



Companies Act 1985

1985 CHAPTER 6

PART VII

ACCOUNTS AND AUDIT

CHAPTER I

PROVISIONS APPLYING TO COMPANIES GENERALLY

Publication of accounts

254 Publication of full company accounts

- (1) This section applies to the publication by a company of full individual or group accounts, that is to say the accounts required by section 241 to be laid before the company in general meeting and delivered to the registrar of companies (including the directors' report, unless dispensed with under paragraph 3 of Schedule 8).
- (2) If a company publishes individual accounts (modified or other) for a financial year, it shall publish with them the relevant auditors' report.
- (3) If a company required by section 229 to prepare group accounts for a financial year publishes individual accounts for that year, it shall also publish with them its group accounts (which may be modified accounts, but only if the individual accounts are modified).
- (4) If a company publishes group accounts (modified or other), otherwise than together with its individual accounts, it shall publish with them the relevant auditors' report.
- (5) References above to the relevant auditors' report are to the auditors' report under section 236 or, in the case of modified accounts (individual or group), the auditors' special report under paragraph 10 of Schedule 8.

Status: This is the original version (as it was originally enacted). This item of legislation is currently only available in its original format.

- (6) A company which contravenes any provision of this section, and any officer of it who is in default, is liable to a fine.

255 Publication of abridged accounts

- (1) This section applies to the publication by a company of abridged accounts, that is to say any balance sheet or profit and loss account relating to a financial year of the company or purporting to deal with any such financial year, otherwise than as part of full accounts (individual or group) to which section 254 applies.
- (2) The reference above to a balance sheet or profit and loss account, in relation to accounts published by a holding company, includes an account in any form purporting to be a balance sheet or profit and loss account for the group consisting of the holding company and its subsidiaries.
- (3) If the company publishes abridged accounts, it shall publish with those accounts a statement indicating—
- (a) that the accounts are not full accounts,
 - (b) whether full individual or full group accounts (according as the abridged accounts deal solely with the company's own affairs or with the affairs of the company and any subsidiaries) have been delivered to the registrar of companies or, in the case of an unlimited company exempt under section 241(4) from the requirement to deliver accounts, that the company is so exempt,
 - (c) whether the company's auditors have made a report under section 236 on the company's accounts for any financial year with which the abridged accounts purport to deal, and
 - (d) whether any report so made was unqualified (meaning that it was a report, without qualification, to the effect that in the opinion of the person making it the company's accounts had been properly prepared).
- (4) Where a company publishes abridged accounts, it shall not publish with those accounts any such report of the auditors as is mentioned in subsection (3)(c).
- (5) A company which contravenes any provision of this section, and any officer of it who is in default, is liable to a fine.