



Insolvency Act 1986

1986 CHAPTER 45

PART VI

MISCELLANEOUS PROVISIONS APPLYING TO COMPANIES WHICH ARE INSOLVENT OR IN LIQUIDATION

Management by administrators, liquidators, etc.

236 Inquiry into company's dealings, etc.

- (1) This section applies as does section 234; and it also applies in the case of a company in respect of which a winding-up order has been made by the court in England and Wales as if references to the office-holder included the official receiver, whether or not he is the liquidator.
- (2) The court may, on the application of the office-holder, summon to appear before it—
 - (a) any officer of the company,
 - (b) any person known or suspected to have in his possession any property of the company or supposed to be indebted to the company, or
 - (c) any person whom the court thinks capable of giving information concerning the promotion, formation, business, dealings, affairs or property of the company.
- (3) The court may require any such person as is mentioned in subsection (2)(a) to (c) to submit [^{F1}to the court] an account of his dealings with the company or to produce any books, papers or other records in his possession or under his control relating to the company or the matters mentioned in paragraph (c) of the subsection.
- [^{F2}(3A) An account submitted to the court under subsection (3) must be contained in—
 - (a) a witness statement verified by a statement of truth (in England and Wales), and
 - (b) an affidavit (in Scotland).]
 - (4) The following applies in a case where—

Changes to legislation: Insolvency Act 1986, Section 236 is up to date with all changes known to be in force on or before 10 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. (See end of Document for details) View outstanding changes

- (a) a person without reasonable excuse fails to appear before the court when he is summoned to do so under this section, or
 - (b) there are reasonable grounds for believing that a person has absconded, or is about to abscond, with a view to avoiding his appearance before the court under this section.
- (5) The court may, for the purpose of bringing that person and anything in his possession before the court, cause a warrant to be issued to a constable or prescribed officer of the court—
- (a) for the arrest of that person, and
 - (b) for the seizure of any books, papers, records, money or goods in that person's possession.
- (6) The court may authorise a person arrested under such a warrant to be kept in custody, and anything seized under such a warrant to be held, in accordance with the rules, until that person is brought before the court under the warrant or until such other time as the court may order.

Textual Amendments

- F1** Words in s. 236(3) substituted (6.4.2010) by [The Legislative Reform \(Insolvency\) \(Miscellaneous Provisions\) Order 2010 \(S.I. 2010/18\)](#), [art. 5\(6\)\(a\)](#)
- F2** S. 236(3A) inserted (6.4.2010) by [The Legislative Reform \(Insolvency\) \(Miscellaneous Provisions\) Order 2010 \(S.I. 2010/18\)](#), [art. 5\(6\)\(b\)](#)

Modifications etc. (not altering text)

- C1** Pt. 6 applied (with modifications) (8.7.2021) by [The Payment and Electronic Money Institution Insolvency Regulations 2021 \(S.I. 2021/716\)](#), [reg. 2](#), [Sch. 1 para. 3](#) (with [reg. 5](#)) (as amended (4.1.2024) by [S.I. 2023/1399](#), [regs. 1\(2\)](#), [4](#))
- C2** S. 236 applied (with modifications) (S.) (6.4.2001) by [S.S.I. 2001/128](#), [reg. 4\(1\)](#), [Sch. 2](#) (as amended (1.10.2009) by [S.S.I. 2009/310](#), [reg. 3](#), [Sch. 1 para. 1\(c\)](#))
- C3** S. 236 applied (with modifications) (17.2.2009 for certain purposes, otherwise 21.2.2009) by [Banking Act 2009 \(c. 1\)](#), [ss. 103](#), [263\(1\)\(2\)](#) (with s. 247); [S.I. 2009/296](#), [arts. 2](#), [3](#), [Sch. para. 2](#)
- C4** S. 236 applied (with modifications) (17.2.2009 for certain purposes, otherwise 21.2.2009) by [Banking Act 2009 \(c. 1\)](#), [ss. 145](#), [263\(1\)\(2\)](#) (with s. 247); [S.I. 2009/296](#), [arts. 2](#), [3](#), [Sch. para. 3](#)
- C5** S. 236 applied (with modifications) (6.6.2013) by [The Collective Investment in Transferable Securities \(Contractual Scheme\) Regulations 2013 \(S.I. 2013/1388\)](#), [Pt. 3 reg. 1](#), [Sch. 2 paras. 3](#), [5 Table](#) (with [reg. 24](#))
- C6** [Ss. 233-237](#) applied (with modifications) (31.1.2019) by [Technical and Further Education Act 2017 \(c. 19\)](#), [s. 47\(2\)](#), [Sch. 4](#); [S.I. 2018/1161](#), [reg. 3\(d\)](#)
- C7** [Ss. 233-237](#) applied (with modifications) (31.1.2019) by [Technical and Further Education Act 2017 \(c. 19\)](#), [s. 47\(2\)](#), [Sch. 3](#); [S.I. 2018/1161](#), [reg. 3\(c\)](#)
- C8** S. 236 applied (with modifications) (8.7.2021) by [The Payment and Electronic Money Institution Insolvency Regulations 2021 \(S.I. 2021/716\)](#), [regs. 2](#), [37](#) (with [reg. 5](#)) (as amended (4.1.2024) by [S.I. 2023/1399](#), [regs. 1\(2\)](#), [4](#), [11](#))
- C9** [Ss. 236-237](#) applied in part (with modifications) (4.1.2024) by [S.I. 2021/716](#), [Sch. 1 para. 3](#) (as amended by [The Payment and Electronic Money Institution Insolvency \(Amendment\) Regulations 2023 \(S.I. 2023/1399\)](#), [regs. 1\(2\)](#), [20](#))
- C10** [Ss. 233-237](#) applied (with modifications) (E.W.) (15.3.2024) by [The Water Industry \(Special Administration\) Regulations 2024 \(S.I. 2024/205\)](#), [regs. 2\(2\)](#), [5\(1\)](#) (with [reg. 64](#))

Changes to legislation:

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

- Act amendment to earlier affecting provision S.I. 1986/1999, art. 3, Sch. 1 Pt. 2 by [S.I. 2017/1119 Sch. 3 para. 1](#)
- Act savings and transitional provisions for amendments by S.I. 2022/1166 by [S.I. 2022/1172 Regulations](#)

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

- s. 41HB(2) words substituted by [2018 c. 14 s. 1\(3\)\(b\)](#)