



# Online Safety Act 2023

## 2023 CHAPTER 50

### PART 3

#### PROVIDERS OF REGULATED USER-TO-USER SERVICES AND REGULATED SEARCH SERVICES: DUTIES OF CARE

### CHAPTER 7

#### INTERPRETATION OF PART 3

#### **58 Restricting users' access to content**

- (1) This section applies for the purposes of this Part.
- (2) References to restricting users' access to content, and related references, include any case where a provider takes or uses a measure which has the effect that—
  - (a) a user is unable to access content without taking a prior step (whether or not taking that step might result in access being denied), or
  - (b) content is temporarily hidden from a user.
- (3) But such references do not include any case where—
  - (a) the effect mentioned in subsection (2) results from the voluntary use or application by a user of features, functionalities or settings which a provider includes in a service (for example, features, functionalities or settings included in compliance with the duty set out in section 15(2) or (9) (user empowerment)), or
  - (b) access to content is controlled by another user, rather than the provider.
- (4) See also section 236(6).

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**Status:** Point in time view as at 26/10/2023.

**Changes to legislation:** Online Safety Act 2023, Section 58 is up to date with all changes known to be in force on or before 20 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)

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**Commencement Information**

**II** S. 58 in force at Royal Assent, see [s. 240\(4\)\(h\)](#)

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