



# Companies Act 2006

## 2006 CHAPTER 46

### PART 1

#### GENERAL INTRODUCTORY PROVISIONS

##### *Types of company*

#### **4 Private and public companies**

- (1) A “private company” is any company that is not a public company.
- (2) A “public company” is a company limited by shares or limited by guarantee and having a share capital—
  - (a) whose certificate of incorporation states that it is a public company, and
  - (b) in relation to which the requirements of this Act, or the former Companies Acts, as to registration or re-registration as a public company have been complied with on or after the relevant date.
- (3) For the purposes of subsection (2)(b) the relevant date is—
  - (a) in relation to registration or re-registration in Great Britain, 22nd December 1980;
  - (b) in relation to registration or re-registration in Northern Ireland, 1st July 1983.
- (4) For the two major differences between private and public companies, see Part 20.