



# Building Societies Act 1986

## 1986 CHAPTER 53

### PART VI

#### POWERS OF CONTROL OF THE [F1 APPROPRIATE AUTHORITY]

##### *Advertising etc.*

#### [F151 Powers to avoid apparent association with other bodies.

- (1) If, as regards a building society and another body corporate which is not an associated body by virtue of section 18, it appears to the Commission that persons who might invest in or otherwise deal with that other body may be misled into believing that there is such a business relationship between the society and that body as indicates that the society has assumed an obligation to discharge that body's liabilities in any event, the Commission may give the society a direction under subsection (2) below.
- (2) A direction under this subsection is a direction requiring the society—
  - (a) if they are available to it, to assume and make exercisable, or to make exercisable, as regards a body specified in the direction, the powers conferred by section 18; or
  - (b) to take such steps as are agreed with the Commission for the purpose of removing the appearance of a business relationship with the specified body which indicates the assumption of an obligation of the description referred to in subsection (1) above;and, within a specified period, to notify the Commission of the course it has decided to take.
- (3) The steps that a building society may be required to take for the purpose of complying with a direction under subsection (2) above may relate to the conduct of its business or to its business relationship (if any) with the other body and, in particular, may require the removal of any person from any office in the society or that body.
- (4) A direction under subsection (2) above shall—

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*Changes to legislation: Building Societies Act 1986, Section 51 is up to date with all changes known to be in force on or before 28 August 2024. There are changes that may be brought into force at a future date. Changes that have been made appear in the content and are referenced with annotations. (See end of Document for details) View outstanding changes*

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- (a) specify the matters which appear to the Commission to be capable of giving rise to such a belief as is mentioned in subsection (1) above;
  - (b) specify the period within which the society must comply with the direction;
  - (c) require the society, if it decides to comply with the direction by taking steps to secure the purpose mentioned in subsection (2)(b) above, to notify the Commission of the steps it proposes to take.
- (5) Where a building society, in pursuance of subsection (2)(b) above notifies the Commission of steps which it proposes to take to secure the purpose mentioned in that paragraph then—
- (a) if it appears to the Commission that the steps proposed are reasonably likely to secure that purpose, the Commission shall approve them and direct the society to carry them out;
  - (b) if it appears to the Commission that the steps proposed are, with modifications, likely to secure that purpose and the Commission and the society agree on appropriate modifications within the period of 21 days from the date on which the Commission notifies the society of the modifications it proposes for their agreement, the Commission shall approve the steps as modified and direct the society to carry them out;
- but otherwise the Commission shall reject the society’s proposals.
- (6) If the Commission rejects a society’s proposals under subsection (5) above the Commission shall direct the society, within a specified period, to take the steps specified in the direction.
- (7) Any direction under subsection (2), (5) or (6) above shall be given by the Commission by notice served on the society.
- (8) The Commission may, if it thinks fit, extend, or further extend, any period during which a building society is to take any steps required of it under any of the foregoing provisions of this section and may do so whether or not application is made to it before the expiry of the period in question.
- (9) If a building society fails, within the period allowed to it under the foregoing provisions of this section, to comply with a direction under subsection (2) or (6) above, the Commission may serve on the society an aggregation notice to take effect on such date as is specified in the notice.
- (10) An aggregation notice under subsection (9) above is a notice directing that, from the date specified in the notice until the notice is withdrawn by the Commission, the assets and liabilities of the body specified in the notice will be aggregated with those of the society for the purposes of the provisions of this Act requiring aggregation of assets or liabilities; and where such a notice is served, and whilst it remains in force, the assets and liabilities of the body specified in the notice shall for the purposes of those provisions be aggregated with those of the society in accordance with the aggregation rules in force under sections 7(10), 8(3) and 20(9).
- (11) A copy of any aggregation notice served on a building society under subsection (9) above shall, whilst in force, be kept in the public file of the society.
- (12) In this section—
- “business relationship” includes the use of business names and the holding by one individual of offices in more than one body;

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“specified” means specified in a direction under any provision of this section;

and “the provisions of this Act requiring aggregation of assets or liabilities” are sections 7, 8 and 20.]

#### Textual Amendments

- F1** S. 51 repealed (1.12.1997 in specified cases and for specified purposes and otherwise in accordance with art. 2(2)(3)(5) of S.I. 1997/2668) by 1997 c. 32, ss. 43, 46(2), 47(3), Sch. 7 para. 16, **Sch. 9**; S.I. 1997/2668, art. 2, **Sch. Pt. II(w)(y)(z)(vii)(cc)(vi)**

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**Changes and effects yet to be applied to the whole Act associated Parts and Chapters:**

Whole provisions yet to be inserted into this Act (including any effects on those provisions):

- s. 5(11)-(14) inserted by [2007 c. 26 s. 1\(2\)](#)
- s. 5(13)(a) substituted by [S.I. 2013/496 Sch. 8 para. 4\(4\)](#)
- s. 7(6A)-(6C) inserted by [2007 c. 26 s. 1\(1\)\(a\)](#)
- s. 7(8A) inserted by [2007 c. 26 s. 1\(1\)\(c\)](#)
- s. 176ZB excluded by [S.I. 2017/400 reg. 14](#)
- s. 246ZA-246ZC excluded by [S.I. 2017/400 reg. 15](#)
- s. 246ZD excluded by [S.I. 2017/400 reg. 16](#)