



# Competition Act 1998

## 1998 CHAPTER 41

### PART I

#### COMPETITION

#### CHAPTER I

#### AGREEMENTS

#### *Exemptions*

### 6 Block exemptions.

- (1) If agreements which fall within a particular category of agreement are, in the opinion of the [<sup>F1</sup>CMA], likely to be [<sup>F2</sup>exempt agreements], the [<sup>F1</sup>CMA] may recommend that the Secretary of State make an order specifying that category for the purposes of this section.
- (2) The Secretary of State may make an order (“a block exemption order”) giving effect to such a recommendation—
  - (a) in the form in which the recommendation is made; or
  - (b) subject to such modifications as he considers appropriate.
- (3) An agreement which falls within a category specified in a block exemption order is exempt from the Chapter I prohibition.
- (4) An exemption under this section is referred to in this Part as a block exemption.
- (5) A block exemption order may impose conditions or obligations subject to which a block exemption is to have effect.
- (6) A block exemption order may provide—
  - (a) that breach of a condition imposed by the order has the effect of cancelling the block exemption in respect of an agreement;

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*Changes to legislation: Competition Act 1998, Section 6 is up to date with all changes known to be in force on or before 23 June 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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- (b) that if there is a failure to comply with an obligation imposed by the order, the [F1CMA] may, by notice in writing, cancel the block exemption in respect of the agreement;
  - (c) that if the [F1CMA] considers that a particular agreement is not [F3an exempt agreement], [F4it] may cancel the block exemption in respect of that agreement.
- (7) A block exemption order may provide that the order is to cease to have effect at the end of a specified period.

[F5(8) In this section—

“exempt agreement” means an agreement which is exempt from the Chapter I prohibition as a result of section 9; and

“specified” means specified in a block exemption order.]

#### Textual Amendments

- F1** Word in s. 6(1)(6) substituted (1.4.2014) by Enterprise and Regulatory Reform Act 2013 (c. 24), s. 103(3), **Sch. 5 para. 2** (with s. 28); S.I. 2014/416, art. 2(1)(d) (with Sch.)
- F2** Words in s. 6(1) substituted (1.5.2004) by The Competition Act 1998 and Other Enactments (Amendment) Regulations 2004 (S.I. 2004/1261), reg. 1(a), **Sch. 1 para. 4(2)**
- F3** Words in s. 6(6)(c) substituted (1.5.2004) by The Competition Act 1998 and Other Enactments (Amendment) Regulations 2004 (S.I. 2004/1261), reg. 1(a), **Sch. 1 para. 4(3)**
- F4** Word in s. 6(6)(c) substituted (1.4.2003) by Enterprise Act 2002 (c. 40), s. 279, **Sch. 25 para. 38(5)(b)**; S.I. 2003/766, art. 2, Sch. (with art. 3) (as amended (20.7.2007) by S.I. 2007/1846, reg. 3(2), Sch.)
- F5** S. 6(8) substituted (1.5.2004) by The Competition Act 1998 and Other Enactments (Amendment) Regulations 2004 (S.I. 2004/1261), reg. 1(a), **Sch. 1 para. 4(4)**

#### Modifications etc. (not altering text)

- C1** S. 6 applied (31.10.2023) by The Transport (Scotland) Act 2019 (Consequential Provisions and Modifications) Order 2023 (S.I. 2023/80), arts. 1(3), **22**

**Changes to legislation:**

Competition Act 1998, Section 6 is up to date with all changes known to be in force on or before 23 June 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.

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

- Blanket Amendment words substituted by [2005 c. 4 Sch. 11 para. 5](#)

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

- s. 31G-31L and cross-heading inserted by S.I. 2019/93, reg. 8A (as inserted) by [S.I. 2019/1245 reg. 3](#) (This amendment not applied to legislation.gov.uk. The affecting statutory instrument has no legal effect. It was made under a procedure which meant that it ceased to have effect 28 days after signing unless it was debated and approved in Parliament within that time. It was not debated and approved within 28 days, so it has expired with no effect.)
- s. 46(3)(ha)(hb) inserted by S.I. 2019/93, reg. 14(d) (as inserted) by [S.I. 2019/1245 reg. 5](#) (This amendment not applied to legislation.gov.uk. The affecting statutory instrument has no legal effect. It was made under a procedure which meant that it ceased to have effect 28 days after signing unless it was debated and approved in Parliament within that time. It was not debated and approved within 28 days, so it has expired with no effect.)
- s. 47(1)(ca) inserted by S.I. 2019/93, reg. 15(b) (as substituted) by [S.I. 2019/1245 reg. 6](#) (This amendment not applied to legislation.gov.uk. The affecting statutory instrument has no legal effect. It was made under a procedure which meant that it ceased to have effect 28 days after signing unless it was debated and approved in Parliament within that time. It was not debated and approved within 28 days, so it has expired with no effect.)
- s. 60A(10) inserted by [2023 c. 28 s. 6\(10\)](#)
- Sch. 6A para. 1A inserted by S.I. 2019/93, reg. 29A(2) (as inserted) by [S.I. 2019/1245 reg. 7](#) (This amendment not applied to legislation.gov.uk. The affecting statutory instrument has no legal effect. It was made under a procedure which meant that it ceased to have effect 28 days after signing unless it was debated and approved in Parliament within that time. It was not debated and approved within 28 days, so it has expired with no effect.)
- Sch. 6A Pt. 3 inserted by S.I. 2019/93, reg. 29A(4) (as inserted) by [S.I. 2019/1245 reg. 7](#) (This amendment not applied to legislation.gov.uk. The affecting statutory instrument has no legal effect. It was made under a procedure which meant that it ceased to have effect 28 days after signing unless it was debated and approved in Parliament within that time. It was not debated and approved within 28 days, so it has expired with no effect.)