#### DRAFT STATUTORY INSTRUMENTS

# 2014 No.

# The Reports on Payments to Governments Regulations 2014

# PART 4

# DUTY TO DELIVER REPORTS AND INFORMATION

#### **Duty to deliver reports**

- **14.**—(1) Directors who are required to prepare—
  - (a) a report in accordance with regulations 4 and 5; or
- (b) a consolidated report prepared in accordance with regulations 8 and 9 must deliver that report or consolidated report to the registrar within 11 months of the end of the financial year of the undertaking.
- (2) For an undertaking that is a partnership or a limited partnership, the "financial year" is deemed to be the 12 calendar months ending on 5th April.
- (3) A report or consolidated report delivered under this regulation must be delivered to the registrar by electronic means.

#### Duty to deliver equivalent reporting requirements information

- **15.**—(1) The directors of an undertaking that is exempt under regulation 12 or 13 from preparing a report or consolidated report must deliver to the registrar information contained in any report or consolidated report prepared in accordance with equivalent reporting requirements within 28 days after such report is made publicly available under the equivalent reporting requirements.
- (2) Any document delivered under this regulation is specified for the purposes of section 1105(2) (d) of the Act as a document that may be drawn up and delivered to the registrar in a language other than English, but which must, when delivered to the registrar, be accompanied by a certified translation into English.
- (3) Information delivered under this regulation must be delivered to the registrar by electronic means.

#### False statement offence

- **16.**—(1) It is an offence for a person knowingly or recklessly—
  - (a) to deliver or cause to be delivered to the registrar, for the purposes of these Regulations, a document, or
- (b) to make to the registrar, for any such purpose, a statement, that is misleading, false or deceptive in a material particular.

- (2) Paragraph (3) applies if section 85(2) of the Legal Aid, Sentencing and Punishment of Offenders Act 2012(1) is in force on the day these Regulations are made.
  - (3) A person guilty of an offence under this regulation is liable—
    - (a) on conviction on indictment, to imprisonment for a term not exceeding two years or to a fine (or both);
    - (b) on summary conviction—
      - (i) in England and Wales, to imprisonment for a term not exceeding three months or to a fine (or both);
      - (ii) in Scotland and Northern Ireland, to imprisonment for a term not exceeding three months or to a fine not exceeding the statutory maximum (or both).
- (4) Paragraph (5) applies if section 85(2) of the Legal Aid, Sentencing and Punishment of Offenders Act 2012 is not in force on the day these Regulations are made.
  - (5) A person guilty of an offence under this regulation is liable—
    - (a) on conviction on indictment, to imprisonment for a term not exceeding two years or to a fine (or both);
    - (b) on summary conviction, to imprisonment for a term not exceeding three months or to a fine not exceeding the statutory maximum (or both).
  - (6) No proceedings are to be brought under this regulation—
    - (a) in England and Wales except by or with the consent of the Secretary of State or the Director of Public Prosecutions;
    - (b) in Northern Ireland except by or with the consent of the Secretary of State or the Director of Public Prosecutions for Northern Ireland.

## Enforcement of undertaking's delivery obligations

- 17.—(1) This regulation applies where the registrar has reason to believe that an undertaking has failed to deliver a report or consolidated report in accordance with regulation 14.
  - (2) The registrar must serve notice on the undertaking requiring it to—
    - (a) deliver to the registrar—
      - (i) a report or consolidated report in accordance with regulation 14(1); and
      - (ii) a statement to the registrar confirming that the undertaking is required to prepare a report or consolidated report in accordance with these Regulations;
    - (b) deliver to the registrar a statement that the period for delivery of the report or consolidated report under regulation 14(1) has not expired; or
    - (c) deliver to the registrar a statement that the undertaking is not required to prepare a report or consolidated report in accordance with these Regulations.
  - (3) Any statement made under paragraph (2) must state—
    - (a) the name of the undertaking; and
    - (b) the financial year to which the statement relates.
- (4) A statement made under paragraph (2)(a)(ii) must state whether the undertaking is required to prepare a report under regulation 4 or a consolidated report under regulation 8.
- (5) A statement made under paragraph (2)(b) must state when the period for delivery of the report or consolidated report to the registrar under regulation 14(1) is to expire.

- (6) A statement made under paragraph (2)(c) must state on which of the grounds under paragraph (7) the undertaking is not required to prepare a report or consolidated report and any further detail required by that paragraph.
  - (7) The grounds under this paragraph are that—
    - (a) the undertaking is not a large undertaking or a public interest entity;
    - (b) it is not a mining or quarrying undertaking or a logging undertaking;
    - (c) it has not made any payments to a government that meet the threshold for inclusion in regulation 9(4);
    - (d) it is exempt under regulation 6 (inclusion in a consolidated report), and if so state the name of the undertaking that is delivering the consolidated report;
    - (e) it is exempt under regulation 7 (inclusion in a consolidated report of a parent undertaking in a member State other than the United Kingdom), and if so state the name of the undertaking that is delivering the consolidated report and the member State in which the consolidated report is filed;
    - (f) it is exempt under regulation 10(1)(a) (being a parent undertaking of a small group);
    - (g) it is exempt under regulation 10(1)(b) (being a parent undertaking of a medium-sized group);
    - (h) it is exempt under regulation 10(1)(c) (being a parent undertaking which is also a subsidiary undertaking, if its own parent undertaking is governed by the law of a member State other than the United Kingdom), and if so state the name of the undertaking that is delivering the consolidated report and the member State in which the consolidated report is filed:
    - (i) it is excluded from a consolidated report because one of the conditions set out in regulation 11 applies, and if so state which condition and confirm that it has been excluded from the consolidated group accounts;
    - (j) it is exempt under regulation 12 (preparing a report in accordance with equivalent reporting requirements), and if so state which equivalent reporting requirements apply;
    - (k) it is exempt under regulation 13 (inclusion in a consolidated report prepared in accordance with equivalent reporting requirements), and if so state which equivalent reporting requirements apply and the name of the parent undertaking delivering the report.
- (8) If the undertaking fails to comply with a notice served under paragraph (2) within 28 days after the service of such notice, an offence is committed by the undertaking and every person who is a director of the undertaking.
- (9) It is a defence to prove that a director took all reasonable steps for securing compliance with a notice served under paragraph (2).
- (10) Paragraph (11) applies if section 85(2) of the Legal Aid, Sentencing and Punishment of Offenders Act 2012 is in force on the day these Regulations are made.
  - (11) A person guilty of an offence under this regulation is liable on summary conviction to a fine.
- (12) Paragraph (13) applies if section 85(2) of the Legal Aid, Sentencing and Punishment of Offenders Act 2012 is not in force on the day these Regulations are made.
- (13) A person guilty of an offence under this regulation is liable on summary conviction to a fine not exceeding level 5 on the standard scale.
  - (14) No proceedings are to be brought under this regulation—
    - (a) in England and Wales except by or with the consent of the Secretary of State or the Director of Public Prosecutions;

- (b) in Northern Ireland except by or with the consent of the Secretary of State or the Director of Public Prosecutions for Northern Ireland.
- **18.**—(1) This regulation applies where the registrar has reason to believe that an undertaking has failed to deliver equivalent reporting requirements information in accordance with regulation 15.
  - (2) The registrar must serve notice on the undertaking requiring it to—
    - (a) deliver to the registrar—
      - (i) information contained in any report or consolidated report prepared in accordance with equivalent reporting requirements; and
      - (ii) a statement to the registrar confirming that the undertaking is required to deliver such information;
    - (b) deliver to the registrar a statement that the period for delivery of the equivalent reporting requirements information under regulation 15(1) has not expired; or
    - (c) deliver to the registrar a statement that the undertaking is not required to deliver to the registrar any document under regulation 15.
  - (3) A statement made under paragraph (2) must state—
    - (a) the name of the undertaking; and
    - (b) the financial year to which the statement relates.
- (4) A statement made under sub-paragraph (2)(b) must state when the period for delivery of the equivalent reporting requirements information to the registrar under regulation 15(1) is to expire.
- (5) If the undertaking fails to comply with a notice served under paragraph (2) within 28 days after the service of such notice, an offence is committed by the undertaking and every person who is a director of the undertaking.
- (6) It is a defence to prove that a director took all reasonable steps for securing compliance with a notice served under paragraph (2).
- (7) Paragraph (8) applies if section 85(2) of the Legal Aid, Sentencing and Punishment of Offenders Act 2012 is in force on the day these Regulations are made.
  - (8) A person guilty of an offence under this regulation is liable on summary conviction to a fine.
- (9) Paragraph (10) applies if section 85(2) of the Legal Aid, Sentencing and Punishment of Offenders Act 2012 is not in force on the day these Regulations are made.
- (10) A person guilty of an offence under this regulation is liable on summary conviction to a fine not exceeding level 5 on the standard scale.
  - (11) No proceedings are to be brought under this regulation—
    - (a) in England and Wales except by or with the consent of the Secretary of State or the Director of Public Prosecutions;
    - (b) in Northern Ireland except by or with the consent of the Secretary of State or the Director of Public Prosecutions for Northern Ireland.

#### Default in delivering report: court order

- 19. The court may, on the application of any member of the undertaking or the registrar, make an order directing the directors (or any of them) within such time as may be specified in the order to make good a default if—
  - (a) the requirements of regulation 14 or 15 have not been met; and
  - (b) the directors of the undertaking fail to make good the default within 28 days after the service of a notice on them requiring compliance.

## Directive disclosure requirements

- **20.**—(1) After subsection (4) of section 1078(2) of the Act (documents subject to certain EU disclosure requirements), insert—
  - "(4A) Where a company is required by regulation 14 of the Reports on Payments to Governments Regulations 2014 to deliver to the registrar a report or consolidated report on payments to governments, that report or consolidated report.
  - (4B) Where a company is required by regulation 15 of the Reports on Payments to Governments Regulations 2014 to deliver to the registrar information on payments to governments which is contained in a report or consolidated report prepared in accordance with equivalent reporting requirements (within the meaning of those Regulations), that information."
- (2) In regulation 63 of the Limited Liability Partnerships (Application of Companies Act 2006) Regulations 2009(3) (public notice of receipt of certain documents), before the heading "Registered office" insert—

# "Reports

- 1. Any report or consolidated report on payments to governments required to be delivered to the registrar by regulation 14 of the Reports on Payments to Governments Regulations 2014.
- 2. Any information on payments to governments which is contained in a report or consolidated report prepared in accordance with equivalent reporting requirements (within the meaning of the Reports on Payments to Governments Regulations 2014) and is required to be delivered to the registrar by regulation 15 of those Regulations.

# **Review of Regulations**

- 21.—(1) The Secretary of State must from time to time—
  - (a) carry out a review of these Regulations;
  - (b) set out the conclusions of the review in a report; and
  - (c) publish the report.
- (2) In carrying out the review the Secretary of State must, so far as is reasonable, have regard to how the Directive (which is implemented by means of these Regulations) is implemented in other member States.
  - (3) The report must in particular—
    - (a) set out the objectives intended to be achieved by the regulatory system established by these Regulations;
    - (b) assess the extent to which those objectives are achieved; and
    - (c) assess whether those objectives remain appropriate and, if so, the extent to which they could be achieved with a system that imposes less regulation.
- (4) The first report under this regulation must be published before the end of the period of three years beginning with the day on which these Regulations come into force.
- (5) Reports under this regulation are afterwards to be published at intervals not exceeding five years.

<sup>(2)</sup> Section 1078 was amended by S.I. 2012/2301.

<sup>(3)</sup> S.I. 2009/1804, amended by S.I. 2012/2301, there are other amending instruments but none are relevant.

**Draft Legislation:** This is a draft item of legislation. This draft has since been made as a UK Statutory Instrument: The Reports on Payments to Governments Regulations 2014 No. 3209