



# Enterprise Act 2002

## 2002 CHAPTER 40

### PART 3

#### MERGERS

### CHAPTER 1

#### DUTY TO MAKE REFERENCES

##### *Duty to make references: completed mergers*

#### **24 Time-limits and prior notice**

- (1) For the purposes of section 23 two or more enterprises have ceased to be distinct enterprises at a time or in circumstances falling within this section if—
  - (a) the two or more enterprises ceased to be distinct enterprises before the day on which the reference relating to them is to be made and did so not more than four months before that day; or
  - (b) notice of material facts about the arrangements or transactions under or in consequence of which the enterprises have ceased to be distinct enterprises has not been given in accordance with subsection (2).
- (2) Notice of material facts is given in accordance with this subsection if—
  - (a) it is given to the [F<sup>1</sup>CMA] prior to the entering into of the arrangements or transactions concerned or the facts are made public prior to the entering into of those arrangements or transactions; or
  - (b) it is given to the [F<sup>1</sup>CMA], or the facts are made public, more than four months before the day on which the reference is to be made.
- (3) In this section—

“made public” means so publicised as to be generally known or readily ascertainable; and

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**Changes to legislation:** There are currently no known outstanding effects for the Enterprise Act 2002, Section 24. (See end of Document for details)

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“notice” includes notice which is not in writing.

**Textual Amendments**

- F1** Word in s. 24(2) substituted (1.4.2014) by [Enterprise and Regulatory Reform Act 2013 \(c. 24\)](#), s. 103(3), [Sch. 5 para. 69](#) (with s. 28); S.I. 2014/416, art. 2(1)(d) (with Sch.)

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

- C1** Pt. 3 modified (1.4.2014) by [Enterprise and Regulatory Reform Act 2013 \(c. 24\)](#), s. 103(3), [Sch. 4 para. 56](#); S.I. 2014/416, art. 2(1)(c) (with Sch.)
- C2** Pt. 3 modified (31.12.2020) by [The Competition \(Amendment etc.\) \(EU Exit\) Regulations 2019 \(S.I. 2019/93\)](#), reg. 1(1), [Sch. 4 paras. 28-33](#); 2020 c. 1, Sch. 5 para. 1(1)
- C3** Ss. 23-32 applied (with modifications) (20.6.2003) by [The Enterprise Act 2002 \(Protection of Legitimate Interests\) Order 2003 \(S.I. 2003/1592\)](#), [art. 2](#), Sch. 1
- C4** Ss. 23-32 amendment to earlier affecting provision S.I. 2003/1592, Sch. 1 (1.4.2014) by [The Enterprise Act 2002 \(Protection of Legitimate Interests\) \(Amendment\) Order 2014 \(S.I. 2014/891\)](#), arts. 1, [16](#) (with arts. 20-23)
- C5** S. 24 modified in part (31.12.2020) by [The Competition \(Amendment etc.\) \(EU Exit\) Regulations 2019 \(S.I. 2019/93\)](#), reg. 1(1), [Sch. 4 para. 21\(2\)](#); 2020 c. 1, Sch. 5 para. 1(1)

**Changes to legislation:**

There are currently no known outstanding effects for the Enterprise Act 2002, Section 24.