</i>
1	A statement that the entity has no reasonable cause to believe that anyone has become or ceased to be a registrable beneficial owner during the update period.	
2	A statement that the entity has reasonable cause to believe that at least one person has become or ceased to be a registrable beneficial owner during the update period.	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. The required information about each person who has become or ceased to be a registrable beneficial owner during the update period, or so much of that information as the entity has been able to obtain. 2. The date on which each of them became or ceased to be a registrable beneficial owner, if the entity has been able to obtain that information.

- (3) Where information provided under subsection (1)(a) includes information that a registrable beneficial owner is a trustee (see paragraphs 3(1)(f) and 5(1)(h) of Schedule 1), the overseas entity is also required by subsection (1)(a) to provide—
- (a) the required information about the trust or so much of that information as the overseas entity has been able to obtain, [F⁵and]
 - (b) a statement as to whether the entity has any reasonable cause to believe that there is required information about the trust that it has not been able to obtain [F⁶, and

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- (c) the statement in row 1 of the table set out in subsection (4A), or the statement and information listed in row 2 of that table.]
- (4) Where information provided under subsection (1)(b) includes information that a person who became or ceased to be a registrable beneficial owner was a trustee (see paragraphs 3(1)(f) and 5(1)(h) of Schedule 1), the overseas entity is also required by subsection (1)(b) to provide—
- (a) the required information about the trust or so much of that information as the overseas entity has been able to obtain, ^{F7}and]
 - (b) a statement as to whether the entity has any reasonable cause to believe that there is required information about the trust that it has not been able to obtain^{F8}, and
 - (c) in the case where the information provided under subsection (1)(b) includes information that a person who ceased to be a registrable beneficial owner was a trustee, the statement in row 1 of the table set out in subsection (4A), or the statement and information listed in row 2 of that table.]

^{F9}(4A) This is the table referred to in subsections (3)(c) and (4)(c)—

	<i>Statement</i>	<i>Information</i>
1	A statement that the entity has no reasonable cause to believe that anyone became or ceased to be a beneficiary under the trust at a time during the update period when the trustee was a registrable beneficial owner of the overseas entity.	
2	A statement that the entity has reasonable cause to believe that at least one person became or ceased to be a beneficiary under the trust at a time during the update period when the trustee was a registrable beneficial owner of the overseas entity.	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. The information specified in paragraph 8(1)(d) of Schedule 1 about each such person, or so much of that information as the entity has been able to obtain. 2. The date on which that person became or ceased to be a beneficiary under the trust, if the entity has been able to obtain that information.]

(5) For the required information, see Schedule 1.

(6) ^{F10}Any statements required by subsection (1)(a) or (b) must relate to the state of affairs as at the end of the update period.]

(7) ^{F10}Any information—

- (a) required by subsection (1)(a) or (b) as a result of a person having become or ceased to be a beneficiary under a trust, or
- (b) required by subsection (1)(b) as a result of a person having become or ceased to be a registrable beneficial owner of an overseas entity,

must relate to the time when the person so became or so ceased.]

Changes to legislation: There are currently no known outstanding effects for the Economic Crime (Transparency and Enforcement) Act 2022, PART 1. (See end of Document for details)

- [^{F10}(7A) Any other information required by subsection (1)(a) must relate to the state of affairs as at the end of the update period.]
- (8) A requirement in subsection (1) to provide information may be met (in whole or in part) by confirming information previously provided.
- (9) For the purposes of this section, each of the following is an update period—
- (a) the period of 12 months beginning with the date of the overseas entity’s registration;
 - (b) each period of 12 months beginning with the day after the end of the previous update period.
- (10) But a registered overseas entity may shorten an update period by—
- (a) notifying the registrar of the shortened update period, and
 - (b) delivering the statements and information required by subsection (1) within the period of 14 days after that shortened update period.
- (11) The Secretary of State may by regulations amend this section for the purpose of changing the meaning of update period in this section.
- (12) Regulations under this section are subject to the affirmative resolution procedure.

Textual Amendments

- F3** Words in s. 7(1)(a) substituted (26.10.2023 for specified purposes) by [Economic Crime and Corporate Transparency Act 2023 \(c. 56\)](#), s. 219(1)(2)(b), [Sch. 6 para. 2\(2\)](#) (with s. 163)
- F4** Words in s. 7(1)(b) substituted (26.10.2023 for specified purposes) by [Economic Crime and Corporate Transparency Act 2023 \(c. 56\)](#), s. 219(1)(2)(b), [Sch. 6 para. 2\(2\)](#) (with s. 163)
- F5** Word in s. 7(3)(a) omitted (26.10.2023 for specified purposes) by virtue of [Economic Crime and Corporate Transparency Act 2023 \(c. 56\)](#), s. 219(1)(2)(b), [Sch. 6 para. 2\(3\)\(a\)](#) (with s. 163)
- F6** S. 7(3)(c) and word inserted (26.10.2023 for specified purposes) by [Economic Crime and Corporate Transparency Act 2023 \(c. 56\)](#), s. 219(1)(2)(b), [Sch. 6 para. 2\(3\)\(b\)](#) (with s. 163)
- F7** Word in s. 7(4)(a) omitted (26.10.2023 for specified purposes) by virtue of [Economic Crime and Corporate Transparency Act 2023 \(c. 56\)](#), s. 219(1)(2)(b), [Sch. 6 para. 2\(4\)\(a\)](#) (with s. 163)
- F8** S. 7(4)(c) and word inserted (26.10.2023 for specified purposes) by [Economic Crime and Corporate Transparency Act 2023 \(c. 56\)](#), s. 219(1)(2)(b), [Sch. 6 para. 2\(4\)\(b\)](#) (with s. 163)
- F9** S. 7(4A) inserted (26.10.2023 for specified purposes) by [Economic Crime and Corporate Transparency Act 2023 \(c. 56\)](#), s. 219(1)(2)(b), [Sch. 6 para. 2\(5\)](#) (with s. 163)
- F10** S. 7(6)-(7A) substituted for s. 7(6)(7) (26.10.2023 for specified purposes) by [Economic Crime and Corporate Transparency Act 2023 \(c. 56\)](#), s. 219(1)(2)(b), [Sch. 6 para. 2\(6\)](#) (with s. 163)

Commencement Information

- I19** S. 7 not in force at Royal Assent, see [s. 69](#)
- I20** S. 7 in force at 16.1.2023 by [S.I. 2022/1039](#), [reg. 3\(a\)](#)

8 Failure to comply with updating duty

- (1) If a registered overseas entity fails to comply with the duty under section 7 an offence is committed by—
- (a) the entity, and
 - (b) every officer of the entity who is in default.

Changes to legislation: There are currently no known outstanding effects for the Economic Crime (Transparency and Enforcement) Act 2022, PART 1. (See end of Document for details)

- (2) A person guilty of an offence under subsection (1) is liable on summary conviction—
- (a) in England and Wales to a fine and, for continued contravention, a daily default fine not exceeding the greater of £2,500 and one half of level 4 on the standard scale;
 - (b) in Scotland or Northern Ireland, to a fine not exceeding level 5 on the standard scale and, for continued contravention, a daily default fine not exceeding one half of level 5 on the standard scale.
- (3) The contravention continues until such time as the registered overseas entity has delivered the statements and information required by section 7(1).
- (4) In the case of continued contravention, an offence is also committed by every officer of the registered overseas entity who did not commit an offence under subsection (1) in relation to the initial contravention but who is in default in relation to the continued contravention.
- (5) A person guilty of an offence under subsection (4) is liable on summary conviction—
- (a) in England and Wales, to a fine not exceeding the greater of £2,500 and one half of level 4 on the standard scale for each day on which the contravention continues and the person is in default;
 - (b) in Scotland or Northern Ireland, to a fine not exceeding one half of level 5 on the standard scale for each day on which the contravention continues and the person is in default.

Commencement Information

I21 S. 8 not in force at Royal Assent, see s. 69

I22 S. 8 in force at 16.1.2023 by S.I. 2022/1039, reg. 3(b)

Removal

9 Application for removal

- (1) An application by a registered overseas entity for removal from the list of registered overseas entities must be delivered to the registrar and contain—
- (a) a statement confirming that the entity is not registered as the proprietor of a relevant interest in land,
 - (b) the statement and information listed in row 1, 2 or 3 of the table in section 4(2), and, where applicable, the [F11statement and information mentioned][F11statements and information mentioned] in subsection (3),
 - (c) the statement in row 1 of the table set out in subsection (2) or the statement and information listed in row 2 of that table, and, where applicable, the [F12statement and information mentioned][F12statements and information mentioned] in subsection (4),
 - (d) a statement that the entity has complied with section 12 (duty to take steps to identify registrable beneficial owners etc),
 - (e) anything required by regulations under section 16 (verification of registrable beneficial owners and managing officers) to be delivered to the registrar, and
 - (f) the name and contact details of an individual who may be contacted about the application.

Changes to legislation: There are currently no known outstanding effects for the Economic Crime (Transparency and Enforcement) Act 2022, PART 1. (See end of Document for details)

(2) This is the table referred to in subsection (1)(c)—

	<i>Statement</i>	<i>Information</i>
1	A statement that the entity has no reasonable cause to believe that anyone has become or ceased to be a registrable beneficial owner during the relevant period.	
2	A statement that the entity has reasonable cause to believe that at least one person has become or ceased to be a registrable beneficial owner during the relevant period.	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. The required information about each person who has become or ceased to be a registrable beneficial owner during the relevant period, or so much of that information as the entity has been able to obtain. 2. The date on which each of them became or ceased to be a registrable beneficial owner, if the entity has been able to obtain that information.

(3) Where information provided under subsection (1)(b) includes information that a registrable beneficial owner is a trustee (see paragraphs 3(1)(f) and 5(1)(h) of Schedule 1), the overseas entity is also required by subsection (1)(b) to provide—

- (a) the required information about the trust or so much of that information as the overseas entity has been able to obtain, [^{F13}and]
- (b) a statement as to whether the entity has any reasonable cause to believe that there is required information about the trust that it has not been able to obtain [^{F14}, and
- (c) the statement in row 1 of the table set out in subsection (4A), or the statement and information listed in row 2 of that table.]

(4) Where information provided under subsection (1)(c) includes information that a person who became or ceased to be a registrable beneficial owner was a trustee (see paragraphs 3(1)(f) and 5(1)(h) of Schedule 1), the overseas entity is also required by subsection (1)(c) to provide—

- (a) the required information about the trust or so much of that information as the overseas entity has been able to obtain, [^{F15}and]
- (b) a statement as to whether the entity has any reasonable cause to believe that there is required information about the trust that it has not been able to obtain [^{F16}, and
- (c) in the case where the information provided under subsection (1)(c) includes information that a person who ceased to be a registrable beneficial owner was a trustee, the statement in row 1 of the table set out in subsection (4A), or the statement and information listed in row 2 of that table.]

[^{F17}(4A) This is the table referred to in subsections (3)(c) and (4)(c)—

Changes to legislation: There are currently no known outstanding effects for the Economic Crime (Transparency and Enforcement) Act 2022, PART 1. (See end of Document for details)

	<i>Statement</i>	<i>Information</i>
1	A statement that the entity has no reasonable cause to believe that anyone became or ceased to be a beneficiary under the trust at a time during the relevant period when the trustee was a registrable beneficial owner of the overseas entity.	
2	A statement that the entity has reasonable cause to believe that at least one person became or ceased to be a beneficiary under the trust at a time during the relevant period when the trustee was a registrable beneficial owner of the overseas entity.	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. The information specified in paragraph 8(1)(d) of Schedule 1 about each such person, or so much of that information as the entity has been able to obtain. 2. The date on which that person became or ceased to be a beneficiary under the trust, if the entity has been able to obtain that information.]

(5) For the required information, see Schedule 1.

(6) For the purposes of [^{F18}subsection (2)] [^{F18}this section] “the relevant period” means the period—

- (a) beginning with the date of the overseas entity’s registration or (if later) the end of its last update period, and
- (b) ending with the date of the application for removal.

(7) [^{F19}Any statements required by subsection (1)(b) or (c) must relate to the state of affairs as at the time of the application for removal.]

(8) [^{F19}Any information—

- (a) required by subsection (1)(b) or (c) as a result of a person having become or ceased to be a beneficiary under a trust, or
- (b) required by subsection (1)(c) as a result of a person having become or ceased to be a registrable beneficial owner of an overseas entity,

must relate to the time when the person so became or so ceased.]

[^{F19}(8A) Any other information required by subsection (1)(b) must relate to the state of affairs as at the time of the application for removal.]

(9) The requirement in subsection (1) to provide information may be met (in whole or in part) by confirming information previously provided.

(10) For the purposes of this section and section 10 an overseas entity is registered as the proprietor of a relevant interest in land if—

- (a) the entity—
 - (i) is registered in the register of title kept under the Land Registration Act 2002 as the proprietor of a qualifying estate within the meaning of Schedule 4A to that Act, and

Changes to legislation: There are currently no known outstanding effects for the Economic Crime (Transparency and Enforcement) Act 2022, PART 1. (See end of Document for details)

- (ii) became so registered in pursuance of an application made on or after 1 January 1999,
 - (b) the entity—
 - (i) is entered, on or after 8 December 2014, as proprietor in the proprietorship section of the title sheet for a plot of land that is registered in the Land Register of Scotland,
 - (ii) in relation to a lease that was recorded in the General Register of Sasines or registered in the Land Register of Scotland before that date is, by virtue of an assignation of the lease registered in the Land Register of Scotland on or after that date, the tenant under the lease, or
 - (iii) is the tenant under a lease that was registered in the Land Register of Scotland on or after that date, or
 - (c) the entity—
 - (i) is registered in the register kept under the [Land Registration Act \(Northern Ireland\) 1970 \(c. 18 \(N.I.\)\)](#) as the owner of a qualifying estate within the meaning of Schedule 8A to that Act, and
 - (ii) became so registered on or after the day on which that Schedule came into force.
- (11) In subsection (10)(b), “lease”, “plot of land” and “proprietor” have the meanings given by section 113(1) of the Land Registration etc. (Scotland) Act 2012 (asp 5).
- (12) For the purposes of subsection (10)(b)(i)—
 - (a) the reference to an overseas entity’s being entered as proprietor in the proprietorship section of a title sheet is a reference to the name of the entity being so entered, and
 - (b) the date on which an overseas entity is entered as proprietor in the proprietorship section of a title sheet is, where the entry is made by virtue of an application for registration, the date of registration as determined under section 37 of the Land Registration etc. (Scotland) Act 2012 (date and time of registration).

Textual Amendments

- F11** Words in s. 9(1)(b) substituted (26.10.2023 for specified purposes) by [Economic Crime and Corporate Transparency Act 2023 \(c. 56\)](#), s. 219(1)(2)(b), [Sch. 6 para. 3\(2\)](#)
- F12** Words in s. 9(1)(c) substituted (26.10.2023 for specified purposes) by [Economic Crime and Corporate Transparency Act 2023 \(c. 56\)](#), s. 219(1)(2)(b), [Sch. 6 para. 3\(2\)](#)
- F13** Word in s. 9(3)(a) omitted (26.10.2023 for specified purposes) by virtue of [Economic Crime and Corporate Transparency Act 2023 \(c. 56\)](#), s. 219(1)(2)(b), [Sch. 6 para. 3\(3\)\(a\)](#)
- F14** S. 9(3)(c) and word inserted (26.10.2023 for specified purposes) by [Economic Crime and Corporate Transparency Act 2023 \(c. 56\)](#), s. 219(1)(2)(b), [Sch. 6 para. 3\(3\)\(b\)](#)
- F15** Word in s. 9(4)(a) omitted (26.10.2023 for specified purposes) by virtue of [Economic Crime and Corporate Transparency Act 2023 \(c. 56\)](#), s. 219(1)(2)(b), [Sch. 6 para. 3\(4\)\(a\)](#)
- F16** S. 9(4)(c) and word inserted (26.10.2023 for specified purposes) by [Economic Crime and Corporate Transparency Act 2023 \(c. 56\)](#), s. 219(1)(2)(b), [Sch. 6 para. 3\(4\)\(b\)](#)
- F17** S. 9(4A) inserted (26.10.2023 for specified purposes) by [Economic Crime and Corporate Transparency Act 2023 \(c. 56\)](#), s. 219(1)(2)(b), [Sch. 6 para. 3\(5\)](#)
- F18** Words in s. 9(6) substituted (26.10.2023 for specified purposes) by [Economic Crime and Corporate Transparency Act 2023 \(c. 56\)](#), s. 219(1)(2)(b), [Sch. 6 para. 3\(6\)](#)
- F19** S. 9(7)-(8A) substituted for s. 9(7)(8) (26.10.2023 for specified purposes) by [Economic Crime and Corporate Transparency Act 2023 \(c. 56\)](#), s. 219(1)(2)(b), [Sch. 6 para. 3\(7\)](#)

Changes to legislation: There are currently no known outstanding effects for the Economic Crime (Transparency and Enforcement) Act 2022, PART 1. (See end of Document for details)

Commencement Information

- I23** S. 9 not in force at Royal Assent, see **s. 69**
I24 S. 9(1)-(9) in force at 12.10.2022 by S.I. 2022/1039, **reg. 2(a)**
I25 S. 9(10)-(12) in force at 5.9.2022 by S.I. 2022/876, **reg. 4(b)**

10 Processing of application under section 9

- (1) On receipt of an application by a registered overseas entity under section 9, the registrar must check whether the overseas entity is registered as the proprietor of a relevant interest in land (see subsection (10) of that section).
- (2) If the overseas entity is not registered as the proprietor of a relevant interest in land [^{F20}and there are no updates pending], the registrar must remove it from the list of registered overseas entities.
- (3) If the overseas entity is registered as the proprietor of a relevant interest in land [^{F21}or there is an update pending], the registrar must refuse the application.
- [^{F22}(3A) For the purposes of subsections (2) and (3) an update is pending if—
 - (a) an update period for the entity has ended and the entity has not yet complied with the duty under section 7 in respect of that period, or
 - (b) the entity is required to deliver information under Schedule 6 but has not yet done so.]
 - (4) The registrar must send the overseas entity a notice stating—
 - (a) whether the application for removal has been successful, and
 - (b) if it has been successful, the date of removal from the list of registered overseas entities.
 - (5) Where an overseas entity is removed from the list of registered overseas entities, the registrar must record the date of removal in the register.

Textual Amendments

- F20** Words in s. 10(2) inserted (26.10.2023 for specified purposes) by [Economic Crime and Corporate Transparency Act 2023 \(c. 56\)](#), **ss. 164(2)**, 219(1)(2)(b)
F21 Words in s. 10(3) inserted (26.10.2023 for specified purposes) by [Economic Crime and Corporate Transparency Act 2023 \(c. 56\)](#), **ss. 164(3)**, 219(1)(2)(b)
F22 S. 10(3A) inserted (26.10.2023 for specified purposes) by [Economic Crime and Corporate Transparency Act 2023 \(c. 56\)](#), **ss. 164(4)**, 219(1)(2)(b)

Commencement Information

- I26** S. 10 not in force at Royal Assent, see **s. 69**
I27 S. 10 in force at 12.10.2022 by S.I. 2022/1039, **reg. 2(a)**

11 Transfer of documents to Public Record Office

Where an overseas entity has been removed from the list of registered overseas entities for at least two years, the registrar may transfer any records relating to that entity to the Public Record Office.

Changes to legislation: There are currently no known outstanding effects for the Economic Crime (Transparency and Enforcement) Act 2022, PART 1. (See end of Document for details)

Commencement Information

- I28** S. 11 not in force at Royal Assent, see **s. 69**
I29 S. 11 in force at 12.10.2022 by **S.I. 2022/1039, reg. 2(a)**

Obtaining, updating and verifying information

12 **[^{F23}Identifying registrable beneficial owners][^{F23}Duty to take steps to obtain information]**

- ^{F23}(1) Before making an application for registration under section 4(1) an overseas entity must take reasonable steps to obtain all of the information that it is required to deliver to the registrar under that section if it is able to obtain it.
- (2) Before complying with the updating duty under section 7 an overseas entity must take reasonable steps to obtain all of the information that it is required to deliver to the registrar under that section if it is able to obtain it.
- (3) Before making an application for removal under section 9 an overseas entity must take reasonable steps to obtain all of the information that it is required to include in the application if it is able to obtain it.
- (4) The steps that an overseas entity must take by virtue of subsection (1), (2) or (3) include giving a notice to any person that it knows, or has reasonable cause to believe, is a registrable beneficial owner in relation to the entity, requiring the person—
- to state whether or not they are such a person, and
 - if they are, to provide or confirm information of the kind mentioned in subsection (1), (2) or (3) so far as relating to the person, or a trust of which they are or were a trustee.
- (5) The steps that an overseas entity must take by virtue of subsection (2) or (3) also include giving a notice to any person that it knows, or has reasonable cause to believe, has ceased to be a registrable beneficial owner in relation to the entity during the update period (within the meaning of section 7) or relevant period (within the meaning of section 9), requiring the person—
- to state whether or not they are such a person, and
 - if they are, to provide or confirm information of the kind mentioned in subsection (2) or (3) so far as relating to the person, or a trust of which they are or were a trustee.
- (6) A notice under subsection (4) or (5) must require the person to whom it is given to comply with the notice within the period of one month beginning with the day on which it is given.
- (7) A person given a notice under subsection (4) or (5) is not required by that notice to disclose any information in respect of which a claim to legal professional privilege or, in Scotland, confidentiality of communications, could be maintained in legal proceedings.]

Changes to legislation: There are currently no known outstanding effects for the Economic Crime (Transparency and Enforcement) Act 2022, PART 1. (See end of Document for details)

Textual Amendments

F23 S. 12 substituted (26.10.2023 for specified purposes) by [Economic Crime and Corporate Transparency Act 2023 \(c. 56\)](#), s. 219(1)(2)(b), [Sch. 6 para. 4](#)

Commencement Information

I30 S. 12 not in force at Royal Assent, see [s. 69](#)

I31 S. 12 in force at 1.8.2022 for specified purposes by [S.I. 2022/876](#), [reg. 3\(c\)](#)

I32 S. 12 in force at 12.10.2022 in so far as not already in force by [S.I. 2022/1039](#), [reg. 2\(a\)](#)

13 Additional powers to obtain information

- (1) An overseas entity may give a person an information notice under this section if it knows or has reasonable cause to believe that the person knows the identity of—
 - (a) a person who is a registrable beneficial owner in relation to the overseas entity,
 - (b) any legal entity not falling within paragraph (a) that is a beneficial owner in relation to the overseas entity, or
 - (c) a person likely to have knowledge of the identity of a person within paragraph (a) or (b).
- (2) An information notice under this section is a notice requiring the addressee—
 - (a) to state whether or not the addressee knows the identity of a person within paragraph (a), (b) or (c) of subsection (1), and
 - (b) if so—
 - (i) to supply any information that the addressee has that might help the overseas entity to identify that person, and
 - (ii) to state whether that information is being supplied with the knowledge of the person to whom it relates.
- (3) An information notice under this section must require the person to whom it is given to comply with the notice within the period of one month beginning with the day on which it is given.
- (4) A person given a notice under subsection (1) is not required by that notice to disclose any information in respect of which a claim to legal professional privilege or, in Scotland, confidentiality of communications, could be maintained in legal proceedings.
- (5) In this section a reference to knowing the identity of a person includes knowing information from which that person can be identified.
- [^{F24}(6) A reference in this section to a person who is a registrable beneficial owner in relation to an overseas entity includes, in connection with the obtaining of information required by section 7(1)(b), 9(1)(c) or 42(1)(c)(i), a reference to a person who has ceased to be a registrable beneficial owner.]

Textual Amendments

F24 S. 13(6) inserted (26.10.2023 for specified purposes) by [Economic Crime and Corporate Transparency Act 2023 \(c. 56\)](#), s. 219(1)(2)(b), [Sch. 6 para. 5](#)

Changes to legislation: There are currently no known outstanding effects for the Economic Crime (Transparency and Enforcement) Act 2022, PART 1. (See end of Document for details)

Commencement Information

- I33** S. 13 not in force at Royal Assent, see [s. 69](#)
I34 S. 13 in force at 1.8.2022 for specified purposes by [S.I. 2022/876, reg. 3\(c\)](#)
I35 S. 13 in force at 12.10.2022 in so far as not already in force by [S.I. 2022/1039, reg. 2\(a\)](#)

14 Sections 12 and 13: supplementary

- (1) The Secretary of State may by regulations make further provision about the giving of notices under section 12 or 13, including provision about the form and content of any such notices and the manner in which they must be given.
- (2) Regulations under subsection (1) are subject to the negative resolution procedure.

Commencement Information

- I36** S. 14 not in force at Royal Assent, see [s. 69](#)
I37 S. 14 in force at 1.8.2022 for specified purposes by [S.I. 2022/876, reg. 3\(c\)](#)
I38 S. 14 in force at 12.10.2022 in so far as not already in force by [S.I. 2022/1039, reg. 2\(a\)](#)

15 Failure to comply with notice under section 12 or 13

- [^{F25}(1) A person who, without reasonable excuse, fails to comply with a notice under section 12 or 13 commits an offence.
- (2) Where the offence is committed by a legal entity, the offence is also committed by every officer of the entity who is in default.
 - (3) It is a defence for a person charged with an offence under this section to prove that the requirement to give information was frivolous or vexatious.
 - (4) A person guilty of an offence under this section is liable—
 - (a) on summary conviction in England and Wales, to imprisonment for a term not exceeding the general limit in a magistrates' court or a fine (or both);
 - (b) on summary conviction in Scotland, to imprisonment for a term not exceeding 12 months or a fine not exceeding the statutory maximum (or both);
 - (c) on summary conviction in Northern Ireland, to imprisonment for a term not exceeding 6 months or a fine not exceeding the statutory maximum (or both);
 - (d) on conviction on indictment, to imprisonment for a term not exceeding two years or a fine (or both).]

Textual Amendments

- F25** Ss. 15-15B substituted for [s. 15](#) (26.10.2023 for specified purposes) by [Economic Crime and Corporate Transparency Act 2023 \(c. 56\), ss. 171, 219\(1\)\(2\)\(b\)](#)

Commencement Information

- I39** S. 15 not in force at Royal Assent, see [s. 69](#)
I40 S. 15 in force at 1.8.2022 for specified purposes by [S.I. 2022/876, reg. 3\(c\)](#)
I41 S. 15 in force at 12.10.2022 in so far as not already in force by [S.I. 2022/1039, reg. 2\(a\)](#)

Changes to legislation: There are currently no known outstanding effects for the Economic Crime (Transparency and Enforcement) Act 2022, PART 1. (See end of Document for details)

[^{F25}15A False statements under section 12 or 13: basic offence

- (1) A person who is given a notice under section 12 or 13 commits an offence if, in purported compliance with the notice and without reasonable excuse, the person makes a statement that is misleading, false or deceptive in a material particular.
- (2) Where the offence is committed by a legal entity, the offence is also committed by every officer of the entity who is in default.
- (3) A person guilty of an offence under this section is liable—
 - (a) on summary conviction in England and Wales, to a fine;
 - (b) on summary conviction in Scotland, to a fine not exceeding level 5 on the standard scale;
 - (c) on summary conviction in Northern Ireland, to a fine not exceeding level 5 on the standard scale.

Textual Amendments

F25 Ss. 15-15B substituted for s. 15 (26.10.2023 for specified purposes) by [Economic Crime and Corporate Transparency Act 2023 \(c. 56\)](#), **ss. 171**, 219(1)(2)(b)

15B False statements under section 12 or 13: aggravated offence

- (1) A person who is given a notice under section 12 or 13 commits an offence if, in purported compliance with the notice, the person makes a statement that the person knows to be misleading, false or deceptive in a material particular.
- (2) Where the offence is committed by a legal entity, the offence is also committed by every officer of the entity who is in default.
- (3) A person guilty of an offence under this section is liable—
 - (a) on summary conviction in England and Wales, to imprisonment for a term not exceeding the general limit in a magistrates' court or a fine (or both);
 - (b) on summary conviction in Scotland, to imprisonment for a term not exceeding 12 months or a fine not exceeding the statutory maximum (or both);
 - (c) on summary conviction in Northern Ireland, to imprisonment for a term not exceeding 6 months or a fine not exceeding the statutory maximum (or both);
 - (d) on conviction on indictment, to imprisonment for a term not exceeding two years or a fine (or both).]

Textual Amendments

F25 Ss. 15-15B substituted for s. 15 (26.10.2023 for specified purposes) by [Economic Crime and Corporate Transparency Act 2023 \(c. 56\)](#), **ss. 171**, 219(1)(2)(b)

16 Verification of registrable beneficial owners and managing officers

- (1) The Secretary of State must by regulations make provision requiring the verification of information before an overseas entity—
 - (a) makes an application under section 4 for registration;
 - (b) complies with the updating duty under section 7;

Changes to legislation: There are currently no known outstanding effects for the Economic Crime (Transparency and Enforcement) Act 2022, PART 1. (See end of Document for details)

- (c) makes an application under section 9 for removal.
 - [^{F26}(d) complies with the duty under Schedule 6 (duty to deliver further information about transitional period).]
- (2) Regulations under this section may, among other things, make provision—
- (a) about the information that must be verified;
 - [^{F27}(aa) about how the information is to be verified (including provision about the kinds or sources of evidence to be used);
 - (ab) about the standard to which verification is to be carried out;]
 - (b) about the person by whom the information must be verified;
 - [^{F28}(ba) about the records that must be kept in connection with verification;]
 - (c) requiring a statement, evidence or other information to be delivered to the registrar for the purposes of sections 4(1)(c), 7(1)(d) and 9(1)(e).
 - [^{F29}(d) requiring the registrar not to make available for public inspection certain information delivered to the registrar by virtue of the regulations;]
 - [^{F30}(e) about the information that must be provided to the registrar to enable the registrar to monitor compliance with any requirements imposed by the regulations.]
- [^{F31}(2A) Regulations under this section may create offences in relation to failures to comply with requirements imposed by virtue of subsection (2)(ba) or (e).
- (2B) The regulations must provide for any such offence to be punishable—
- (a) on summary conviction in England and Wales, by a fine;
 - (b) on summary conviction in Scotland, by a fine not exceeding level 5 on the standard scale;
 - (c) on summary conviction in Northern Ireland, by a fine not exceeding level 5 on the standard scale.]
- (3) The first regulations under this section must be made so as to come into force before any applications may be made under section 4(1).
- (4) Regulations under this section are subject to the negative resolution procedure.

Textual Amendments

- F26** S. 16(1)(d) inserted (26.10.2023 for specified purposes) by [Economic Crime and Corporate Transparency Act 2023 \(c. 56\)](#), s. 219(1)(2)(b), [Sch. 7 para. 2](#)
- F27** S. 16(2)(aa)(ab) inserted (26.10.2023 for specified purposes) by [Economic Crime and Corporate Transparency Act 2023 \(c. 56\)](#), [ss. 165\(2\)\(a\)](#), 219(1)(2)(b)
- F28** S. 16(2)(ba) inserted (26.10.2023 for specified purposes) by [Economic Crime and Corporate Transparency Act 2023 \(c. 56\)](#), [ss. 165\(2\)\(b\)](#), 219(1)(2)(b)
- F29** S. 16(2)(d) inserted (26.10.2023 for specified purposes) by [Economic Crime and Corporate Transparency Act 2023 \(c. 56\)](#), [ss. 166](#), 219(1)(2)(b)
- F30** S. 16(2)(e) inserted (26.10.2023 for specified purposes) by [Economic Crime and Corporate Transparency Act 2023 \(c. 56\)](#), [ss. 165\(2\)\(c\)](#), 219(1)(2)(b)
- F31** S. 16(2A)(2B) inserted (26.10.2023 for specified purposes) by [Economic Crime and Corporate Transparency Act 2023 \(c. 56\)](#), [ss. 165\(3\)](#), 219(1)(2)(b)

Commencement Information

- I42** S. 16 not in force at Royal Assent, see [s. 69](#)
- I43** S. 16 in force at 1.8.2022 for specified purposes by [S.I. 2022/876](#), [reg. 3\(c\)](#)

Changes to legislation: There are currently no known outstanding effects for the Economic Crime (Transparency and Enforcement) Act 2022, PART 1. (See end of Document for details)

I44 S. 16 in force at 12.10.2022 in so far as not already in force by S.I. 2022/1039, reg. 2(a)

Exemptions

17 Power to modify application process etc in certain cases

- (1) The Secretary of State may by regulations modify the application requirements or the update requirements in relation to overseas entities of a description specified in the regulations.
- (2) The regulations may modify the application or update requirements in relation to a description of overseas entity only if the Secretary of State considers that the modifications are appropriate in light of the information that is publicly available otherwise than by virtue of this Part.
- (3) Regulations under subsection (1) may make such modifications to this Part as are consequential on those regulations.
- (4) Regulations under subsection (1) are subject to the negative resolution procedure.
- (5) In this section—
 - “the application requirements” means the requirements as to the contents of applications under section 4 or 9;
 - “the update requirements” means the requirements as to the material that must be delivered to the registrar under section 7.

Commencement Information

I45 S. 17 not in force at Royal Assent, see **s. 69**

I46 S. 17 in force at 1.8.2022 for specified purposes by S.I. 2022/876, reg. 3(d)

I47 S. 17 in force at 12.10.2022 in so far as not already in force by S.I. 2022/1039, reg. 2(a)

[^{F32}17A Exceptions to duty to provide change of beneficiary information

- (1) The Secretary of State may by regulations provide for exceptions to the requirement to deliver information by virtue of section 7(3)(c) or (4)(c) or 9(3)(c) or (4)(c).
- (2) The Secretary of State must consult the Scottish Ministers before making regulations under subsection (1) that contain provision that would be within the legislative competence of the Scottish Parliament if contained in an Act of that Parliament.
- (3) The Secretary of State must consult the Department of Finance in Northern Ireland before making regulations under subsection (1) that contain provision that—
 - (a) would be within the legislative competence of the Northern Ireland Assembly if contained in an Act of that Assembly, and
 - (b) would not, if contained in a Bill for an Act of the Northern Ireland Assembly, result in the Bill requiring the consent of the Secretary of State under section 8 of the Northern Ireland Act 1998.
- (4) Regulations under subsection (1) are subject to the negative resolution procedure.]

Changes to legislation: There are currently no known outstanding effects for the Economic Crime (Transparency and Enforcement) Act 2022, PART 1. (See end of Document for details)

Textual Amendments

F32 S. 17A inserted (26.10.2023 for specified purposes) by [Economic Crime and Corporate Transparency Act 2023 \(c. 56\)](#), s. 219(1)(2)(b), [Sch. 6 para. 6](#)

18 Exemptions

- (1) The Secretary of State may, by giving written notice to a person, exempt the person under this section if satisfied that to do so is necessary—
 - (a) in the interests of national security;
 - (b) for the purposes of preventing or detecting serious crime.
- (2) The effect of an exemption is that—
 - (a) overseas entities are not required to take steps or give notices under section 12 in relation to the exempt person,
 - (b) the exempt person is not required to comply with any notice given by an overseas entity under section 12 or 13 if the exempt person brings the existence of the exemption to the attention of the entity,
 - (c) a notice given by an overseas entity under section 13 does not require any other person to supply information about the exempt person, and
 - (d) the exempt person does not count as a registrable beneficial owner in relation to any overseas entity for the purposes of this Part.
- (3) For the purposes of subsection (1)(b)—
 - (a) “crime” means conduct which—
 - (i) constitutes a criminal offence, or
 - (ii) is, or corresponds to, any conduct which, if it all took place in any one part of the United Kingdom, would constitute a criminal offence, and
 - (b) crime is “serious” if—
 - (i) the offence which is or would be constituted by the conduct is an offence for which the maximum sentence (in any part of the United Kingdom) is imprisonment for 3 years or more, or
 - (ii) the conduct involves the use of violence, results in substantial financial gain or is conduct by a large number of persons in pursuit of a common purpose.

Commencement Information

I48 S. 18 not in force at Royal Assent, see [s. 69](#)

I49 S. 18 in force at 1.8.2022 for specified purposes by [S.I. 2022/876, reg. 3\(d\)](#)

I50 S. 18 in force at 12.10.2022 in so far as not already in force by [S.I. 2022/1039, reg. 2\(a\)](#)

Language requirement

19 Documents to be in English

Documents delivered to the registrar under this Part, or under regulations made under it, must be drawn up and delivered in English.

Changes to legislation: There are currently no known outstanding effects for the Economic Crime (Transparency and Enforcement) Act 2022, PART 1. (See end of Document for details)

Commencement Information

- I51** S. 19 not in force at Royal Assent, see [s. 69](#)
I52 S. 19 in force at 1.8.2022 for specified purposes by [S.I. 2022/876, reg. 3\(e\)](#)
I53 S. 19 in force at 12.10.2022 in so far as not already in force by [S.I. 2022/1039, reg. 2\(a\)](#)

Annotation of the register

20 Annotation of the register

- (1) The registrar must place a note in the register recording—
 - (a) the date on which a document is delivered to the registrar under this Part or regulations made under it, or otherwise in connection with the register;
 - (b) if a document is replaced (whether or not material derived from it is removed), the fact that it has been replaced and the date of delivery of the replacement;
 - (c) if material is removed—
 - (i) what was removed (giving a general description of its contents),
 - (ii) under what power, and
 - (iii) the date on which that was done.
- (2) The Secretary of State may by regulations make provision—
 - (a) authorising or requiring the registrar to annotate the register in such other circumstances as may be specified in the regulations, and
 - (b) as to the contents of any such annotation.
- (3) No annotation is required in the case of a document that by virtue of section 1072(2) of the Companies Act 2006 (documents not meeting requirements for proper delivery) is treated as not having been delivered.
- (4) A note may be removed if it no longer serves any useful purpose.
- (5) Any duty or power of the registrar with respect to annotation of the register is subject to the court's power under section 31 (powers of court on ordering removal of material from the register) to direct—
 - (a) that a note be removed from the register, or
 - (b) that no note may be made of the removal of material that is the subject of the court's order.
- (6) Regulations under this section are subject to the negative resolution procedure.

Modifications etc. (not altering text)

- C1** S. 20 modified (1.8.2022) by [The Register of Overseas Entities \(Verification and Provision of Information\) Regulations 2022 \(S.I. 2022/725\)](#), regs. 1(1), [11](#)

Commencement Information

- I54** S. 20 not in force at Royal Assent, see [s. 69](#)
I55 S. 20 in force at 1.8.2022 for specified purposes by [S.I. 2022/876, reg. 3\(f\)](#)
I56 S. 20 in force at 12.10.2022 in so far as not already in force by [S.I. 2022/1039, reg. 2\(a\)](#)

Changes to legislation: There are currently no known outstanding effects for the Economic Crime (Transparency and Enforcement) Act 2022, PART 1. (See end of Document for details)

Inspection of the register and protection of information

21 Inspection and copies of register

- (1) Any person may—
 - (a) inspect the register (but see the exceptions in section 22);
 - (b) require a copy of any material on the register that is available for inspection.
- (2) The registrar may specify the form and manner in which an application is to be made for inspection or a copy.
- (3) The registrar may determine the form and manner in which copies are to be provided.
- (4) Section 1091 of the Companies Act 2006 (certification of copies), and any regulations made under it, apply in relation to copies provided under this section as they apply in relation to the copies provided as mentioned in that section.

Commencement Information

I57 S. 21 not in force at Royal Assent, see [s. 69](#)

I58 S. 21 in force at 1.8.2022 for specified purposes by [S.I. 2022/876, reg. 3\(g\)](#)

I59 S. 21 in force at 12.10.2022 in so far as not already in force by [S.I. 2022/1039, reg. 2\(a\)](#)

22 Material unavailable for inspection

- [^{F33}(1) The following material must not, so far as it forms part of the register, be made available by the registrar for public inspection—
- (a) so much of any application or other document delivered to the registrar under section 4, 7 or 9 or Schedule 6 as is required to contain—
 - (i) protected date of birth information;
 - (ii) protected residential address information;
 - (iii) protected trusts information;
 - (iv) the name or contact details of an individual provided for the purposes of section 4(1)(d), 7(1)(e) or 9(1)(f), paragraph 6(1)(g) or 7(1)(g) of Schedule 1 or paragraph 2(1)(d) of Schedule 6;
 - (v) an overseas entity’s email address (see paragraph 2(1)(e) of Schedule 1);
 - (vi) any title numbers or folio numbers in respect of land (see paragraph 2(1)(h), (i) and (j) of Schedule 1);
 - (b) any information that regulations under section 16 provide is not to be made available for public inspection;
 - (c) any application or other document delivered to the registrar under regulations under section 23(2) (disclosure of protected trusts information);
 - (d) the following—
 - (i) any application or other document delivered to the registrar under regulations under section 25 (regulations protecting material), other than information provided by virtue of section 25(4);
 - (ii) any information which regulations under section 25 require not to be made available for public inspection;

Changes to legislation: There are currently no known outstanding effects for the Economic Crime (Transparency and Enforcement) Act 2022, PART 1. (See end of Document for details)

- (e) any application or other document delivered to the registrar under section 28 (administrative removal of material from the register);
 - (f) any court order under section 30 (rectification of the register under court order) that the court has directed under section 31 is not to be made available for public inspection;
 - (g) any statement or other document delivered to the registrar by virtue of section 1067A of the Companies Act 2006 (delivery of documents: identity verification requirements etc);
 - (h) any statement made in accordance with regulations made by virtue of section 1082(2)(c) of the Companies Act 2006 (statement of unique identifier);
 - (i) any document provided to the registrar under section 1092A of the Companies Act 2006 (power to require further information);
 - (j) any email address, identification code or password deriving from a document delivered for the purpose of authorising or facilitating electronic filing procedures or providing information by telephone;
 - (k) any record of the information contained in a document (or part of a document) mentioned in any of the previous paragraphs of this subsection;
 - (l) any other material excluded from public inspection by or under any other enactment.
- (2) In this section—
- “protected date of birth information” means information as to the day of the month (but not the month or year) on which an individual who is a registrable beneficial owner or managing officer of an overseas entity was born;
 - “protected residential address information” means information as to the usual residential address of an individual who is a registrable beneficial owner or managing officer of an overseas entity;
 - “protected trusts information” means—
 - (a) the required information about a trust (see sections 4(3)(a), 7(3)(a) and (4)(a) and 9(3)(a) and (4)(a) and paragraphs 3(2)(a), 4(2)(a) and 5(2)(a) of Schedule 6), or
 - (b) any information required by virtue of section 7(3)(c) or (4)(c) or 9(3)(c) or (4)(c) or paragraph 4(2)(c) of Schedule 6 (information about beneficiaries).
- (3) Information about a registrable beneficial owner or managing officer does not cease to be protected date of birth information or protected residential address information when they cease to be a registrable beneficial owner or managing officer.
- (4) Where subsection (1), or a provision referred to in subsection (1), imposes a restriction by reference to material deriving from a particular description of document (or part of a document), that does not affect the availability for public inspection of the same information contained in material derived from another description of document (or part of a document) in relation to which no such restriction applies.
- (5) The registrar need not retain material to which subsection (1) applies for longer than appears to the registrar reasonably necessary for the purposes for which the material was delivered to the registrar.]

Changes to legislation: There are currently no known outstanding effects for the Economic Crime (Transparency and Enforcement) Act 2022, PART 1. (See end of Document for details)

Textual Amendments

F33 Ss. 22-24 substituted (26.10.2023 for specified purposes) by [Economic Crime and Corporate Transparency Act 2023 \(c. 56\)](#), [ss. 167](#), [219\(1\)\(2\)\(b\)](#)

Modifications etc. (not altering text)

C2 S. 22 modified by [S.I. 2017/692](#), [reg. 30A\(6\)](#) (as substituted (1.4.2023) by [The Money Laundering and Terrorist Financing \(Amendment\) \(No. 2\) Regulations 2022 \(S.I. 2022/860\)](#), [regs. 1\(4\)](#), [9\(h\)](#))

Commencement Information

I60 S. 22 not in force at Royal Assent, see [s. 69](#)

I61 S. 22 in force at 1.8.2022 for specified purposes by [S.I. 2022/876](#), [reg. 3\(g\)](#)

I62 S. 22 in force at 12.10.2022 in so far as not already in force by [S.I. 2022/1039](#), [reg. 2\(a\)](#)

23 ^[F33]Disclosure of information about trusts^[F33]Disclosure of protected information

^[F33](1) The registrar must not disclose protected date of birth information, protected residential address information or protected trusts information unless—

- (a) the disclosure is permitted by section 1110F of the Companies Act 2006 (general powers of disclosure by the registrar),
- (b) the information is required to be made available for public inspection (as a result of being contained in a document, part of a document, or record to which section 22(1) does not apply), or
- (c) the disclosure is permitted by regulations under subsection (2).

(2) The Secretary of State may by regulations make provision requiring the registrar, on application, to disclose relevant protected trusts information to a person (unless required to refrain from doing so by regulations under section 25).

(3) In subsection (2) “relevant protected trusts information” means protected trusts information other than information as to—

- (a) the day of the month (but not the month or year) on which an individual was born, or
- (b) the usual residential address of an individual.

(4) The regulations may make provision as to—

- (a) who may make an application;
- (b) the grounds on which an application may be made;
- (c) the information to be included in and documents to accompany an application;
- (d) the notice to be given of an application and of its outcome;
- (e) how an application is to be determined.

(5) Provision under subsection (4)(e) may in particular provide for a question to be referred to a person other than the registrar for the purposes of determining the application.

(6) The regulations may include provision authorising or requiring the registrar to impose conditions subject to which the information is disclosed (including conditions restricting its use or further disclosure).

Changes to legislation: There are currently no known outstanding effects for the Economic Crime (Transparency and Enforcement) Act 2022, PART 1. (See end of Document for details)

- (7) The regulations may create offences in relation to failures to comply with conditions imposed by virtue of subsection (6).
- (8) The regulations must provide for any such offence to be punishable—
- (a) on summary conviction in England and Wales, by a fine;
 - (b) on summary conviction in Scotland, by a fine not exceeding level 5 on the standard scale;
 - (c) on summary conviction in Northern Ireland, by a fine not exceeding level 5 on the standard scale.
- (9) Regulations under this section may in particular confer a discretion on the registrar.
- (10) Regulations under this section are subject to affirmative resolution procedure.
- (11) In this section the following have the meaning given by section 22(2)—
- “protected date of birth information”;
- “protected residential address information”;
- “protected trusts information”.]

Textual Amendments

F33 Ss. 22-24 substituted (26.10.2023 for specified purposes) by [Economic Crime and Corporate Transparency Act 2023 \(c. 56\)](#), ss. 167, 219(1)(2)(b)

Commencement Information

I63 S. 23 not in force at Royal Assent, see [s. 69](#)

I64 S. 23 in force at 1.8.2022 for specified purposes by [S.I. 2022/876](#), reg. 3(g)

I65 S. 23 in force at 12.10.2022 in so far as not already in force by [S.I. 2022/1039](#), reg. 2(a)

24 [F33 Disclosure of protected information][F33 Consultation about regulations under section 23]

- [F33(1) The Secretary of State must consult the Scottish Ministers before making regulations under section 23 that contain provision that would be within the legislative competence of the Scottish Parliament if contained in an Act of that Parliament.
- (2) The Secretary of State must consult the Department of Finance in Northern Ireland before making regulations under section 23 that contain provision that—
- (a) would be within the legislative competence of the Northern Ireland Assembly if contained in an Act of that Assembly, and
 - (b) would not, if contained in a Bill for an Act of the Northern Ireland Assembly, result in the Bill requiring the consent of the Secretary of State under section 8 of the Northern Ireland Act 1998.]

Textual Amendments

F33 Ss. 22-24 substituted (26.10.2023 for specified purposes) by [Economic Crime and Corporate Transparency Act 2023 \(c. 56\)](#), ss. 167, 219(1)(2)(b)

Commencement Information

I66 S. 24 not in force at Royal Assent, see [s. 69](#)

Changes to legislation: There are currently no known outstanding effects for the Economic Crime (Transparency and Enforcement) Act 2022, PART 1. (See end of Document for details)

- I67** S. 24 in force at 1.8.2022 for specified purposes by S.I. 2022/876, reg. 3(g)
I68 S. 24 in force at 12.10.2022 in so far as not already in force by S.I. 2022/1039, reg. 2(a)

25 [^{F34}Power to protect other information][^{F34}Power to make regulations protecting material]

- [^{F34}(1) The Secretary of State may by regulations make provision requiring the registrar, on application—
- (a) not to make available for public inspection any information on the register relating to an individual;
 - (b) to refrain from disclosing information on the register relating to an individual except in specified circumstances;
 - (c) not to make available for public inspection any address on the register that is not information to which paragraph (a) applies;
 - (d) to refrain from disclosing any such address except in specified circumstances.
- (2) The regulations may make provision as to—
- (a) who may make an application;
 - (b) the grounds on which an application may be made;
 - (c) the information to be included in and documents to accompany an application;
 - (d) the notice to be given of an application and of its outcome;
 - (e) how an application is to be determined;
 - (f) the duration of, and procedures for revoking, any restrictions on the making of information available for public inspection or its disclosure.
- (3) Provision under subsection (2)(e) or (2)(f) may in particular provide for a question to be referred to a person other than the registrar for the purposes of determining the application or revoking the restrictions.
- (4) Regulations under subsection (1)(a) or (1)(c) may provide that information is not to be made unavailable for public inspection unless the person to whom it relates provides such alternative information as may be specified.
- (5) The circumstances that may be specified under subsection (1)(b) or (d) by way of an exception to a restriction on disclosure include circumstances where the court has made an order, in accordance with the regulations, authorising disclosure.
- (6) Regulations under subsection (1)(b) or (d) may not require the registrar to refrain from disclosing information under section 1110F of the Companies Act 2006 (general powers of disclosure by the registrar).
- (7) Regulations under this section may impose a duty on the registrar to publish, in relation to such periods as may be specified—
- (a) details of how many applications have been made under the regulations and how many of them have been allowed, and
 - (b) such other details in connection with applications under the regulations as may be specified in the regulations.
- (8) Regulations under this section may in particular confer a discretion on the registrar.
- (9) Regulations under this section are subject to affirmative resolution procedure.]

Changes to legislation: There are currently no known outstanding effects for the Economic Crime (Transparency and Enforcement) Act 2022, PART 1. (See end of Document for details)

Textual Amendments

F34 S. 25 substituted (26.10.2023 for specified purposes) by [Economic Crime and Corporate Transparency Act 2023 \(c. 56\)](#), [ss. 168](#), [219\(1\)\(2\)\(b\)](#)

Commencement Information

I69 S. 25 not in force at Royal Assent, see [s. 69](#)

I70 S. 25 in force at 1.8.2022 for specified purposes by [S.I. 2022/876](#), [reg. 3\(g\)](#)

I71 S. 25 in force at 12.10.2022 in so far as not already in force by [S.I. 2022/1039](#), [reg. 2\(a\)](#)

26 Data protection

- (1) Nothing in section 21, 23 or 24 authorises or requires a disclosure of information which, although made in accordance with that section, would contravene the data protection legislation.
- (2) In this section “the data protection legislation” has the same meaning as in the Data Protection Act 2018 (see section 3 of that Act).

Commencement Information

I72 S. 26 not in force at Royal Assent, see [s. 69](#)

I73 S. 26 in force at 1.8.2022 for specified purposes by [S.I. 2022/876](#), [reg. 3\(g\)](#)

I74 S. 26 in force at 12.10.2022 in so far as not already in force by [S.I. 2022/1039](#), [reg. 2\(a\)](#)

Correction or removal of material on the register

27 Resolving inconsistencies [^{F35}in the register]

- (1) [^{F36}Where it appears to the registrar that the information contained in a document delivered to the registrar by an overseas entity in connection with the register is inconsistent with other information contained in records kept by the registrar under section 1080 of the Companies Act 2006, the registrar may give notice to the overseas entity to which the document relates—
 - (a) stating in what respects the information contained in it appears to be inconsistent with other information in records kept by the registrar under section 1080 of the Companies Act 2006, and
 - (b) requiring the overseas entity, within the period of 14 days beginning with the date on which the notice is issued, to take all such steps as are reasonably open to it to resolve the inconsistency by delivering replacement or additional documents or in any other way.]
- (2) [^{F36}The notice must state the date on which it is issued.]
- (3) If the necessary documents are not delivered within the period specified, an offence is committed by—
 - (a) the overseas entity, and
 - (b) every officer of the overseas entity who is in default.
- (4) A person guilty of an offence under subsection (3) is liable on summary conviction—

Changes to legislation: There are currently no known outstanding effects for the Economic Crime (Transparency and Enforcement) Act 2022, PART 1. (See end of Document for details)

- (a) in England and Wales, to a fine and, for continued contravention, a daily default fine not exceeding the greater of £2,500 and one half of level 4 on the standard scale;
- (b) in Scotland or Northern Ireland, to a fine not exceeding level 5 on the standard scale and, for continued contravention, a daily default fine not exceeding one half of level 5 on the standard scale.

Textual Amendments

- F35** Words in s. 27 heading omitted (26.10.2023 for specified purposes) by virtue of [Economic Crime and Corporate Transparency Act 2023 \(c. 56\)](#), [ss. 169\(3\)](#), [219\(1\)\(2\)\(b\)](#)
- F36** S. 27(1)(2) substituted (26.10.2023 for specified purposes) by [Economic Crime and Corporate Transparency Act 2023 \(c. 56\)](#), [ss. 169\(2\)](#), [219\(1\)\(2\)\(b\)](#)

Commencement Information

- I75** S. 27 not in force at Royal Assent, see [s. 69](#)
- I76** S. 27 in force at 1.8.2022 for specified purposes by [S.I. 2022/876](#), [reg. 3\(h\)](#)
- I77** S. 27 in force at 12.10.2022 in so far as not already in force by [S.I. 2022/1039](#), [reg. 2\(a\)](#)

28 ^[F37]Administrative removal of material from register^[F37]Administrative removal of material from the register

- ^[F37](1) The registrar may remove from the register anything that appears to the registrar to be—
- (a) a document, or material derived from a document, accepted under section 1073 of the Companies Act 2006 (power to accept documents not meeting requirements for proper delivery), or
 - (b) unnecessary material as defined by section 1074 of the Companies Act 2006.
- (2) The power to remove material from the register under this section may be exercised—
- (a) on the registrar’s own motion, or
 - (b) on an application made in accordance with regulations under section [28A\(2\)](#).
- (3) The Secretary of State may by regulations provide that the registrar’s power to remove material from the register under this section following an application is limited to material of a description specified in the regulations.
- (4) Regulations under this section are subject to the negative resolution procedure.]

Textual Amendments

- F37** Ss. 28, 28A substituted for s. 28 (26.10.2023 for specified purposes) by [Economic Crime and Corporate Transparency Act 2023 \(c. 56\)](#), [ss. 170\(1\)\(a\)](#), [219\(1\)\(2\)\(b\)](#)

Modifications etc. (not altering text)

- C3** S. 28 modified (1.8.2022) by [The Register of Overseas Entities \(Verification and Provision of Information\) Regulations 2022 \(S.I. 2022/725\)](#), [regs. 1\(1\)](#), [12](#)

Commencement Information

- I78** S. 28 not in force at Royal Assent, see [s. 69](#)
- I79** S. 28 in force at 1.8.2022 for specified purposes by [S.I. 2022/876](#), [reg. 3\(h\)](#)

Changes to legislation: There are currently no known outstanding effects for the Economic Crime (Transparency and Enforcement) Act 2022, PART 1. (See end of Document for details)

180 S. 28 in force at 12.10.2022 in so far as not already in force by S.I. 2022/1039, reg. 2(a)

[^{F37}**28A Further provision about removal of material from the register**

- (1) The Secretary of State must by regulations make provision for notice to be given in accordance with the regulations where material is removed from the register under section 28 otherwise than on an application.
- (2) The Secretary of State must by regulations make provision in connection with the making and determination of applications for the removal of material from the register under section 28.
- (3) The provision that may be made under subsection (2) includes provision as to—
 - (a) who may make an application,
 - (b) the information to be included in and documents to accompany an application,
 - (c) the notice to be given of an application and of its outcome,
 - (d) a period in which objections to an application may be made, and
 - (e) how an application is to be determined, including provision as to evidence that may be relied upon by the registrar for the purposes of satisfying the test in section 28(1).
- (4) The provision that may be made by virtue of subsection (3)(e) includes provision as to circumstances in which—
 - (a) evidence is to be treated by the registrar as conclusive proof that the test in section 28(1) is met, and
 - (b) the power of removal must be exercised.
- (5) Regulations under this section may in particular confer a discretion on the registrar.
- (6) Regulations under this section are subject to the negative resolution procedure.]

Textual Amendments

F37 Ss. 28, 28A substituted for s. 28 (26.10.2023 for specified purposes) by [Economic Crime and Corporate Transparency Act 2023 \(c. 56\)](#), ss. 170(1)(a), 219(1)(2)(b)

29 Application to rectify register

- [^{F38}(1) The Secretary of State may by regulations make provision requiring the registrar, on application, to remove from the register material of a description specified in the regulations that—
- (a) derives from anything invalid or ineffective or that was done without the authority of the overseas entity, or
 - (b) is factually inaccurate, or is derived from something that is factually inaccurate, or forged.
- (2) The regulations may make provision as to—
- (a) who may make an application,
 - (b) the information to be included in and documents to accompany an application,
 - (c) the notice to be given of an application and of its outcome,
 - (d) a period in which objections to an application may be made, and

Changes to legislation: There are currently no known outstanding effects for the Economic Crime (Transparency and Enforcement) Act 2022, PART 1. (See end of Document for details)

- (e) how an application is to be determined.
- (3) An application must—
- (a) specify what is to be removed from the register and indicate where on the register it is, and
 - (b) be accompanied by a statement that the material specified in the application complies with this section and the regulations.
- (4) If no objections are made to the application, the registrar may accept the statement as sufficient evidence that the material specified in the application should be removed from the register.
- (5) Regulations under this section are subject to the affirmative resolution procedure.]

Textual Amendments

F38 S. 29 omitted (26.10.2023 for specified purposes) by virtue of [Economic Crime and Corporate Transparency Act 2023 \(c. 56\)](#), [ss. 170\(1\)\(b\)](#), 219(1)(2)(b)

Commencement Information

I81 S. 29 not in force at Royal Assent, see [s. 69](#)

I82 S. 29 in force at 1.8.2022 for specified purposes by [S.I. 2022/876](#), [reg. 3\(h\)](#)

I83 S. 29 in force at 12.10.2022 in so far as not already in force by [S.I. 2022/1039](#), [reg. 2\(a\)](#)

[^{F39}**29A**,
^{F40}(1) This section applies where—

- (a) a material discrepancy in information relating to any registrable beneficial owner is reported to the registrar under regulation 30A(2) or (2B) of the Money Laundering, Terrorist Financing and Transfer of Funds (Information on the Payer) Regulations 2017 (requirement to report discrepancies in information about beneficial ownership), and
 - (b) the registrar determines, having investigated under regulation 30A(5) of those Regulations, that there is a material discrepancy.
- (2) The registrar may remove material from the register if doing so is necessary to resolve the discrepancy.]]

Textual Amendments

F39 S. 29A inserted (1.4.2023) by [The Money Laundering and Terrorist Financing \(Amendment\) \(No. 2\) Regulations 2022 \(S.I. 2022/860\)](#), [regs. 1\(4\)](#), 17

F40 S. 29A omitted (26.10.2023 for specified purposes) by virtue of [Economic Crime and Corporate Transparency Act 2023 \(c. 56\)](#), [ss. 170\(1\)\(b\)](#), 219(1)(2)(b)

30 Court order to rectify register

- (1) The registrar must remove from the register any material—
- (a) that derives from anything that the court has declared to be invalid or ineffective, or to have been done without the authority of the overseas entity, or

Changes to legislation: There are currently no known outstanding effects for the Economic Crime (Transparency and Enforcement) Act 2022, PART 1. (See end of Document for details)

- (b) that a court declares to be factually inaccurate, or to be derived from something that is factually inaccurate, or forged,
and that the court directs should be removed from the register.
- (2) The court order must specify what is to be removed from the register and indicate where on the register it is.
- (3) A copy of the court’s order must be sent to the registrar for registration.

Modifications etc. (not altering text)

- C4** S. 30 modified (1.8.2022) by [The Register of Overseas Entities \(Verification and Provision of Information\) Regulations 2022 \(S.I. 2022/725\)](#), regs. 1(1), **13**

Commencement Information

- I84** S. 30 not in force at Royal Assent, see [s. 69](#)
- I85** S. 30 in force at 1.8.2022 for specified purposes by [S.I. 2022/876](#), [reg. 3\(h\)](#)
- I86** S. 30 in force at 12.10.2022 in so far as not already in force by [S.I. 2022/1039](#), [reg. 2\(a\)](#)

31 Court powers on ordering removal of material from the register

- (1) Where the court makes an order for the removal of anything from the register under section 30, it may give directions under this section.
- (2) It may direct that any note on the register that is related to the material that is the subject of the court’s order is to be removed from the register.
- (3) It may direct that its order is not to be available for public inspection as part of the register.
- (4) It may direct—
 - (a) that no note is to be made on the register as a result of its order, or
 - (b) that any such note is to be restricted to such matters as may be specified by the court in the direction.
- (5) The court must not give any direction under this section unless it is satisfied—
 - (a) that—
 - (i) the presence on the register of the note or, as the case may be, of an unrestricted note, or
 - (ii) the availability for public inspection of the court’s order, may cause damage to the overseas entity, and
 - (b) that the overseas entity’s interest in non-disclosure outweighs any interest of other persons in disclosure.
- (6) In this section “note” means a note placed in the register under section 20 or regulations made under it.

Commencement Information

- I87** S. 31 not in force at Royal Assent, see [s. 69](#)
- I88** S. 31 in force at 1.8.2022 for specified purposes by [S.I. 2022/876](#), [reg. 3\(h\)](#)
- I89** S. 31 in force at 12.10.2022 in so far as not already in force by [S.I. 2022/1039](#), [reg. 2\(a\)](#)

Changes to legislation: There are currently no known outstanding effects for the Economic Crime (Transparency and Enforcement) Act 2022, PART 1. (See end of Document for details)

False statements

32 [^{F41}**General false statement offence**][^{F41}**False statements: basic offence**]

- [^{F41}(1) It is an offence for a person, without reasonable excuse, to—
- (a) deliver or cause to be delivered to the registrar, for the purposes of this Part, a document that is misleading, false or deceptive in a material particular, or
 - (b) make to the registrar, for the purposes of this Part, a statement that is misleading, false or deceptive in a material particular.
- (2) Where the offence is committed by a legal entity, every officer of the entity who is in default also commits the offence.
- (3) A person guilty of an offence under this section is liable—
- (a) on summary conviction in England and Wales, to a fine;
 - (b) on summary conviction in Scotland, to a fine not exceeding level 5 on the standard scale;
 - (c) on summary conviction in Northern Ireland, to a fine not exceeding level 5 on the standard scale.]

Textual Amendments

F41 Ss. 32, 32A substituted for s. 32 (26.10.2023 for specified purposes) by [Economic Crime and Corporate Transparency Act 2023 \(c. 56\)](#), **ss. 172, 219(1)(2)(b)**

Commencement Information

I90 S. 32 not in force at Royal Assent, see **s. 69**

I91 [S. 32](#) in force at 1.8.2022 for specified purposes by [S.I. 2022/876](#), **reg. 3(i)**

I92 [S. 32](#) in force at 12.10.2022 in so far as not already in force by [S.I. 2022/1039](#), **reg. 2(a)**

[^{F41}**32A False statements: aggravated offence**

- (1) It is an offence for a person knowingly to—
- (a) deliver or cause to be delivered to the registrar, for the purposes of this Part, a document that is misleading, false or deceptive in a material particular, or
 - (b) make to the registrar, for the purposes of this Part, a statement that is misleading, false or deceptive in a material particular.
- (2) Where the offence is committed by a legal entity, every officer of the entity who is in default also commits the offence.
- (3) A person guilty of an offence under this section is liable—
- (a) on conviction on indictment, to imprisonment for a term not exceeding two years or a fine (or both);
 - (b) on summary conviction—
 - (i) in England and Wales, to imprisonment for a term not exceeding the general limit in a magistrates' court or a fine (or both);
 - (ii) in Scotland, to imprisonment for a term not exceeding 12 months or a fine not exceeding the statutory maximum (or both);
 - (iii) in Northern Ireland, to imprisonment for a term not exceeding 6 months or a fine not exceeding the statutory maximum (or both).]

Changes to legislation: There are currently no known outstanding effects for the Economic Crime (Transparency and Enforcement) Act 2022, PART 1. (See end of Document for details)

Textual Amendments

- F41** Ss. 32, 32A substituted for s. 32 (26.10.2023 for specified purposes) by [Economic Crime and Corporate Transparency Act 2023 \(c. 56\)](#), [ss. 172, 219\(1\)\(2\)\(b\)](#)

Land ownership and transactions

33 Land ownership and transactions

- (1) Schedule 3 contains amendments about—
 - (a) the ownership of registered land in England and Wales by overseas entities, and
 - (b) land transactions in England and Wales involving overseas entities.
- (2) Schedule 4—
 - (a) makes similar provision for Scotland, and
 - (b) confers a related power to make further or alternative provision (see Part 3 of the Schedule).
- (3) Schedule 5 makes similar provision for Northern Ireland.
- (4) The Secretary of State may by regulations amend Schedule 8A to the Land Registration Act (Northern Ireland) 1970 (inserted by Schedule 5 to this Act) to make provision similar or corresponding to the provision made by paragraphs 3(2)(e), 4(2)(e) and 5 of Schedule 4A to the Land Registration Act 2002 (inserted by Schedule 3 to this Act) (including the provision to make subordinate legislation).
- (5) The provision which may be made by regulations under subsection (4) by virtue of section 67(3) includes provision amending other provisions of the Land Registration (Northern Ireland) Act 1970.
- (6) The Secretary of State must consult the Department of Finance in Northern Ireland before making regulations under subsection (4).
- (7) Regulations under subsection (4) are subject to the affirmative resolution procedure.

Commencement Information

- I93** S. 33 not in force at Royal Assent, see [s. 69](#)
- I94** S. 33 in force at 5.9.2022 by [S.I. 2022/876](#), [reg. 4\(a\)](#)

34 Power to require overseas entity to register if it owns certain land

- (1) The Secretary of State may by notice require an overseas entity to apply for registration in the register of overseas entities within the period of 6 months beginning with the date of the notice if at the time the notice is given—
 - (a) the entity is registered as the proprietor of a relevant interest in land within the meaning given by section 9(10), and
 - (b) the entity is not registered as an overseas entity, has not made an application for registration that is pending and is not an exempt overseas entity.

Changes to legislation: There are currently no known outstanding effects for the Economic Crime (Transparency and Enforcement) Act 2022, PART 1. (See end of Document for details)

- (2) A notice under subsection (1) lapses if, before the end of the period mentioned there, the overseas entity—
- (a) ceases to be registered as the proprietor of a relevant interest in land within the meaning given by section 9(10), or
 - (b) becomes an exempt overseas entity.
- (3) If an overseas entity fails to comply with a notice under subsection (1), an offence is committed by—
- (a) the entity, and
 - (b) every officer of the entity who is in default.
- (4) A person guilty of an offence under subsection (3) is liable—
- (a) on summary conviction in England and Wales, to imprisonment for [^{F42}the maximum summary term for either-way offences][^{F42}a term not exceeding the general limit in a magistrates’ court] or a fine (or both);
 - (b) on summary conviction in Scotland, to imprisonment for a term not exceeding 12 months or a fine not exceeding the statutory maximum (or both);
 - (c) on summary conviction in Northern Ireland, to imprisonment for a term not exceeding 6 months or a fine not exceeding the statutory maximum (or both);
 - (d) on conviction on indictment, to imprisonment for a term not exceeding two years or a fine (or both).
- (5) [^{F43}In subsection (4)(a) “the maximum summary term for either-way offences” means—
- (a) in relation to an offence committed before the time when paragraph 24(2) of Schedule 22 to the Sentencing Act 2020 comes into force, 6 months;
 - (b) in relation to an offence committed after that time, 12 months.]
- (6) In this section “exempt overseas entity” means an overseas entity of such description as may be specified in regulations made by the Secretary of State for the purposes of this section.
- (7) Regulations under subsection (6) are subject to the affirmative resolution procedure.

Textual Amendments

F42 Words in s. 34(4)(a) substituted (26.10.2023 for specified purposes) by [Economic Crime and Corporate Transparency Act 2023 \(c. 56\)](#), [ss. 173\(2\)\(a\)](#), 219(1)(2)(b)

F43 S. 34(5) omitted (26.10.2023 for specified purposes) by virtue of [Economic Crime and Corporate Transparency Act 2023 \(c. 56\)](#), [ss. 173\(2\)\(b\)](#), 219(1)(2)(b)

Commencement Information

I95 S. 34 not in force at Royal Assent, see [s. 69](#)

I96 S. 34 in force at 5.9.2022 by [S.I. 2022/876](#), [reg. 4\(a\)](#)

Changes to legislation: There are currently no known outstanding effects for the Economic Crime (Transparency and Enforcement) Act 2022, PART 1. (See end of Document for details)

Supplementary provision about offences

35 Liability of officers in default

- (1) Sections 1121 to 1123 of the Companies Act 2006 (liability of officers in default: interpretation etc) apply for the purposes of any provision made by this Part as they apply for the purposes of provisions of the Companies Acts.
- (2) In those sections as applied, a reference to an officer includes a person in accordance with whose directions or instructions the board of directors or equivalent management body of a legal entity are accustomed to act.
- (3) A person is not to be regarded as falling within subsection (2) by reason only that the board of directors or equivalent management body acts on advice given by the person in a professional capacity.

Commencement Information

I97 S. 35 not in force at Royal Assent, see [s. 69](#)

I98 S. 35 in force at 1.8.2022 for specified purposes by [S.I. 2022/876, reg. 3\(j\)](#)

I99 S. 35 in force at 12.10.2022 in so far as not already in force by [S.I. 2022/1039, reg. 2\(a\)](#)

36 Meaning of “daily default fine”

Section 1125 of the Companies Act 2006 (meaning of “daily default fine”) applies for ^[F44]the purpose of any provision made by this Part as it applies for the purposes of provisions of the Companies Acts.

Textual Amendments

F44 Word in [s. 36](#) inserted (26.10.2023 for specified purposes) by [Economic Crime and Corporate Transparency Act 2023 \(c. 56\), ss. 173\(3\), 219\(1\)\(2\)\(b\)](#)

Commencement Information

I100 S. 36 not in force at Royal Assent, see [s. 69](#)

I101 S. 36 in force at 1.8.2022 for specified purposes by [S.I. 2022/876, reg. 3\(j\)](#)

I102 S. 36 in force at 12.10.2022 in so far as not already in force by [S.I. 2022/1039, reg. 2\(a\)](#)

37 Consent required for prosecutions

Proceedings for an offence under this Part—

- (a) may not be brought in England and Wales except by or with the consent of the Secretary of State or the Director of Public Prosecutions;
- (b) may not be brought in Northern Ireland except by or with the consent of the Secretary of State or the Director of Public Prosecutions for Northern Ireland.

Commencement Information

I103 S. 37 not in force at Royal Assent, see [s. 69](#)

I104 S. 37 in force at 1.8.2022 for specified purposes by [S.I. 2022/876, reg. 3\(j\)](#)

Changes to legislation: There are currently no known outstanding effects for the Economic Crime (Transparency and Enforcement) Act 2022, PART 1. (See end of Document for details)

I105 S. 37 in force at 12.10.2022 in so far as not already in force by S.I. 2022/1039, reg. 2(a)

38 Further provision about proceedings

The following provisions of the Companies Act 2006 apply in relation to offences under this Part as they apply in relation to offences under the Companies Acts—

- (a) section 1128 (summary proceedings: time limits);
- (b) section 1130 (proceedings against unincorporated bodies).

Commencement Information

I106 S. 38 not in force at Royal Assent, see s. 69

I107 S. 38 in force at 1.8.2022 for specified purposes by S.I. 2022/876, reg. 3(j)

I108 S. 38 in force at 12.10.2022 in so far as not already in force by S.I. 2022/1039, reg. 2(a)

Financial penalties

39 Financial penalties

- (1) The Secretary of State may by regulations make provision conferring power on the registrar to impose a financial penalty on a person if satisfied, beyond reasonable doubt, that the person has engaged in conduct amounting to an offence under this Part.
- (2) The regulations may include provision—
 - (a) about the procedure to be followed in imposing penalties;
 - (b) about the amount of penalties;
 - (c) for the imposition of interest or additional penalties for late payment;
 - (d) conferring rights of appeal against penalties;
 - (e) about the enforcement of penalties.
- (3) The provision that may be made about enforcement includes—
 - (a) in relation to England and Wales or Northern Ireland, provision for unpaid amounts to be secured by a charge on an interest in land (including provision about the priority of any such charge), and
 - (b) in relation to Scotland, provision for penalties to be enforced in the same manner as an extract registered decree arbitral bearing a warrant for execution issued by the sheriff court of any sheriffdom in Scotland.
- (4) The regulations must provide that—
 - (a) ^[F45]no financial penalty may be imposed under the regulations on a person in respect of conduct amounting to an offence if the person has been convicted of that offence in respect of that conduct,] and
 - ^[F45](a) no financial penalty may be imposed under the regulations on a person in respect of conduct amounting to an offence if—
 - (i) proceedings have been brought against the person for that offence in respect of that conduct and the proceedings are ongoing, or
 - (ii) the person has been convicted of that offence in respect of that conduct,]

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- (b) no proceedings may be brought [^{F46}or continued] against a person in respect of conduct amounting to an offence if the person has been given a financial penalty under the regulations in respect of that conduct.
- (5) Amounts recovered by the registrar under the regulations are to be paid into the Consolidated Fund.
- (6) The provision which may be made by regulations under this section by virtue of section 67(3) includes provision amending provision made by or under any of the following, whenever passed or made—
 - (a) an Act;
 - (b) an Act of the Scottish Parliament;
 - (c) Northern Ireland legislation.
- (7) Regulations under this section are subject to the affirmative resolution procedure.
- (8) In this section “conduct” means an act or omission.

Textual Amendments

- F45** S. 39(4)(a) substituted (26.10.2023 for specified purposes) by virtue of [Economic Crime and Corporate Transparency Act 2023 \(c. 56\)](#), [ss. 175\(a\)](#), [219\(1\)\(2\)\(b\)](#)
- F46** Words in s. 39(4)(b) omitted (26.10.2023 for specified purposes) by virtue of [Economic Crime and Corporate Transparency Act 2023 \(c. 56\)](#), [ss. 175\(b\)](#), [219\(1\)\(2\)\(b\)](#)

Commencement Information

- I109** S. 39 not in force at Royal Assent, see [s. 69](#)
- I110** S. 39 in force at 1.8.2022 for specified purposes by [S.I. 2022/876](#), [reg. 3\(k\)](#)
- I111** S. 39 in force at 12.10.2022 in so far as not already in force by [S.I. 2022/1039](#), [reg. 2\(a\)](#)

Sharing of information by HMRC

40 Sharing of information by HMRC

- (1) The Commissioners for Her Majesty’s Revenue and Customs may disclose information to the Secretary of State [^{F47}or the registrar] for the purpose of the taking of action in connection with an offence under this Part.
- (2) For the purposes of this section, the taking of action in connection with an offence under this Part includes any of the following—
 - (a) investigating whether an offence has been committed;
 - (b) prosecuting an offence;
 - (c) imposing financial penalties for conduct amounting to an offence.
- (3) A person who receives information as a result of this section—
 - (a) may not use the information other than for the purpose of the taking of action in connection with an offence under this Part;
 - (b) may not further disclose the information unless the disclosure is necessary for the taking of action in connection with an offence under this Part.
- (4) It is an offence for a person to disclose, in contravention of subsection (3)(b), any revenue and customs information relating to a person whose identity—

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- (a) is specified in the disclosure, or
 - (b) can be deduced from it.
- (5) It is a defence for a person charged with an offence under subsection (4) to prove that the person reasonably believed—
- (a) that the disclosure was lawful, or
 - (b) that the information had already lawfully been made available to the public.
- (6) Subsections (4) to (7) of section 19 of the Commissioners for Revenue and Customs Act 2005 apply to an offence under subsection (4) as they apply to an offence under that section.
- (7) In this section “revenue and customs information relating to a person” has the same meaning as in section 19 of the Commissioners for Revenue and Customs Act 2005 (see section 19(2) of that Act).

Textual Amendments

- F47** Words in s. 40(1) omitted (26.10.2023 for specified purposes) by virtue of [Economic Crime and Corporate Transparency Act 2023 \(c. 56\)](#), s. 219(1)(2)(b), [Sch. 3 para. 5](#)

Commencement Information

- I112** S. 40 not in force at Royal Assent, see [s. 69](#)
- I113** S. 40 in force at 1.8.2022 for specified purposes by [S.I. 2022/876, reg. 3\(1\)](#)
- I114** S. 40 in force at 12.10.2022 in so far as not already in force by [S.I. 2022/1039, reg. 2\(a\)](#)

Transitional provision

41 Applications in the transitional period: information about land transactions

- (1) This section applies where an overseas entity makes an application under section 4 for registration before the end of the transitional period.
- (2) If the entity has not made any relevant dispositions of land during the period—
- (a) beginning with 28 February 2022, and
 - (b) ending with the making of the application,
- the application must include a statement to that effect.
- (3) If the entity has made any relevant dispositions of land during the period mentioned in subsection (2), the application must include—
- (a) the required information about each relevant disposition of land made during that period (see subsection (5)),
 - (b) in relation to each such disposition, the statements and information mentioned in paragraphs (a), (b) and (c) of section 4(1) expressed by reference to the state of affairs immediately before the making of the disposition, and
 - (c) a statement that all of the information required by paragraphs (a) and (b) of this subsection has been included in the application.
- (4) In this section “relevant disposition of land”, in relation to an overseas entity, means—
- (a) a registrable disposition of a qualifying estate within section 27(2)(a), (b)(i) or (f) of the Land Registration Act 2002 other than—

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- (i) a disposition made in pursuance of a statutory obligation or court order, or occurring by operation of law, or
 - (ii) a disposition made by a specified insolvency practitioner in specified circumstances (within the meaning of paragraph 3(3) of Schedule 4A to the Land Registration Act 2002, as inserted by Schedule 3 to this Act);
 - (b) the delivery by the entity of a qualifying registrable deed granted by it where the entity’s interest in respect of which the deed was granted was registered in the Land Register of Scotland on or after 8 December 2014, unless the deed was granted—
 - (i) in pursuance of a statutory obligation or court order, or
 - (ii) by a specified insolvency practitioner in specified circumstances (within the meaning of paragraph 2(5) of schedule 1A of the Land Registration etc. (Scotland) Act 2012, as inserted by Schedule 4 to this Act).
- (5) The required information about a relevant disposition of land is—
 - (a) where the relevant disposition of land is within subsection (4)(a)—
 - (i) the date of disposition, and
 - (ii) the registered title number of the qualifying estate;
 - (b) where the relevant disposition of land is within subsection (4)(b)—
 - (i) the date of delivery of the deed, and
 - (ii) the title number of the title sheet in which the entity’s interest is entered.
- (6) In subsection (4)(a) “qualifying estate” means—
 - (a) a freehold estate in land, or
 - (b) a leasehold estate in land granted for a term of more than seven years from the date of grant,
 of which the overseas entity became a registered proprietor in pursuance of an application made on or after 1 January 1999.
- (7) In subsection (6) “registered proprietor” in relation to an estate means the person entered as proprietor of the estate in the register of title kept by the Chief Land Registrar.
- (8) In subsection (4)(b) “qualifying registrable deed” means a registrable deed (within the meaning of the Land Registration etc. (Scotland) Act 2012) which is—
 - (a) a disposition,
 - (b) a standard security,
 - (c) a lease (including a sub-lease), or
 - (d) an assignation of a lease (including a sub-lease).
- (9) For the purposes of subsection (4)(b), a qualifying registrable deed is to be treated, as at the date of delivery, as having been granted even if at that time it has been executed by the overseas entity only.
- (10) In this section “the transitional period” means the period of 6 months beginning with the day on which section 3(1) comes fully into force.

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Commencement Information

II15 S. 41 not in force at Royal Assent, see [s. 69](#)

II16 S. 41 in force at 1.8.2022 for specified purposes by [S.I. 2022/876](#), [reg. 3\(m\)](#)

II17 S. 41 in force at 12.10.2022 in so far as not already in force by [S.I. 2022/1039](#), [reg. 2\(a\)](#)

42 Requirement for certain unregistered overseas entities to provide information

- (1) An overseas entity, and every officer of the entity who is in default, commits an offence if—
 - (a) at any time during the period beginning with 28 February 2022 and ending with the end of the transitional period, the entity has made a relevant disposition of land,
 - (b) at the end of the transitional period the entity—
 - (i) is not registered as an overseas entity,
 - (ii) has not made an application for registration as an overseas entity that is pending, and
 - (iii) is not an exempt overseas entity, and
 - (c) the entity has not, after making the relevant disposition of land and before the end of the transitional period, delivered to the registrar—
 - (i) statements and information of the kind mentioned in paragraphs (a), (b), (c) and (d) of section 4(1), expressed by reference to the state of affairs immediately before the making of the relevant disposition of land, and
 - (ii) the required information about the relevant disposition of land (within the meaning of section 41(5)).
- (2) A person guilty of an offence under subsection (1) is liable on summary conviction—
 - (a) in England and Wales to a fine and, for continued contravention, a daily default fine not exceeding the greater of £2,500 and one half of level 4 on the standard scale;
 - (b) in Scotland or Northern Ireland, to a fine not exceeding level 5 on the standard scale and, for continued contravention, a daily default fine not exceeding one half of level 5 on the standard scale.
- (3) The contravention continues until such time as the overseas entity has delivered the statements and information mentioned in subsection (1)(c).
- (4) In the case of continued contravention, an offence is also committed by every officer of the overseas entity who did not commit an offence under subsection (1) in relation to the initial contravention but who is in default in relation to the continued contravention.
- (5) A person guilty of an offence under subsection (4) is liable on summary conviction—
 - (a) in England and Wales, to a fine not exceeding the greater of £2,500 and one half of level 4 on the standard scale for each day on which the contravention continues and the person is in default;
 - (b) in Scotland or Northern Ireland, to a fine not exceeding one half of level 5 on the standard scale for each day on which the contravention continues and the person is in default.
- (6) In this section—

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“exempt overseas entity” means an entity of a description specified in regulations under section 34(6);

“relevant disposition of land” has the meaning given by section 41(4);

“transitional period” has the meaning given by section 41(10).

Commencement Information

I118 S. 42 not in force at Royal Assent, see [s. 69](#)

I119 S. 42 in force at 1.8.2022 for specified purposes by [S.I. 2022/876](#), [reg. 3\(m\)](#)

I120 S. 42 in force at 12.10.2022 in so far as not already in force by [S.I. 2022/1039](#), [reg. 2\(a\)](#)

43 Section 42: supplementary

(1) Section 12 has effect as if—

- (a) subsection (1) included a reference to an overseas entity being under a duty to comply with that section before delivering statements and information under section 42(1)(c)(i);
- (b) subsection (2) included a reference to obtaining information for the purposes of section 42(1)(c)(i).

[^{F48}(1A) In subsection (1) the reference to section 12 is to that section as it had effect before the amendments made by Schedule 6 to the Economic Crime and Corporate Transparency Act 2023 (duty to deliver information about changes in beneficiaries).]

(2) The Secretary of State may by regulations make further provision in connection with—

- (a) the provision of information under section 42(1)(c),
- (b) the verification of that information, or
- (c) the processing of that information by the registrar,

including provision modifying any provision made by or under this Part or applying any provision made by or under this Part with modifications.

(3) Regulations under this section are subject to the negative resolution procedure.

Textual Amendments

F48 S. 43(1A) inserted (26.10.2023 for specified purposes) by [Economic Crime and Corporate Transparency Act 2023 \(c. 56\)](#), [s. 219\(1\)\(2\)\(b\)](#), [Sch. 6 para. 7](#)

Commencement Information

I121 S. 43 not in force at Royal Assent, see [s. 69](#)

I122 S. 43 in force at 1.8.2022 for specified purposes by [S.I. 2022/876](#), [reg. 3\(m\)](#)

I123 S. 43 in force at 12.10.2022 in so far as not already in force by [S.I. 2022/1039](#), [reg. 2\(a\)](#)

[^{F49}43A Duty to deliver further information for transitional cases

Schedule 6 (duty to deliver further information for transitional cases) imposes further duties on overseas entities to deliver information.]

Changes to legislation: There are currently no known outstanding effects for the Economic Crime (Transparency and Enforcement) Act 2022, PART 1. (See end of Document for details)

Textual Amendments

F49 S. 43A inserted (26.10.2023 for specified purposes) by [Economic Crime and Corporate Transparency Act 2023 \(c. 56\)](#), s. 219(1)(2)(b), [Sch. 7 para. 3](#)

Interpretation

44 Interpretation

(1) In this Part—

“beneficial owner”, in relation to an overseas entity, has the meaning given by Part 2 of Schedule 2;

[^{F50}“the Companies Acts” has the meaning given by section 2(1) of the Companies Act 2006;]

“the court” has the same meaning as in the Companies Acts (see section 1156 of the Companies Act 2006);

“document” means information in any recorded form [^{F51}and references to delivering a document are to be read in accordance with section 1114(1)(b) of the Companies Act 2006];

“government or public authority” means—

- (a) a corporation sole;
- (b) a government or government department of a country or territory or a part of a country or territory;
- (c) an international organisation whose members include two or more countries or territories (or their governments);
- (d) a local authority or local government body in the United Kingdom or elsewhere;
- (e) any other public authority in the United Kingdom or elsewhere;

“legal entity” has the meaning given by section 2;

“managing officer”, in relation to an overseas entity, includes a director, manager or secretary;

“overseas entity” has the meaning given by section 2;

“register” means the register kept under section 3;

“registered”: an overseas entity is registered if its name appears in the list of registered overseas entities kept in accordance with section 3(3);

“registrable beneficial owner”, in relation to an overseas entity, has the meaning given by Schedule 2;

“the registrar” has the meaning given by section 3(1).

[^{F50}“service address” has the same meaning as in the Companies Acts (see section 1141(1) and (2) of the Companies Act 2006).]

(2) [^{F52}A reference in section 12 or 13 to a person who is a registrable beneficial owner of an overseas entity includes, in connection with the obtaining of information required by section 7(1)(b), 9(1)(c), 41(3)(b) or 42(1)(c)(i), a reference to a person who has ceased to be a registrable beneficial owner.]

(3) A reference in this Part to a trust includes arrangements, under the law of a country or territory outside the United Kingdom, that are of a similar character to a trust, and any related expressions are to be read accordingly.

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- (4) The Secretary of State may by regulations make provision specifying descriptions of arrangements that are, or are not, to be treated as being of a similar character to a trust for the purposes of subsection (3).
- (5) Regulations under subsection (4) are subject to the negative resolution procedure.

Textual Amendments

- F50** Words in s. 44 inserted (26.10.2023 for specified purposes) by [Economic Crime and Corporate Transparency Act 2023 \(c. 56\)](#), [ss. 176](#), 219(1)(2)(b)
- F51** Words in s. 44(1) inserted (26.10.2023 for specified purposes) by [Economic Crime and Corporate Transparency Act 2023 \(c. 56\)](#), s. 219(1)(2)(b), [Sch. 3 para. 6](#)
- F52** S. 44(2) omitted (26.10.2023 for specified purposes) by virtue of [Economic Crime and Corporate Transparency Act 2023 \(c. 56\)](#), s. 219(1)(2)(b), [Sch. 6 para. 8](#)

Commencement Information

- I124** S. 44 not in force at Royal Assent, see [s. 69](#)
- I125** S. 44 in force at 1.8.2022 for specified purposes by [S.I. 2022/876](#), [reg. 3\(n\)](#)
- I126** S. 44 in force at 12.10.2022 in so far as not already in force by [S.I. 2022/1039](#), [reg. 2\(a\)](#)

Changes to legislation:

There are currently no known outstanding effects for the Economic Crime (Transparency and Enforcement) Act 2022, PART 1.