



# Employment Tribunals Act 1996

## 1996 CHAPTER 17

### PART I

#### INDUSTRIAL TRIBUNALS

##### *Introductory*

#### **1 Industrial tribunals**

- (1) The Secretary of State may by regulations make provision for the establishment of tribunals to be known as industrial tribunals.
- (2) Regulations made wholly or partly under section 128(1) of the <sup>M1</sup>Employment Protection (Consolidation) Act 1978 and in force immediately before this Act comes into force shall, so far as made under that provision, continue to have effect (until revoked) as if made under subsection (1); and the tribunals established in pursuance of such regulations shall continue to be known as industrial tribunals.

#### **Marginal Citations**

**M1** 1978 c. 44.

##### *Jurisdiction*

#### **2 Enactments conferring jurisdiction on industrial tribunals.**

Industrial tribunals shall exercise the jurisdiction conferred on them by or by virtue of this Act or any other Act, whether passed before or after this Act.

#### **3 Power to confer further jurisdiction on industrial tribunals.**

- (1) The appropriate Minister may by order provide that proceedings in respect of—

*Status:* Point in time view as at 31/07/1997. This version of this part contains provisions that are not valid for this point in time.

*Changes to legislation:* Employment Tribunals Act 1996, PART I is up to date with all changes known to be in force on or before 02 July 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)

- (a) any claim to which this section applies, or
  - (b) any claim to which this section applies and which is of a description specified in the order,
- may, subject to such exceptions (if any) as may be so specified, be brought before an industrial tribunal.
- (2) Subject to subsection (3), this section applies to—
- (a) a claim for damages for breach of a contract of employment or other contract connected with employment,
  - (b) a claim for a sum due under such a contract, and
  - (c) a claim for the recovery of a sum in pursuance of any enactment relating to the terms or performance of such a contract,
- if the claim is such that a court in England and Wales or Scotland would under the law for the time being in force have jurisdiction to hear and determine an action in respect of the claim.
- (3) This section does not apply to a claim for damages, or for a sum due, in respect of personal injuries.
- (4) Any jurisdiction conferred on an industrial tribunal by virtue of this section in respect of any claim is exercisable concurrently with any court in England and Wales or in Scotland which has jurisdiction to hear and determine an action in respect of the claim.
- (5) In this section—
- “appropriate Minister”, as respects a claim in respect of which an action could be heard and determined by a court in England and Wales, means the Lord Chancellor and, as respects a claim in respect of which an action could be heard and determined by a court in Scotland, means the Lord Advocate, and
  - “personal injuries” includes any disease and any impairment of a person’s physical or mental condition.
- (6) In this section a reference to breach of a contract includes a reference to breach of—
- (a) a term implied in a contract by or under any enactment or otherwise,
  - (b) a term of a contract as modified by or under any enactment or otherwise, and
  - (c) a term which, although not contained in a contract, is incorporated in the contract by another term of the contract.

*Membership etc.*

VALID FROM 01/12/2007

**[<sup>F13A</sup> Meaning of “Employment Judge”**

A person who is a member of a panel of chairmen of employment tribunals which is appointed in accordance with regulations under section 1(1) may be referred to as an Employment Judge.]

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### Textual Amendments

**F1** S. 3A inserted (1.12.2007) by [Tribunals, Courts and Enforcement Act 2007 \(c. 15\)](#), ss. 48(1), 148, [Sch. 8 para. 36](#); [S.I. 2007/2709](#), [art. 4](#)

## 4 Composition of a tribunal.

- (1) Subject to the following provisions of this section, proceedings before an industrial tribunal shall be heard by—
  - (a) the person who, in accordance with regulations made under section 1(1), is the chairman, and
  - (b) two other members, or (with the consent of the parties) one other member, selected as the other members (or member) in accordance with regulations so made.
- (2) Subject to subsection (5), the proceedings specified in subsection (3) shall be heard by the person mentioned in subsection (1)(a) alone.
- (3) The proceedings referred to in subsection (2) are—
  - (a) proceedings on an application under section 161, 165 or 166 of the <sup>M2</sup>Trade Union and Labour Relations (Consolidation) Act 1992,
  - (b) proceedings on a complaint under section 126 of the <sup>M3</sup>Pension Schemes Act 1993,
  - (c) proceedings on a complaint under section 23 or 188 of the <sup>M4</sup>Employment Rights Act 1996 or on an application under section 128, 131 or 132 of that Act,
  - (d) proceedings in respect of which an industrial tribunal has jurisdiction by virtue of section 3 of this Act,
  - (e) proceedings in which the parties have given their written consent to the proceedings being heard in accordance with subsection (2) (whether or not they have subsequently withdrawn it),
  - (f) proceedings in which the person bringing the proceedings has given written notice withdrawing the case, and
  - (g) proceedings in which the person (or, where more than one, each of the persons) against whom the proceedings are brought does not, or has ceased to, contest the case.
- (4) The Secretary of State may by order amend the provisions of subsection (3).
- (5) Proceedings specified in subsection (3) shall be heard in accordance with subsection (1) if a person who, in accordance with regulations made under section 1(1), may be the chairman of an industrial tribunal, having regard to—
  - (a) whether there is a likelihood of a dispute arising on the facts which makes it desirable for the proceedings to be heard in accordance with subsection (1),
  - (b) whether there is a likelihood of an issue of law arising which would make it desirable for the proceedings to be heard in accordance with subsection (2),
  - (c) any views of any of the parties as to whether or not the proceedings ought to be heard in accordance with either of those subsections, and
  - (d) whether there are other proceedings which might be heard concurrently but which are not proceedings specified in subsection (3),

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decides at any stage of the proceedings that the proceedings are to be heard in accordance with subsection (1).

- (6) Where (in accordance with the following provisions of this Part) the Secretary of State makes industrial tribunal procedure regulations, the regulations may provide that, in such circumstances as the regulations may specify, any act required or authorised by the regulations to be done by an industrial tribunal may be done by the person mentioned in subsection (1)(a) alone.
- (7) Where a Minister of the Crown so directs in relation to any proceedings on grounds of national security—
- (a) the proceedings shall be heard and determined, and
  - (b) any act required or authorised by industrial tribunal procedure regulations to be done by an industrial tribunal in relation to the proceedings shall be done, by the President of the Industrial Tribunals (England and Wales) appointed in accordance with regulations made under section 1(1), or by the President of the Industrial Tribunals (Scotland) so appointed, alone.

#### Marginal Citations

**M2** 1992 c. 52.

**M3** 1993 c. 48.

**M4** 1996 c. 18.

## 5 Remuneration, fees and allowances.

- (1) The Secretary of State may pay to—
- (a) the President of the Industrial Tribunals (England and Wales),
  - (b) the President of the Industrial Tribunals (Scotland), and
  - (c) any person who is a member on a full-time basis of a panel of chairmen of tribunals which is appointed in accordance with regulations made under section 1(1),
- such remuneration as he may with the consent of the Treasury determine.
- (2) The Secretary of State may pay to—
- (a) members of industrial tribunals,
  - (b) any assessors appointed for the purposes of proceedings before industrial tribunals, and
  - (c) any persons required for the purposes of section 2A(1)(b) of the <sup>M5</sup>Equal Pay Act 1970 to prepare reports,
- such fees and allowances as he may with the consent of the Treasury determine.
- (3) The Secretary of State may pay to any other persons such allowances as he may with the consent of the Treasury determine for the purposes of, or in connection with, their attendance at industrial tribunals.

#### Marginal Citations

**M5** 1970 c. 41.

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VALID FROM 03/11/2008

## **[<sup>F2</sup>5A Training etc.**

The Senior President of Tribunals is responsible, within the resources made available by the Lord Chancellor, for the maintenance of appropriate arrangements for the training, guidance and welfare of members of panels of members of employment tribunals (in their capacities as members of such panels, whether or not panels of [<sup>F3</sup> Employment Judges ] ).

### **Textual Amendments**

**F2** Ss. 5A-5D inserted (3.11.2008) by [Tribunals, Courts and Enforcement Act 2007 \(c. 15\)](#), ss. 48(1), 148, [Sch. 8 para. 40](#); S.I. 2008/2696, art. 5(c)(i) (with art. 3)

**F3** Words in s. 5A substituted (1.10.2013) by [Crime and Courts Act 2013 \(c. 22\)](#), s. 61(3), [Sch. 14 para. 13\(1\)](#); S.I. 2013/2200, art. 3(g)

VALID FROM 03/11/2008

## **5B Members of employment tribunals: removal from office**

- (1) Any power by which the President of the Employment Tribunals (England and Wales) may be removed from that office may be exercised only with the concurrence of the Lord Chief Justice of England and Wales.
- (2) Any power by which the President of the Employment Tribunals (Scotland) may be removed from that office may be exercised only with the concurrence of the Lord President of the Court of Session.
- (3) Any power by which a member of a panel may be removed from membership of the panel—
  - (a) may, if the person exercises functions wholly or mainly in Scotland, be exercised only with the concurrence of the Lord President of the Court of Session;
  - (b) may, if paragraph (a) does not apply, be exercised only with the concurrence of the Lord Chief Justice of England and Wales.
- (4) In subsection (3) “panel” means—
  - (a) a panel of [<sup>F4</sup> Employment Judges ] , or
  - (b) any other panel of members of employment tribunals,which is appointed in accordance with regulations made under section 1(1).
- (5) The Lord Chief Justice of England and Wales may nominate a judicial office holder (as defined in section 109(4) of the Constitutional Reform Act 2005) to exercise his functions under this section.
- (6) The Lord President of the Court of Session may nominate a judge of the Court of Session who is a member of the First or Second Division of the Inner House of that Court to exercise his functions under this section.

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### Textual Amendments

- F2** Ss. 5A-5D inserted (3.11.2008) by [Tribunals, Courts and Enforcement Act 2007 \(c. 15\)](#), ss. 48(1), 148, [Sch. 8 para. 40](#); S.I. 2008/2696, art. 5(c)(i) (with art. 3)
- F4** Words in s. 5B(4) substituted (1.10.2013) by [Crime and Courts Act 2013 \(c. 22\)](#), s. 61(3), [Sch. 14 para. 13\(1\)](#); S.I. 2013/2200, art. 3(g)

VALID FROM 03/11/2008

## 5C Oaths

- (1) Subsection (2) applies to a person (“the appointee”)—
- (a) who is appointed—
    - (i) as President of the Employment Tribunals (England and Wales),
    - (ii) as President of the Employment Tribunals (Scotland), or
    - (iii) as a member of a panel (as defined in section 5B(4)), and
  - (b) who has not previously taken the required oaths after accepting another office.
- (2) The appointee must take the required oaths before—
- (a) the Senior President of Tribunals, or
  - (b) an eligible person who is nominated by the Senior President of Tribunals for the purpose of taking the oaths from the appointee.
- (3) If the appointee is a President or panel member appointed before the coming into force of this section, the requirement in subsection (2) applies in relation to the appointee from the coming into force of this section.
- (4) A person is eligible for the purposes of subsection (2)(b) if one or more of the following paragraphs applies to him—
- (a) he holds high judicial office (as defined in section 60(2) of the Constitutional Reform Act 2005);
  - (b) he holds judicial office (as defined in section 109(4) of that Act);
  - (c) he holds (in Scotland) the office of sheriff.
- (5) In this section “the required oaths” means—
- (a) the oath of allegiance, and
  - (b) the judicial oath,
- as set out in the Promissory Oaths Act 1868.

### Textual Amendments

- F2** Ss. 5A-5D inserted (3.11.2008) by [Tribunals, Courts and Enforcement Act 2007 \(c. 15\)](#), ss. 48(1), 148, [Sch. 8 para. 40](#); S.I. 2008/2696, art. 5(c)(i) (with art. 3)

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VALID FROM 03/11/2008

## 5D Judicial assistance

- (1) Subsection (2) applies where regulations under section 1(1) make provision for a relevant tribunal judge, or a relevant judge, to be able by virtue of his office to act as a member of a panel of members of employment tribunals.
- (2) The provision has effect only if—
- (a) the persons in relation to whom the provision operates have to be persons nominated for the purposes of the provision by the Senior President of Tribunals,
  - (b) its operation in relation to a panel established for England and Wales in any particular case requires the consent of the President of Employment Tribunals (England and Wales),
  - (c) its operation in relation to a panel established for Scotland in any particular case requires the consent of the President of Employment Tribunals (Scotland),
  - (d) its operation as respects a particular relevant judge requires—
    - (i) the consent of the relevant judge, and
    - (ii) the appropriate consent (see subsection (3)) [<sup>F5</sup> except where the relevant judge is the Lord Chief Justice of England and Wales ], and
  - (e) it operates as respects a relevant tribunal judge or a relevant judge only for the purpose of enabling him to act as a member of a panel of [<sup>F6</sup> Employment Judges ] .
- (3) In subsection (2)(d)(ii) “the appropriate consent” means—
- (a) the consent of the Lord Chief Justice of England and Wales where the relevant judge is—
    - (i) [<sup>F7</sup> the Master of the Rolls or ] an ordinary judge of the Court of Appeal in England and Wales,  
[ within subsection (4)(b)(ia),]
    - <sup>F8</sup>(ia)
    - (ii) a puisne judge of the High Court in England and Wales,
    - (iii) a circuit judge,
    - (iv) a district judge in England and Wales, <sup>F9</sup> ...
    - (v) a District Judge (Magistrates' Courts); [<sup>F10</sup> , or
    - (vi) within subsection (4)(b)(x) to (xvi);]
  - (b) the consent of the Lord President of the Court of Session where the relevant judge is—
    - (i) a judge of the Court of Session, or
    - (ii) a sheriff;
  - (c) the consent of the Lord Chief Justice of Northern Ireland where the relevant judge is—
    - (i) a Lord Justice of Appeal in Northern Ireland,
    - (ii) a puisne judge of the High Court in Northern Ireland,
    - (iii) a county court judge in Northern Ireland, or
    - (iv) a district judge in Northern Ireland.



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(4) In this section—

(a) “relevant tribunal judge” means—

(i) a person who is a judge of the First-tier Tribunal by virtue of appointment under paragraph 1(1) of Schedule 2 to the Tribunals, Courts and Enforcement Act 2007,

[ is the President of the Queen's Bench Division or Family Division,  
<sup>F11</sup>(ia) or the Chancellor, of the High Court in England and Wales,]

(ii) a transferred-in judge of the First-tier Tribunal,

(iii) a person who is a judge of the Upper Tribunal by virtue of appointment under paragraph 1(1) of Schedule 3 to that Act,

(iv) a transferred-in judge of the Upper Tribunal,

(v) a deputy judge of the Upper Tribunal, <sup>F12</sup>...

(vi) a person who is the Chamber President of a chamber of the First-tier Tribunal, or of a chamber of the Upper Tribunal, and does not fall within any of sub-paragraphs (i) to (v);<sup>F13</sup>, or

(vii) is the Senior President of Tribunals;]

(b) “relevant judge” means a person who—

(i) is [<sup>F14</sup> the Lord Chief Justice of England and Wales, the Master of the Rolls or ] an ordinary judge of the Court of Appeal in England and Wales (including the vice-president, if any, of either division of that Court),

(ii) is a Lord Justice of Appeal in Northern Ireland,

(iii) is a judge of the Court of Session,

(iv) is a puisne judge of the High Court in England and Wales or Northern Ireland,

(v) is a circuit judge,

(vi) is a sheriff in Scotland,

(vii) is a county court judge in Northern Ireland,

(viii) is a district judge in England and Wales or Northern Ireland, <sup>F15</sup>...

(ix) is a District Judge (Magistrates' Courts).

[ is a deputy judge of the High Court in England and Wales,

<sup>F16</sup>(x)

(xi) is a Recorder,

(xii) is a Deputy District Judge (Magistrates' Courts),

(xiii) is a deputy district judge appointed under section 8 of the County Courts Act 1984 or section 102 of the Senior Courts Act 1981,

(xiv) holds an office listed in the first column of the table in section 89(3C) of the Senior Courts Act 1981 (senior High Court Masters etc),

(xv) holds an office listed in column 1 of Part 2 of Schedule 2 to that Act (High Court Masters etc), or

(xvi) is the Judge Advocate General or a person appointed under section 30(1)(a) or (b) of the Courts-Martial (Appeals) Act 1951 (assistants to the Judge Advocate General).]

(5) References in subsection (4)(b)(iii) to (ix) to office-holders do not include deputies or temporary office-holders.]



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- F2** Ss. 5A-5D inserted (3.11.2008) by [Tribunals, Courts and Enforcement Act 2007 \(c. 15\)](#), ss. 48(1), 148, [Sch. 8 para. 40](#); S.I. 2008/2696, art. 5(c)(i) (with art. 3)
- F5** Words in s. 5D(2)(d)(ii) inserted (1.10.2013) by [Crime and Courts Act 2013 \(c. 22\)](#), s. 61(3), [Sch. 14 para. 12\(2\)](#); S.I. 2013/2200, art. 3(g)
- F6** Words in s. 5D(2)(e) substituted (1.10.2013) by [Crime and Courts Act 2013 \(c. 22\)](#), s. 61(3), [Sch. 14 para. 13\(1\)](#); S.I. 2013/2200, art. 3(g)
- F7** Words in s. 5D(3)(a)(i) inserted (1.10.2013) by [Crime and Courts Act 2013 \(c. 22\)](#), s. 61(3), [Sch. 14 para. 12\(3\)\(a\)](#); S.I. 2013/2200, art. 3(g)
- F8** S. 5D(3)(a)(ia) inserted (1.10.2013) by [Crime and Courts Act 2013 \(c. 22\)](#), s. 61(3), [Sch. 14 para. 12\(3\)\(b\)](#); S.I. 2013/2200, art. 3(g)
- F9** Word in s. 5D(3)(a) omitted (1.10.2013) by virtue of [Crime and Courts Act 2013 \(c. 22\)](#), s. 61(3), [Sch. 14 para. 12\(3\)\(c\)](#); S.I. 2013/2200, art. 3(g)
- F10** S. 5D(3)(a)(vi) and word inserted (1.10.2013) by [Crime and Courts Act 2013 \(c. 22\)](#), s. 61(3), [Sch. 14 para. 12\(3\)\(c\)](#); S.I. 2013/2200, art. 3(g)
- F11** S. 5D(4)(b)(ia) inserted (1.10.2013) by [Crime and Courts Act 2013 \(c. 22\)](#), s. 61(3), [Sch. 14 para. 12\(6\)](#); S.I. 2013/2200, art. 3(g)
- F12** Word in s. 5D(4)(a)(v) omitted (1.10.2013) by virtue of [Crime and Courts Act 2013 \(c. 22\)](#), s. 61(3), [Sch. 14 para. 12\(4\)](#); S.I. 2013/2200, art. 3(g)
- F13** S. 5D(4)(a)(vii) and word inserted (1.10.2013) by [Crime and Courts Act 2013 \(c. 22\)](#), s. 61(3), [Sch. 14 para. 12\(4\)](#); S.I. 2013/2200, art. 3(g)
- F14** Words in s. 5D(4)(b)(i) inserted (1.10.2013) by [Crime and Courts Act 2013 \(c. 22\)](#), s. 61(3), [Sch. 14 para. 12\(5\)](#); S.I. 2013/2200, art. 3(g)
- F15** Word in s. 5D(4)(b)(viii) omitted (1.10.2013) by virtue of [Crime and Courts Act 2013 \(c. 22\)](#), s. 61(3), [Sch. 14 para. 12\(7\)](#); S.I. 2013/2200, art. 3(g)
- F16** S. 5D(4)(b)(x)-(xvi) inserted (1.10.2013) by [Crime and Courts Act 2013 \(c. 22\)](#), s. 61(3), [Sch. 14 para. 12\(7\)](#); S.I. 2013/2200, art. 3(g)

### Procedure

## 6 Conduct of hearings.

- (1) A person may appear before an industrial tribunal in person or be represented by—
- counsel or a solicitor,
  - a representative of a trade union or an employers' association, or
  - any other person whom he desires to represent him.
- (2) [<sup>F17</sup>Part I of the Arbitration Act 1996] does not apply to any proceedings before an industrial tribunal.

### Textual Amendments

- F17** Words in s. 6(2) substituted (31.1.1997) by [1996 c. 23](#), s. 107(1), [Sch. 3 para. 62](#) (with s. 81(2)); S.I. 1996/3146, [art. 3](#) (with [Sch. 2](#))

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## 7 Industrial tribunal procedure regulations.

- (1) The Secretary of State may by regulations (“industrial tribunal procedure regulations”) make such provision as appears to him to be necessary or expedient with respect to proceedings before industrial tribunals.
- (2) Proceedings before industrial tribunals shall be instituted in accordance with industrial tribunal procedure regulations.
- (3) Industrial tribunal procedure regulations may, in particular, include provision—
  - (a) for determining by which tribunal any proceedings are to be determined,
  - (b) for enabling an industrial tribunal to hear and determine proceedings brought by virtue of section 3 concurrently with proceedings brought before the tribunal otherwise than by virtue of that section,
  - (c) for treating the Secretary of State (either generally or in such circumstances as may be prescribed by the regulations) as a party to any proceedings before an industrial tribunal (where he would not otherwise be a party to them) and entitling him to appear and to be heard accordingly,
  - (d) for requiring persons to attend to give evidence and produce documents and for authorising the administration of oaths to witnesses,
  - (e) for enabling an industrial tribunal, on the application of any party to the proceedings before it or of its own motion, to order—
    - (i) in England and Wales, such discovery or inspection of documents, or the furnishing of such further particulars, as might be ordered by a county court on application by a party to proceedings before it, or
    - (ii) in Scotland, such recovery or inspection of documents as might be ordered by a sheriff,
  - (f) for prescribing the procedure to be followed in any proceedings before an industrial tribunal, including provision—
    - (i) as to the persons entitled to appear and to be heard on behalf of parties to such proceedings, and
    - (ii) for enabling an industrial tribunal to review its decisions, and revoke or vary its orders and awards, in such circumstances as may be determined in accordance with the regulations,
  - (g) for the appointment of one or more assessors for the purposes of any proceedings before an industrial tribunal, where the proceedings are brought under an enactment which provides for one or more assessors to be appointed,
  - (h) for authorising an industrial tribunal to require persons to furnish information and produce documents to a person required for the purposes of section 2A(1)(b) of the <sup>M6</sup>Equal Pay Act 1970 to prepare a report, and
  - (j) for the registration and proof of decisions, orders and awards of industrial tribunals.
- (4) A person who without reasonable excuse fails to comply with—
  - (a) any requirement imposed by virtue of subsection (3)(d) or (h), or
  - (b) any requirement with respect to the discovery, recovery or inspection of documents imposed by virtue of subsection (3)(e),
 is guilty of an offence and liable on summary conviction to a fine not exceeding level 3 on the standard scale.

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- (5) Subject to any regulations under section 11(1)(a), industrial tribunal procedure regulations may include provision authorising or requiring an industrial tribunal, in circumstances specified in the regulations, to send notice or a copy of—
- (a) any document specified in the regulations which relates to any proceedings before the tribunal, or
  - (b) any decision, order or award of the tribunal,
- to any government department or other person or body so specified.
- (6) Where in accordance with industrial tribunal procedure regulations an industrial tribunal determines in the same proceedings—
- (a) a complaint presented under section 111 of the <sup>M7</sup>Employment Rights Act 1996, and
  - (b) a question referred under section 163 of that Act,
- subsection (2) of that section has no effect for the purposes of the proceedings in so far as they relate to the complaint under section 111.

#### Marginal Citations

**M6** 1970 c. 41.

**M7** 1996 c. 18.

VALID FROM 09/07/2004

#### [<sup>F18</sup>7A Practice directions

- (1) Employment tribunal procedure regulations may include provision—
- (a) enabling the President to make directions about the procedure of employment tribunals, including directions about the exercise by tribunals of powers under such regulations,
  - (b) for securing compliance with such directions, and
  - (c) about the publication of such directions.
- (2) Employment tribunal procedure regulations may, instead of providing for any matter, refer to provision made or to be made about that matter by directions made by the President.
- (3) In this section, references to the President are to a person appointed in accordance with regulations under section 1(1) as—
- (a) President of the Employment Tribunals (England and Wales), or
  - (b) President of the Employment Tribunals (Scotland).]

#### Textual Amendments

**F18** S. 7A inserted (9.7.2004) by 2002 c. 22, ss. 27, 55(2); S.I. 2004/1717, art. 2(1)

*Status: Point in time view as at 31/07/1997. This version of this part contains provisions that are not valid for this point in time.*

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VALID FROM 03/11/2008

## **[<sup>F19</sup>7B Mediation**

- (1) Employment tribunal procedure regulations may include provision enabling practice directions to provide for members to act as mediators in relation to disputed matters in a case that is the subject of proceedings.
- (2) The provision that may be included in employment tribunal procedure regulations by virtue of subsection (1) includes provision for enabling practice directions to provide for a member to act as mediator in relation to disputed matters in a case even though the member has been selected to decide matters in the case.
- (3) Once a member has begun to act as mediator in relation to a disputed matter in a case that is the subject of proceedings, the member may decide matters in the case only with the consent of the parties.
- (4) Staff appointed under section 40(1) of the Tribunals, Courts and Enforcement Act 2007 (staff for employment and other tribunals) may, subject to their terms of appointment, act as mediators in relation to disputed matters in a case that is the subject of proceedings.
- (5) Before making a practice direction that makes provision in relation to mediation, the person making the direction must consult [<sup>F20</sup>ACAS] .
- (6) In this section—
  - “member” means a member of a panel of members of employment tribunals (whether or not a panel of [<sup>F21</sup>Employment Judges ] );
  - “practice direction” means a direction under section 7A;
  - “proceedings” means proceedings before an employment tribunal.]

### **Textual Amendments**

- F19** S. 7B inserted (1.10.2013) by [Tribunals, Courts and Enforcement Act 2007 \(c. 15\)](#), ss. 48(1), 148, [Sch. 8 para. 42](#); S.I. 2013/2200, art. 3(g)
- F20** Words in s. 7B(5) substituted (6.4.2014) by [Enterprise and Regulatory Reform Act 2013 \(c. 24\)](#), s. 103(3), [Sch. 1 para. 4](#); S.I. 2014/253, art. 3(f)
- F21** Words in s. 7B(6) substituted (1.10.2013) by [Crime and Courts Act 2013 \(c. 22\)](#), s. 61(3), [Sch. 14 para. 13\(1\)](#); S.I. 2013/2200, art. 3(g)

## **8 Procedure in contract cases.**

- (1) Where in proceedings brought by virtue of section 3 an industrial tribunal finds that the whole or part of a sum claimed in the proceedings is due, the tribunal shall order the respondent to the proceedings to pay the amount which it finds due.
- (2) An order under section 3 may provide that an industrial tribunal shall not in proceedings in respect of a claim, or a number of claims relating to the same contract, order the payment of an amount exceeding such sum as may be specified in the order as the maximum amount which an industrial tribunal may order to be paid in relation to a claim or in relation to a contract.

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- (3) An order under section 3 may include provisions—
  - (a) as to the manner in which and time within which proceedings are to be brought by virtue of that section, and
  - (b) modifying any other enactment.
- (4) An order under that section may make different provision in relation to proceedings in respect of different descriptions of claims.

## **9 Pre-hearing reviews and preliminary matters.**

- (1) Industrial tribunal procedure regulations may include provision—
  - (a) for authorising the carrying-out by an industrial tribunal of a preliminary consideration of any proceedings before it (a “pre-hearing review”), and
  - (b) for enabling such powers to be exercised in connection with a pre-hearing review as may be prescribed by the regulations.
- (2) Such regulations may in particular include provision—
  - (a) for authorising any tribunal carrying out a pre-hearing review under the regulations to make, in circumstances specified in the regulations, an order requiring a party to the proceedings in question, if he wishes to continue to participate in those proceedings, to pay a deposit of an amount not exceeding £150, and
  - (b) for prescribing—
    - (i) the manner in which the amount of any such deposit is to be determined in any particular case,
    - (ii) the consequences of non-payment of any such deposit, and
    - (iii) the circumstances in which any such deposit, or any part of it, may be refunded to the party who paid it or be paid over to another party to the proceedings.
- (3) The Secretary of State may from time to time by order substitute for the sum specified in subsection (2)(a) such other sum as is specified in the order.
- (4) Industrial tribunal procedure regulations may also include provision for authorising an industrial tribunal to hear and determine any issue relating to the entitlement of any party to proceedings to bring or contest the proceedings in advance of the hearing and determination of the proceedings by that or any other industrial tribunal.

## **10 National security etc.**

- (1) A Minister of the Crown may on grounds of national security direct an industrial tribunal to sit in private when hearing or determining any proceedings specified in the direction.
- (2) Industrial tribunal procedure regulations may enable an industrial tribunal to sit in private for the purpose of—
  - (a) hearing evidence which in the opinion of the tribunal relates to matters of such a nature that it would be against the interests of national security to allow the evidence to be given in public, or
  - (b) hearing evidence from any person which in the opinion of the tribunal is likely to consist of—

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- (i) information which he could not disclose without contravening a prohibition imposed by or by virtue of any enactment,
  - (ii) information which has been communicated to him in confidence or which he has otherwise obtained in consequence of the confidence reposed in him by another person, or
  - (iii) information the disclosure of which would, for reasons other than its effect on negotiations with respect to any of the matters mentioned in section 178(2) of the <sup>M8</sup>Trade Union and Labour Relations (Consolidation) Act 1992, cause substantial injury to any undertaking of his or in which he works.
- (3) The reference in subsection (2)(b)(iii) to any undertaking of a person or in which he works shall be construed—
- (a) in relation to a person in Crown employment, as a reference to the national interest,
  - (b) in relation to a person who is a relevant member of the House of Lords staff, as a reference to the national interest or (if the case so requires) the interests of the House of Lords, and
  - (c) in relation to a person who is a relevant member of the House of Commons staff, as a reference to the national interest or (if the case so requires) the interests of the House of Commons.
- (4) If on a complaint under—
- (a) section 146 of the Trade Union and Labour Relations (Consolidation) Act 1992, or
  - (b) section 111 of the <sup>M9</sup>Employment Rights Act 1996,
- it is shown that the action complained of was taken for the purpose of safeguarding national security, the industrial tribunal shall dismiss the complaint.
- (5) Except where the complaint is that a dismissal is unfair by virtue of—
- (a) section 99(1) to (3), 100 or 103 of the Employment Rights Act 1996, or
  - (b) subsection (1) of section 105 of that Act by reason of the application of subsection (2), (3) or (6) of that section,
- a certificate purporting to be signed by or on behalf of a Minister of the Crown and certifying that the action specified in the certificate was taken for the purpose of safeguarding national security is for the purposes of subsection (4) of this section conclusive evidence of that fact.
- (6) The reference in subsection (5) to “dismissal” shall be construed—
- (a) in relation to a person in Crown employment, as a reference to the termination of Crown employment, and
  - (b) in relation to a person who is a relevant member of the House of Commons staff, as a reference to the termination of his employment as such.

#### Marginal Citations

**M8** 1992 c. 52.

**M9** 1996 c. 18.

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VALID FROM 16/07/2001

**<sup>F22</sup>10A Confidential information.**

- (1) Employment tribunal procedure regulations may enable an employment tribunal to sit in private for the purpose of hearing evidence from any person which in the opinion of the tribunal is likely to consist of—
  - (a) information which he could not disclose without contravening a prohibition imposed by or by virtue of any enactment,
  - (b) information which has been communicated to him in confidence or which he has otherwise obtained in consequence of the confidence reposed in him by another person, or
  - (c) information the disclosure of which would, for reasons other than its effect on negotiations with respect to any of the matters mentioned in section 178(2) of the Trade Union and Labour Relations (Consolidation) Act 1992, cause substantial injury to any undertaking of his or in which he works.
- (2) The reference in subsection (1)(c) to any undertaking of a person or in which he works shall be construed—
  - (a) in relation to a person in Crown employment, as a reference to the national interest,
  - (b) in relation to a person who is a relevant member of the House of Lords staff, as a reference to the national interest or (if the case so requires) the interests of the House of Lords, and
  - (c) in relation to a person who is a relevant member of the House of Commons staff, as a reference to the national interest or (if the case so requires) the interests of the House of Commons.

**Textual Amendments**

**F22** Ss. 10, 10A, 10B substituted (16.7.2001) for s. 10 by 1999 c. 26, ss. 41, 45, **Sch. 8 para. 3**; S.I. 2001/1187, **art. 3(b)**, **Sch.** (as amended by S.I. 2001/1461, **art. 2(2)**)

VALID FROM 16/07/2001

**<sup>F23</sup>10B Restriction of publicity in cases involving national security.**

- (1) This section applies where a tribunal has been directed under section 10(5) or has determined under section 10(6)—
  - (a) to take steps to conceal the identity of a particular witness, or
  - (b) to take steps to keep secret all or part of the reasons for its decision.
- (2) It is an offence to publish—
  - (a) anything likely to lead to the identification of the witness, or
  - (b) the reasons for the tribunal's decision or the part of its reasons which it is directed or has determined to keep secret.



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- (3) A person guilty of an offence under this section is liable on summary conviction to a fine not exceeding level 5 on the standard scale.
- (4) Where a person is charged with an offence under this section it is a defence to prove that at the time of the alleged offence he was not aware, and neither suspected nor had reason to suspect, that the publication in question was of, or included, the matter in question.
- (5) Where an offence under this section committed by a body corporate is proved to have been committed with the consent or connivance of, or to be attributable to any neglect on the part of—
  - (a) a director, manager, secretary or other similar officer of the body corporate, or
  - (b) a person purporting to act in any such capacity,
 he as well as the body corporate is guilty of the offence and liable to be proceeded against and punished accordingly.
- (6) A reference in this section to publication includes a reference to inclusion in a programme which is included in a programme service, within the meaning of the <sup>M10</sup>Broadcasting Act 1990.

#### Textual Amendments

**F23** Ss. 10, 10A, 10B substituted (16.7.2001) for s. 10 by 1999 c. 26, ss. 41, 45, Sch. 8 para. 3; S.I. 2001/1187, art. 3(b), Sch. (as amended by S.I. 2001/1461, art. 2(2))

#### Marginal Citations

**M10** 1990 c. 42.

## 11 Restriction of publicity in cases involving sexual misconduct.

- (1) Industrial tribunal procedure regulations may include provision—
  - (a) for cases involving allegations of the commission of sexual offences, for securing that the registration or other making available of documents or decisions shall be so effected as to prevent the identification of any person affected by or making the allegation, and
  - (b) for cases involving allegations of sexual misconduct, enabling an industrial tribunal, on the application of any party to proceedings before it or of its own motion, to make a restricted reporting order having effect (if not revoked earlier) until the promulgation of the decision of the tribunal.
- (2) If any identifying matter is published or included in a relevant programme in contravention of a restricted reporting order—
  - (a) in the case of publication in a newspaper or periodical, any proprietor, any editor and any publisher of the newspaper or periodical,
  - (b) in the case of publication in any other form, the person publishing the matter, and
  - (c) in the case of matter included in a relevant programme—
    - (i) any body corporate engaged in providing the service in which the programme is included, and

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- (ii) any person having functions in relation to the programme corresponding to those of an editor of a newspaper, shall be guilty of an offence and liable on summary conviction to a fine not exceeding level 5 on the standard scale.
- (3) Where a person is charged with an offence under subsection (2) it is a defence to prove that at the time of the alleged offence he was not aware, and neither suspected nor had reason to suspect, that the publication or programme in question was of, or included, the matter in question.
- (4) Where an offence under subsection (2) committed by a body corporate is proved to have been committed with the consent or connivance of, or to be attributable to any neglect on the part of—
- (a) a director, manager, secretary or other similar officer of the body corporate, or
  - (b) a person purporting to act in any such capacity,
- he as well as the body corporate is guilty of the offence and liable to be proceeded against and punished accordingly.
- (5) In relation to a body corporate whose affairs are managed by its members “director”, in subsection (4), means a member of the body corporate.
- (6) In this section—
- “identifying matter”, in relation to a person, means any matter likely to lead members of the public to identify him as a person affected by, or as the person making, the allegation,
- “relevant programme” has the same meaning as in the <sup>M11</sup>Sexual Offences (Amendment) Act 1992,
- “restricted reporting order” means an order—
- (a) made in exercise of a power conferred by regulations made by virtue of this section, and
  - (b) prohibiting the publication in Great Britain of identifying matter in a written publication available to the public or its inclusion in a relevant programme for reception in Great Britain,
- “sexual misconduct” means the commission of a sexual offence, sexual harassment or other adverse conduct (of whatever nature) related to sex, and conduct is related to sex whether the relationship with sex lies in the character of the conduct or in its having reference to the sex or sexual orientation of the person at whom the conduct is directed,
- “sexual offence” means any offence to which section 4 of the <sup>M12</sup>Sexual Offences (Amendment) Act 1976, the Sexual Offences (Amendment) Act 1992 or section 274(2) of the <sup>M13</sup>Criminal Procedure (Scotland) Act 1995 applies (offences under the <sup>M14</sup>Sexual Offences Act 1956, Part I of the <sup>M15</sup>Criminal Law (Consolidation) (Scotland) Act 1995 and certain other enactments), and
- “written publication” has the same meaning as in the Sexual Offences (Amendment) Act 1992.

#### Marginal Citations

M11 1992 c. 34.

M12 1976 c. 82.

M13 1995 c. 46.

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**M14** 1956 c. 69.

**M15** 1995 c. 39.

## 12 Restriction of publicity in disability cases.

- (1) This section applies to proceedings on a complaint under section 8 of the <sup>M16</sup>Disability Discrimination Act 1995 in which evidence of a personal nature is likely to be heard by the industrial tribunal hearing the complaint.
- (2) Industrial tribunal procedure regulations may include provision in relation to proceedings to which this section applies for—
  - (a) enabling an industrial tribunal, on the application of the complainant or of its own motion, to make a restricted reporting order having effect (if not revoked earlier) until the promulgation of the decision of the tribunal, and
  - (b) where a restricted reporting order is made in relation to a complaint which is being dealt with by the tribunal together with any other proceedings, enabling the tribunal to direct that the order is to apply also in relation to those other proceedings or such part of them as the tribunal may direct.
- (3) If any identifying matter is published or included in a relevant programme in contravention of a restricted reporting order—
  - (a) in the case of publication in a newspaper or periodical, any proprietor, any editor and any publisher of the newspaper or periodical,
  - (b) in the case of publication in any other form, the person publishing the matter, and
  - (c) in the case of matter included in a relevant programme—
    - (i) any body corporate engaged in providing the service in which the programme is included, and
    - (ii) any person having functions in relation to the programme corresponding to those of an editor of a newspaper,

shall be guilty of an offence and liable on summary conviction to a fine not exceeding level 5 on the standard scale.
- (4) Where a person is charged with an offence under subsection (3), it is a defence to prove that at the time of the alleged offence he was not aware, and neither suspected nor had reason to suspect, that the publication or programme in question was of, or included, the matter in question.
- (5) Where an offence under subsection (3) committed by a body corporate is proved to have been committed with the consent or connivance of, or to be attributable to any neglect on the part of—
  - (a) a director, manager, secretary or other similar officer of the body corporate, or
  - (b) a person purporting to act in any such capacity,

he as well as the body corporate is guilty of the offence and liable to be proceeded against and punished accordingly.
- (6) In relation to a body corporate whose affairs are managed by its members “director”, in subsection (5), means a member of the body corporate.
- (7) In this section—

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“evidence of a personal nature” means any evidence of a medical, or other intimate, nature which might reasonably be assumed to be likely to cause significant embarrassment to the complainant if reported,

“identifying matter” means any matter likely to lead members of the public to identify the complainant or such other persons (if any) as may be named in the order,

“promulgation” has such meaning as may be prescribed by regulations made by virtue of this section,

“relevant programme” means a programme included in a programme service, within the meaning of the <sup>M17</sup>Broadcasting Act 1990,

“restricted reporting order” means an order—

- (a) made in exercise of a power conferred by regulations made by virtue of this section, and
- (b) prohibiting the publication in Great Britain of identifying matter in a written publication available to the public or its inclusion in a relevant programme for reception in Great Britain, and

“written publication” includes a film, a sound track and any other record in permanent form but does not include an indictment or other document prepared for use in particular legal proceedings.

#### Commencement Information

- II** [S. 12](#) wholly in force at 22.8.1996 with effect as mentioned in Sch. 2 Pt. II para. 7(1)(2) and [S.I. 1996/3150, art. 2](#)

#### Marginal Citations

- M16** 1995 c. 50.  
**M17** 1990 c. 42.

### 13 Costs and expenses.

- (1) Industrial tribunal procedure regulations may include provision—
  - (a) for the award of costs or expenses, including any allowances payable under section 5(2)(c) or (3), and
  - (b) for taxing or otherwise settling any such costs or expenses (and, in particular in England and Wales, for enabling such costs to be taxed in a county court).
- (2) In relation to proceedings under section 111 of the <sup>M18</sup>Employment Rights Act 1996—
  - (a) where the employee has expressed a wish to be reinstated or re-engaged which has been communicated to the employer at least seven days before the hearing of the complaint, or
  - (b) where the proceedings arise out of the employer’s failure to permit the employee to return to work after an absence due to pregnancy or childbirth,industrial tribunal procedure regulations shall include provision for requiring the employer to pay the costs or expenses of any postponement or adjournment of the hearing caused by his failure, without a special reason, to adduce reasonable evidence as to the availability of the job from which the complainant was dismissed, or which she held before her absence, or of comparable or suitable employment.

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### Marginal Citations

**M18** 1996 c. 18.

VALID FROM 09/07/2004

### [<sup>F24</sup>13A Payments in respect of preparation time

- (1) Employment tribunal procedure regulations may include provision for authorising an employment tribunal to order a party to proceedings before it to make a payment to any other party in respect of time spent in preparing that other party's case.
- (2) Regulations under subsection (1) may include provision authorising an employment tribunal to have regard to a person's ability to pay when considering the making of an order against him under such regulations.
- (3) If employment tribunal procedure regulations include—
  - (a) provision of the kind mentioned in subsection (1), and
  - (b) provision of the kind mentioned in section 13(1)(a),
 they shall also include provision to prevent an employment tribunal exercising its powers under both kinds of provision in favour of the same person in the same proceedings.]

### Textual Amendments

**F24** S. 13A inserted (9.7.2004) by 2002 c. 22, ss. 22(2), 55(2); S.I. 2004/1717, art. 2(1)

## 14 Interest.

- (1) The Secretary of State may by order made with the approval of the Treasury provide that sums payable in pursuance of decisions of industrial tribunals shall carry interest at such rate and between such times as may be prescribed by the order.
- (2) Any interest due by virtue of such an order shall be recoverable as a sum payable in pursuance of the decision.
- (3) The power conferred by subsection (1) includes power—
  - (a) to specify cases or circumstances in which interest is not payable,
  - (b) to provide that interest is payable only on sums exceeding a specified amount or falling between specified amounts,
  - (c) to make provision for the manner in which and the periods by reference to which interest is to be calculated and paid,
  - (d) to provide that any enactment—
    - (i) does or does not apply in relation to interest payable by virtue of subsection (1), or
    - (ii) applies to it with such modifications as may be specified in the order,
  - (e) to make provision for cases where sums are payable in pursuance of decisions or awards made on appeal from industrial tribunals,

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- (f) to make such incidental or supplemental provision as the Secretary of State considers necessary.
- (4) In particular, an order under subsection (1) may provide that the rate of interest shall be the rate specified in section 17 of the <sup>M19</sup>Judgments Act 1838 as that enactment has effect from time to time.

#### Marginal Citations

M19 1838 c. 110.

### 15 Enforcement.

- (1) Any sum payable in pursuance of a decision of an industrial tribunal in England and Wales which has been registered in accordance with industrial tribunal procedure regulations shall, if a county court so orders, be recoverable by execution issued from the county court or otherwise as if it were payable under an order of that court.
- (2) Any order for the payment of any sum made by an industrial tribunal in Scotland (or any copy of such an order certified by the Secretary of the Tribunals) may be enforced as if it were an extract registered decree arbitral bearing a warrant for execution issued by the sheriff court of any sheriffdom in Scotland.
- (3) In this section a reference to a decision or order of an industrial tribunal—
- does not include a decision or order which, on being reviewed, has been revoked by the tribunal, and
  - in relation to a decision or order which on being reviewed, has been varied by the tribunal, shall be construed as a reference to the decision or order as so varied.

#### *Recoupment of social security benefits*

### 16 Power to provide for recoupment of benefits.

- (1) This section applies to payments which are the subject of proceedings before industrial tribunals and which are—
- payments of wages or compensation for loss of wages,
  - payments by employers to employees under sections 146 to 151, sections 168 to 173 or section 192 of the <sup>M20</sup>Trade Union and Labour Relations (Consolidation) Act 1992,
  - payments by employers to employees under—
    - Part III, V, VI or VII,
    - section 93, or
    - Part X,of the <sup>M21</sup>Employment Rights Act 1996, or
  - payments by employers to employees of a nature similar to, or for a purpose corresponding to the purpose of, payments within paragraph (b) or (c),
- and to payments of remuneration under a protective award under section 189 of the Trade Union and Labour Relations (Consolidation) Act 1992.

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- (2) The Secretary of State may by regulations make with respect to payments to which this section applies provision for any or all of the purposes specified in subsection (3).
- (3) The purposes referred to in subsection (2) are—
- (a) enabling the Secretary of State to recover from an employer, by way of total or partial recoupment of jobseeker's allowance or income support—
    - (i) a sum not exceeding the amount of the prescribed element of the monetary award, or
    - (ii) in the case of a protective award, the amount of the remuneration,
  - (b) requiring or authorising an industrial tribunal to order the payment of such a sum, by way of total or partial recoupment of either benefit, to the Secretary of State instead of to an employee, and
  - (c) requiring an industrial tribunal to order the payment to an employee of only the excess of the prescribed element of the monetary award over the amount of any jobseeker's allowance or income support shown to the tribunal to have been paid to the employee and enabling the Secretary of State to recover from the employer, by way of total or partial recoupment of the benefit, a sum not exceeding that amount.
- (4) Regulations under this section may be framed—
- (a) so as to apply to all payments to which this section applies or to one or more classes of those payments, and
  - (b) so as to apply to both jobseeker's allowance and income support, or to only jobseeker's allowance or income support.
- (5) Regulations under this section may—
- (a) confer powers and impose duties on industrial tribunals or adjudication officers or other persons,
  - (b) impose on an employer to whom a monetary award or protective award relates a duty—
    - (i) to furnish particulars connected with the award, and
    - (ii) to suspend payments in pursuance of the award during any period prescribed by the regulations,
  - (c) provide for an employer who pays a sum to the Secretary of State in pursuance of this section to be relieved from any liability to pay the sum to another person,
  - (d) confer on an employee a right of appeal to a social security appeal tribunal against any decision of an adjudication officer as to the total or partial recoupment of an income-based jobseeker's allowance or of income support in pursuance of the regulations, and
  - (e) provide for the proof in proceedings before industrial tribunals (whether by certificate or in any other manner) of any amount of jobseeker's allowance or income support paid to an employee.
- (6) Regulations under this section may make different provision for different cases.

#### Marginal Citations

**M20** 1992 c. 52.

**M21** 1996 c. 18.



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## 17 Recoupment: further provisions.

- (1) Where in pursuance of any regulations under section 16 a sum has been recovered by or paid to the Secretary of State by way of total or partial recoupment of jobseeker's allowance or income support—
  - (a) no sum shall be recoverable under Part III or V of the <sup>M22</sup>Social Security Administration Act 1992, and
  - (b) no abatement, payment or reduction shall be made by reference to the jobseeker's allowance or income support recouped.
- (2) Any amount found to have been duly recovered by or paid to the Secretary of State in pursuance of regulations under section 16 by way of total or partial recoupment of jobseeker's allowance shall be paid into the National Insurance Fund.
- (3) In section 16—

“monetary award” means the amount which is awarded, or ordered to be paid, to the employee by the tribunal or would be so awarded or ordered apart from any provision of regulations under that section, and

“the prescribed element”, in relation to any monetary award, means so much of that award as is attributable to such matters as may be prescribed by regulations under that section.
- (4) In section 16 “income-based jobseeker's allowance” has the same meaning as in the <sup>M23</sup>Jobseekers Act 1995.

### Marginal Citations

**M22** 1992 c. 5.

**M23** 1995 c. 18.

## Conciliation

## 18 Conciliation.

- (1) This section applies in the case of industrial tribunal proceedings and claims which could be the subject of industrial tribunal proceedings—
  - (a) under—
    - (i) section 2(1) of the <sup>M24</sup>Equal Pay Act 1970,
    - (ii) section 63 of the <sup>M25</sup>Sex Discrimination Act 1975, or
    - (iii) section 54 of the <sup>M26</sup>Race Relations Act 1976,
  - (b) arising out of a contravention, or alleged contravention, of section 64, 68, 137, 138, 146, 168, 169, 170, 174, 188 or 190 of the <sup>M27</sup>Trade Union and Labour Relations (Consolidation) Act 1992,
  - (c) under section 8 of the <sup>M28</sup>Disability Discrimination Act 1995,
  - (d) arising out of a contravention, or alleged contravention, of section 8, 13, 15, 18(1), 21(1), 28 or 92, or of Part V, VI, VII or X, of the <sup>M29</sup>Employment Rights Act 1996,
  - (e) which are proceedings in respect of which an industrial tribunal has jurisdiction by virtue of section 3 of this Act, or

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- (f) arising out of a contravention, or alleged contravention, of a provision specified by an order under subsection (8)(b) as a provision to which this paragraph applies.
- (2) Where an application has been presented to an industrial tribunal, and a copy of it has been sent to a conciliation officer, it is the duty of the conciliation officer—
- (a) if he is requested to do so by the person by whom and the person against whom the proceedings are brought, or
  - (b) if, in the absence of any such request, the conciliation officer considers that he could act under this subsection with a reasonable prospect of success,
- to endeavour to promote a settlement of the proceedings without their being determined by an industrial tribunal.
- (3) Where at any time—
- (a) a person claims that action has been taken in respect of which proceedings could be brought by him before an industrial tribunal, but
  - (b) before any application relating to that action has been presented by him a request is made to a conciliation officer (whether by that person or by the person against whom the proceedings could be instituted) to make his services available to them,
- the conciliation officer shall act in accordance with subsection (2) as if an application had been presented to an industrial tribunal.
- (4) Where a person who has presented a complaint to an industrial tribunal under section 111 of the <sup>M30</sup>Employment Rights Act 1996 has ceased to be employed by the employer against whom the complaint was made, the conciliation officer shall (for the purpose of promoting a settlement of the complaint in accordance with subsection (2)) in particular—
- (a) seek to promote the reinstatement or re-engagement of the complainant by the employer, or by a successor of the employer or by an associated employer, on terms appearing to the conciliation officer to be equitable, or
  - (b) where the complainant does not wish to be reinstated or re-engaged, or where reinstatement or re-engagement is not practicable, and the parties desire the conciliation officer to act, seek to promote agreement between them as to a sum by way of compensation to be paid by the employer to the complainant.
- (5) Where at any time—
- (a) a person claims that action has been taken in respect of which a complaint could be presented by him to an industrial tribunal under section 111 of the Employment Rights Act 1996, but
  - (b) before any complaint relating to that action has been presented by him a request is made to a conciliation officer (whether by that person or by the employer) to make his services available to them,
- the conciliation officer shall act in accordance with subsection (4) as if a complaint had been presented to an industrial tribunal under section 111.
- (6) In proceeding under this section a conciliation officer shall, where appropriate, have regard to the desirability of encouraging the use of other procedures available for the settlement of grievances.
- (7) Anything communicated to a conciliation officer in connection with the performance of his functions under this section shall not be admissible in evidence in any

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proceedings before an industrial tribunal, except with the consent of the person who communicated it to that officer.

- (8) The Secretary of State may by order—
- (a) direct that further provisions of the Employment Rights Act 1996 be added to the list in subsection (1)(d), or
  - (b) specify a provision of any other Act as a provision to which subsection (1)(f) applies.

#### Marginal Citations

- M24 1970 c. 41.
- M25 1975 c. 65.
- M26 1976 c. 74.
- M27 1992 c. 52.
- M28 1995 c. 50.
- M29 1996 c. 18.
- M30 1996 c. 18.

## 19 Conciliation procedure.

Industrial tribunal procedure regulations shall include in relation to industrial tribunal proceedings in the case of which any enactment makes provision for conciliation—

- (a) provisions requiring a copy of the application by which the proceedings are instituted, and a copy of any notice relating to it which is lodged by or on behalf of the person against whom the proceedings are brought, to be sent to a conciliation officer,
- (b) provisions securing that the applicant and the person against whom the proceedings are brought are notified that the services of a conciliation officer are available to them, and
- (c) provisions postponing the hearing of any such proceedings for such period as may be determined in accordance with the regulations for the purpose of giving an opportunity for the proceedings to be settled by way of conciliation and withdrawn.

VALID FROM 01/04/2009

### <sup>F25</sup>19A Conciliation: recovery of sums payable under <sup>F26</sup> settlements ]

- (1) Subsections (3) to (6) apply if—
  - (a) a conciliation officer—
    - (i) has taken action under <sup>F27</sup> any of sections 18A to 18C ] in a case, and
    - (ii) issues a certificate in writing stating that a <sup>F28</sup> settlement ] has been reached in the case, and
  - (b) all of the terms of the <sup>F28</sup> settlement ] are set out—
    - (i) in a single relevant document, or
    - (ii) in a combination of two or more relevant documents.
- (2) A document is a “relevant document” for the purposes of subsection (1) if—

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- (a) it is the certificate, or
  - (b) it is a document that is referred to in the certificate or that is referred to in a document that is within this paragraph.
- (3) Any sum payable by a person under the terms of the [F29 settlement ] (a “ [F29 settlement ] sum”) shall, subject to subsections (4) to (7), be recoverable—
- (a) in England and Wales, by execution issued from [F30 the county court ] or otherwise as if the sum were payable under an order of that court;
  - (b) in Scotland, by diligence as if the certificate were an extract registered decree arbitral bearing a warrant for execution issued by the sheriff court of any sheriffdom in Scotland.
- (4) A [F31 settlement ] sum is not recoverable under subsection (3) if—
- (a) the person by whom it is payable applies for a declaration that the sum would not be recoverable from him under the general law of contract, and
  - (b) that declaration is made.
- (5) If rules of court so provide, a [F32 settlement ] sum is not recoverable under subsection (3) during the period—
- (a) beginning with the issue of the certificate, and
  - (b) ending at such time as may be specified in, or determined under, rules of court.
- (6) If the terms of the [F33 settlement ] provide for the person to whom a [F33 settlement ] sum is payable to do anything in addition to discontinuing or not starting proceedings, that sum is recoverable by him under subsection (3)—
- (a) in England and Wales, only if [F30 the county court ] so orders;
  - (b) in Scotland, only if the sheriff so orders.
- (7) Once an application has been made for a declaration under subsection (4) in relation to a sum, no further reliance may be placed on subsection (3) for the recovery of the sum while the application is pending.
- (8) An application for a declaration under subsection (4) may be made to an employment tribunal, [F30 the county court ] or the sheriff.
- (9) Employment tribunal procedure regulations may (in particular) make provision as to the time within which an application to an employment tribunal for a declaration under subsection (4) is to be made.
- (10) Rules of court may make provision as to—
- (a) the time within which an application to [F30 the county court ] for a declaration under subsection (4) is to be made;
  - (b) the time within which an application to the sheriff for a declaration under subsection (4) is to be made;
  - (c) when an application (whether made to [F30 the county court ] , the sheriff or an employment tribunal) for a declaration under subsection (4) is pending for the purposes of subsection (7).

[ A term of any document which is a relevant document for the purposes of  
 F34(10A) subsection (1) is void to the extent that it purports to prevent the disclosure of any provision of any such document to a person appointed or authorised to act under section 37M.]

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(11) Nothing in this section shall be taken to prejudice any rights or remedies that a person has apart from this section.

(12) In this section “<sup>F35</sup> settlement ] ” (except in the phrase “<sup>F35</sup> settlement ] sum”) means a settlement<sup>F36</sup> ... to avoid proceedings or bring proceedings to an end.]

### Textual Amendments

- F25** S. 19A inserted (1.4.2009) by Tribunals, Courts and Enforcement Act 2007 (c. 15), **ss. 142, 148**; S.I. 2008/2696, **art. 6(a)**
- F26** Word in s. 19A heading substituted (29.7.2013) by Enterprise and Regulatory Reform Act 2013 (c. 24), **ss. 23(2)(c), 103(3)**; S.I. 2013/1648, art. 2(c)
- F27** Words in s. 19A(1)(a)(i) substituted (6.4.2014) by Enterprise and Regulatory Reform Act 2013 (c. 24), s. 103(3), **Sch. 1 para. 7**; S.I. 2014/253, art. 3(f) (with art. 5(1))
- F28** Word in s. 19A(1) substituted (29.7.2013) by Enterprise and Regulatory Reform Act 2013 (c. 24), **ss. 23(2)(a), 103(3)**; S.I. 2013/1648, art. 2(c)
- F29** Word in s. 19A(3) substituted (29.7.2013) by Enterprise and Regulatory Reform Act 2013 (c. 24), **ss. 23(2)(a), 103(3)**; S.I. 2013/1648, art. 2(c)
- F30** Words in s. 19A substituted (22.4.2014) by Crime and Courts Act 2013 (c. 22), s. 61(3), **Sch. 9 para. 52**; S.I. 2014/954, art. 2(c) (with art. 3) (with transitional provisions and savings in S.I. 2014/956, arts. 3-11)
- F31** Word in s. 19A(4) substituted (29.7.2013) by Enterprise and Regulatory Reform Act 2013 (c. 24), **ss. 23(2)(a), 103(3)**; S.I. 2013/1648, art. 2(c)
- F32** Word in s. 19A(5) substituted (29.7.2013) by Enterprise and Regulatory Reform Act 2013 (c. 24), **ss. 23(2)(a), 103(3)**; S.I. 2013/1648, art. 2(c)
- F33** Word in s. 19A(6) substituted (29.7.2013) by Enterprise and Regulatory Reform Act 2013 (c. 24), **ss. 23(2)(a), 103(3)**; S.I. 2013/1648, art. 2(c)
- F34** S. 19A(10A) inserted (6.4.2016) by Small Business, Enterprise and Employment Act 2015 (c. 26), **ss. 150(4), 164(1)** (with s. 150(8)); S.I. 2016/321, reg. 3(d)
- F35** Word in s. 19A(12) substituted (29.7.2013) by Enterprise and Regulatory Reform Act 2013 (c. 24), **ss. 23(2)(b)(i), 103(3)**; S.I. 2013/1648, art. 2(c)
- F36** Words in s. 19A(12) omitted (29.7.2013) by virtue of Enterprise and Regulatory Reform Act 2013 (c. 24), **ss. 23(2)(b)(ii), 103(3)**; S.I. 2013/1648, art. 2(c)

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