



2008 CHAPTER 12

VALID FROM 24/06/2013

PART 10 CHARITABLE COMPANIES

PROSPECTIVE

Winding up

95.—(1) Where a charity may be wound up by the High Court under the Insolvency (Northern Ireland) Order 1989 (NI 19), a petition for it to be wound up under that Order may be presented by the Attorney General, as well as by any person authorised by that Order.

(2) Where a charity may be so wound up by the High Court, such a petition may also be presented by the Commission if, at any time after it has instituted an inquiry under section 22 with respect to the charity, it is satisfied as mentioned in section 33(1)(a) or (b).

[^{F1}(3) The Commission may make an application under section 1029 of the Companies Act 2006 (application to court for restoration to the register of companies) to restore a charitable company to the register of companies.]

(5) The powers exercisable by the Commission by virtue of this section shall be exercisable by the Commission of its own motion, but shall be exercisable only with the agreement of the Attorney General on each occasion.

Status: Point in time view as at 18/02/2011. This version of this part contains provisions that are not valid for this point in time.

Changes to legislation: There are currently no known outstanding effects for the Charities Act (Northern Ireland) 2008, PART 10. (See end of Document for details)

(6) In this section “charitable company” means a company which is a charity.

Textual Amendments

F1 S. 95(3) substituted for s. 95(3)(4) (19.1.2013) by Charities Act (Northern Ireland) 2013 (c. 3), s. 10(1), Sch. 1 para. 18

Alteration of objects ^{F2}...

96.—(1) Where a charity is a company or other body corporate having power to alter the instruments establishing or regulating it as a body corporate, no exercise of that power which has the effect of the body ceasing to be a charity shall be valid so as to affect the application of—

- (a) any property acquired under any disposition or agreement previously made otherwise than for full consideration in money or money's worth, or any property representing property so acquired,
- (b) any property representing income which has accrued before the alteration is made, or
- (c) the income from any such property as aforesaid.

(2) Where a charity is a company, any regulated alteration by the company—

- (a) requires the prior written consent of the Commission, and
- (b) is ineffective if such consent has not been obtained.

(3) The following are “regulated alterations”—

- [^{F3}(a) an amendment of the company's articles of association adding, removing or altering a statement of the company's objects,]
- (b) any alteration of any provision of its [^{F4}articles of association] directing the application of property of the company on its dissolution, and
- (c) any alteration of any provision of its [^{F5}articles of association] where the alteration would provide authorisation for any benefit to be obtained by directors or members of the company or persons connected with them.

(4) For the purposes of subsection (3)—

- (a) “benefit” means a direct or indirect benefit of any nature, except that it does not include any remuneration (within the meaning of section 88) whose receipt may be authorised under that section; and
- (b) the same rules apply for determining whether a person is connected with a director or member of the company as apply, in accordance with section 89(5) and (6), for determining whether a person is connected with a charity trustee for the purposes of section 88.

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[^{F6}(5) Where a company that has made a regulated alteration in accordance with subsection (2) is required—

- (a) by section 26 of the Companies Act to send to the registrar of companies a copy of its articles as amended,
- (b) by section 30 of that Act to forward to the registrar a copy of the special resolution effecting the alteration, or
- (c) by section 31 of that Act to give notice to the registrar of the amendment,

the copy or notice must be accompanied by a copy of the Commission's consent.

(5A) If more than one of those provisions applies and they are complied with at different times, the company need not send a further copy of the Commission's consent if a copy was sent on an earlier occasion.

(6) Section 30(2) to (4) of that Act (offence of failing to comply with section 30) apply in relation to a failure to comply with subsection (5) as in relation to a failure to comply with that section.]

Textual Amendments

- F2** Word in s. 96 heading repealed (19.1.2013) by [Charities Act \(Northern Ireland\) 2013 \(c. 3\), s. 10\(1\), Sch. 1 para. 19\(2\), 2](#)
- F3** S. 96(3)(a) substituted (19.1.2013) by [Charities Act \(Northern Ireland\) 2013 \(c. 3\), s. 10\(1\), Sch. 1 para. 19\(3\)\(a\)](#)
- F4** Words in s. 96(3)(b) substituted (19.1.2013) by [Charities Act \(Northern Ireland\) 2013 \(c. 3\), s. 10\(1\), Sch. 1 para. 19\(3\)\(b\)](#)
- F5** Words in s. 96(3)(c) substituted (19.1.2013) by [Charities Act \(Northern Ireland\) 2013 \(c. 3\), s. 10\(1\), Sch. 1 para. 19\(3\)\(b\)](#)
- F6** S. 96(5)(5A)(6) substituted for s. 96(5)(6) (19.1.2013) by [Charities Act \(Northern Ireland\) 2013 \(c. 3\), s. 10\(1\), Sch. 1 para. 19\(4\)](#)

PROSPECTIVE

Invalidity of certain transactions

^{F7}97

Textual Amendments

- F7** S. 97 repealed (19.1.2013) by [Charities Act \(Northern Ireland\) 2013 \(c. 3\), s. 10\(1\), Sch. 1 para. 20, 2](#)

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Consent of Commission required for approval etc by members of charitable companies

98.—(1) Where a company is a charity—

- (a) any approval given by the members of the company under any provision of Chapter 4 of Part 10 of the Companies Act 2006 (transactions with directors requiring approval by members) listed in subsection (2), and
- (b) any affirmation given by members of the company under section 196 or 214 of that Act (affirmation of unapproved property transactions and loans),

is ineffective without the prior written consent of the Commission.

(2) The provisions are—

- (a) section 188 (directors' long-term service contracts);
- (b) section 190 (substantial property transactions with directors etc);
- (c) section 197, 198 or 200 (loans and quasi-loans to directors etc);
- (d) section 201 (credit transactions for benefit of directors etc);
- (e) section 203 (related arrangements);
- (f) section 217 (payments to directors for loss of office);
- (g) section 218 (payments to directors for loss of office: transfer of undertaking etc).

Consent of Commission required for certain acts of charitable company

99.—(1) A company that is a charity may not do an act to which this section applies without the prior written consent of the Commission.

(2) This section applies to an act that—

- (a) does not require approval under a listed provision of Chapter 4 of Part 10 of the Companies Act 2006 (transactions with directors) by the members of the company, but
- (b) would require such approval but for an exemption in the provision in question that disapplies the need for approval on the part of the members of a body corporate which is a wholly owned subsidiary of another body corporate.

(3) The reference to a listed provision is a reference to a provision listed in section 98(2).

(4) If a company acts in contravention of this section, the exemption referred to in subsection (2)(b) shall be treated as of no effect in relation to the act.

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Requirement to disclose charitable status

100.—(1) Where a company is a charity and its name does not include the word “charity” or “charitable”, the fact that the company is a charity must be stated in legible characters—

(a) in every location, and in every description of document or communication, in which it is required by regulations under section 82 of the Companies Act 2006 (c. 46) to state its registered name, and

(b) in all conveyances purporting to be executed by the company.

(2) In subsection (1)(b) “conveyance” means any instrument creating, transferring, varying or extinguishing an interest in land.

Civil consequences of failure to make required disclosure

101.—(1) This section applies to any legal proceedings brought by a company to which section 100 applies to enforce a right arising out of a contract or conveyance in connection with which there was a failure to comply with that section.

(2) The proceedings shall be dismissed if the defendant to the proceedings (“D”) shows—

(a) that D has a claim against the claimant arising out of the contract or conveyance that D has been unable to pursue by reason of the failure to comply with section 100, or

(b) that D has suffered some financial loss in connection with the contract or conveyance by reason of the failure to comply with that section,

unless the court before which the proceedings are brought is satisfied that it is just and equitable to permit the proceedings to continue.

(3) This section does not affect the right of any person to enforce such rights as that person may have against another in any proceedings brought by that person.

Criminal consequences of failure to make required disclosure

102.—(1) Where a company fails, without reasonable excuse, to comply with section 100, an offence is committed by—

(a) the company, and

(b) every officer of the company who is in default.

(2) For this purpose a shadow director of the company is treated as an officer of the company if the failure is to comply with section 100(1)(a) and that person would be treated as an officer of the company for the purposes of the corresponding requirement of regulations under section 82 of the Companies Act 2006 (c. 46).

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(3) A person guilty of such an offence is liable on summary conviction to a fine not exceeding level 3 on the standard scale and, for continued contravention, a daily default fine not exceeding one-tenth of level 3 on the standard scale.

(4) Expressions used in this section have the same meaning as in section 84 of the Companies Act 2006 (criminal consequences of failure to disclose company's registered name).

VALID FROM 01/01/2016

Duty of charity's auditors, etc. to report matters to Commission

103.—(1) Section 67(2) to (7) shall apply in relation to a person acting as an auditor of a charitable company appointed under Chapter 2 of Part 16 of the Companies Act 2006 (c. 46) (appointment of auditors) as they apply in relation to a person such as is mentioned in section 67(1).

(2) For this purpose any reference in section 67 to a person acting in the capacity mentioned in section 67(1) is to be read as a reference to that person acting in the capacity mentioned in subsection (1) of this section.

(3) In this section “charitable company” means a charity which is a company.

VALID FROM 01/01/2016

Investigation of accounts

104.—(1) In the case of a charity which is a company the Commission may by order require that the condition and relevant accounts of the charity for such period as the Commission thinks fit shall be investigated and audited by an auditor appointed by the Commission, being a person eligible for appointment as a statutory auditor under Part 42 of the Companies Act 2006 (c. 46).

(2) “Relevant accounts” means accounts required to be audited under Part 16 of the Companies Act 2006.

(3) An auditor acting under subsection (1)—

(a) shall have a right of access to all books, accounts and documents relating to the charity which are in the possession or control of the charity trustees or to which the charity trustees have access;

(b) shall be entitled to require from any charity trustee, past or present, and from any past or present officer or employee of the charity such

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information and explanation as the auditor thinks necessary for the performance of the auditor's duties;

(c) shall at the conclusion or during the progress of the audit make such reports to the Commission about the audit or about the accounts or affairs of the charity as the auditor thinks the case requires, and shall send a copy of any such report to the charity trustees.

(4) The expenses of any audit under subsection (1), including the remuneration of the auditor, shall be paid by the Commission.

(5) If any person fails to afford an auditor any facility to which the auditor is entitled under subsection (3) the Commission may by order give to that person or to the charity trustees for the time being such directions as the Commission thinks appropriate for securing that the default is made good.

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