



Public Services Ombudsman (Wales) Act 2019

2019 anaw 3

PART 3

INVESTIGATIONS

Investigation procedure and evidence

20 Obstruction and contempt

- (1) If the Ombudsman is satisfied that the condition in subsection (2) is met in relation to a person, the Ombudsman may issue a certificate to that effect to the High Court.
- (2) The condition is that the person—
 - (a) without lawful excuse, has obstructed the discharge of any of the Ombudsman's functions under this Part, or
 - (b) has done an act in relation to an investigation which, if the investigation were proceedings in the High Court, would constitute contempt of court.
- (3) But the condition in subsection (2) is not met in relation to a person merely because the person has taken action such as is mentioned in section 18(14).
- (4) If the Ombudsman issues a certificate under subsection (1), the High Court may inquire into the matter.
- (5) If the High Court is satisfied that the condition in subsection (2) is met in relation to the person, it may deal with the person in any manner in which it could have if the person had committed contempt in relation to the High Court.

Commencement Information

II S. 20 in force at 23.7.2019 by S.I. 2019/1096, reg. 2

Changes to legislation:

Public Services Ombudsman (Wales) Act 2019, Section 20 is up to date with all changes known to be in force on or before 23 April 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.

[View outstanding changes](#)

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

- Act modified by [2023 asc 3 Sch. 2 para. 6](#)
- Act modified by [2023 asc 3 Sch. 12 para. 7\(2\)](#)

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

- s. 65(7)(f) inserted by [2022 c. 30 Sch. 10 para. 6\(2\)\(a\)](#) (Welsh language text)
- s. 65(7)(f) inserted by [2022 c. 30 Sch. 10 para. 6\(2\)\(b\)](#) (English language text)