



Financial Services and Markets Act 2000

2000 CHAPTER 8

PART XI

INFORMATION GATHERING AND INVESTIGATIONS

Conduct of investigations

170 Investigations: general.

- (1) This section applies if an investigating authority appoints one or more competent persons (“investigators”) under section 167 or 168(3) or (5) to conduct an investigation on its behalf.
- (2) The investigating authority must give written notice of the appointment of an investigator to the person who is the subject of the investigation (“the person under investigation”).
- (3) Subsections (2) and (9) do not apply if—
 - (a) the investigator is appointed as a result of section 168(1) or (4) and the investigating authority believes that the notice required by subsection (2) or (9) would be likely to result in the investigation being frustrated; or
 - (b) the investigator is appointed as a result of subsection (2) of section 168.
- (4) A notice under subsection (2) must—
 - (a) specify the provisions under which, and as a result of which, the investigator was appointed; and
 - (b) state the reason for his appointment.
- (5) Nothing prevents the investigating authority from appointing a person who is a member of its staff as an investigator.
- (6) An investigator must make a report of his investigation to the investigating authority.
- (7) The investigating authority may, by a direction to an investigator, control—
 - (a) the scope of the investigation;

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- (b) the period during which the investigation is to be conducted;
 - (c) the conduct of the investigation; and
 - (d) the reporting of the investigation.
- (8) A direction may, in particular—
- (a) confine the investigation to particular matters;
 - (b) extend the investigation to additional matters;
 - (c) require the investigator to discontinue the investigation or to take only such steps as are specified in the direction;
 - (d) require the investigator to make such interim reports as are so specified.
- (9) If there is a change in the scope or conduct of the investigation and, in the opinion of the investigating authority, the person subject to investigation is likely to be significantly prejudiced by not being made aware of it, that person must be given written notice of the change.
- (10) “Investigating authority”, in relation to an investigator, means—
- [^{F1}(a) the FCA, if the FCA appointed the investigator;
 - (aa) the PRA, if the PRA appointed the investigator;
 - (b) the Secretary of State, if the Secretary of State appointed the investigator.]

Textual Amendments

- F1** S. 170(10)(a)-(b) substituted for s. 170(10)(a)(b) (1.4.2013) by [Financial Services Act 2012 \(c. 21\)](#), s. 122(3), [Sch. 12 para. 11](#) (with [Sch. 20](#)); S.I. 2013/423, art. 3, Sch.

Modifications etc. (not altering text)

- C1** Pt. 11 modified (E.W.S.) (29.11.2018 for specified purposes, 1.4.2019 in so far as not already in force) by [The Financial Services and Markets Act 2000 \(Claims Management Activity\) Order 2018 \(S.I. 2018/1253\)](#), arts. 1(2)(3), **82(13)**
- C2** S. 170 applied (22.7.2013) by [The Alternative Investment Fund Managers Regulations 2013 \(S.I. 2013/1773\)](#), regs. 1, **71(2)(b)**
- C3** S. 170 applied (20.4.2015 for specified purposes, 21.12.2015 for specified purposes, 21.3.2016 in so far as not already in force) by [The Mortgage Credit Directive Order 2015 \(S.I. 2015/910\)](#), arts. 1(5), **23(2)(f)** (with Pt. 4)
- C4** S. 170 applied (31.5.2021) by [The Civil Liability Act 2018 \(Financial Conduct Authority\) \(Whiplash\) Regulations 2021 \(S.I. 2021/594\)](#), regs. 1, **2(4)(d)**
- C5** Ss. 170-175 applied (8.6.2023 for specified purposes, 7.10.2023 in so far as not already in force) by [The Financial Services and Markets Act 2000 \(Financial Promotion\) \(Amendment\) Order 2023 \(S.I. 2023/612\)](#), art. 1(2), [Sch. para. 1\(j\)](#) (with art. 11)
- C6** S. 170(1)(2) applied (with modifications) (1.1.2014) by [The Capital Requirements Regulations 2013 \(S.I. 2013/3115\)](#), regs. 1(2), **14**
- C7** S. 170(4)-(8) applied (with modifications) (1.1.2014) by [The Capital Requirements Regulations 2013 \(S.I. 2013/3115\)](#), regs. 1(2), **14**
- C8** S. 170(5)-(9) applied (1.12.2001 for E.W.S. and 1.11.2004 for N.I.) by S.I. 2001/1228, regs. 1(2)(c), 30(4) (with 1(2)(3)); S.I. 2001/3538, art. 2(1); S.R. 2004/335, regs. 1(1)(b), **30(4)** (with reg. 1(2))

171 Powers of persons appointed under section 167.

- (1) [^{F2}An investigator may require a person to whom subsection (1A) applies—]

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- (a) to attend before the investigator at a specified time and place and answer questions; or
- (b) otherwise to provide such information as the investigator may require.

[^{F3}(1A) This subsection applies to the following persons—

- (a) the person who is the subject of the investigation (“the person under investigation”);
- (b) any person connected with the person under investigation;
- (c) where the person under investigation is an FCA investment firm, a person who provides, or has provided, a service to the firm or to a relevant parent undertaking of the firm;
- (d) where the person under investigation is a relevant parent undertaking of an FCA investment firm, a person who provides, or has provided, a service to the parent undertaking or to the firm.]

(2) An investigator may also require any person to produce at a specified time and place any specified documents or documents of a specified description.

(3) A requirement under subsection (1) or (2) may be imposed only so far as the investigator concerned reasonably considers the question, provision of information or production of the document to be relevant to the purposes of the investigation.

[^{F4}(3A) Where the investigation relates to a recognised investment exchange, an investigator has the additional powers conferred by sections 172 and 173 (and for this purpose references in those sections to an investigator are to be read accordingly).]

(4) For the purposes of this section and section 172, a person is connected with the person under investigation (“A”) if he is or has at any relevant time been—

- (a) a member of A’s group;
- (b) a controller of A;
- (c) a partnership of which A is a member; or
- (d) in relation to A, a person mentioned in Part I or II of Schedule 15.

(5) “Investigator” means a person conducting an investigation under section 167.

(6) “Specified” means specified in a notice in writing.

[^{F5}(7) The reference in subsection (3A) to a recognised investment exchange does not include a reference to an overseas investment exchange (as defined by section 313(1)).]

Textual Amendments

- F2** Words in s. 171(1) substituted (1.7.2021) by [Financial Services Act 2021 \(c. 22\), s. 49\(5\), Sch. 2 para. 8\(3\)](#) (with [Sch. 2 Pt. 3](#)); [S.I. 2021/671, reg. 4\(b\)](#)
- F3** S. 171(1A) inserted (1.7.2021) by [Financial Services Act 2021 \(c. 22\), s. 49\(5\), Sch. 2 para. 8\(4\)](#) (with [Sch. 2 Pt. 3](#)); [S.I. 2021/671, reg. 4\(b\)](#)
- F4** S. 171(3A) inserted (1.4.2007 for certain purposes and 1.11.2007 otherwise) by [The Financial Services and Markets Act 2000 \(Markets in Financial Instruments\) Regulations 2007 \(S.I. 2007/126\), regs. 1\(2\), 3\(5\), Sch. 5 para. 9\(a\)](#)
- F5** S. 171(7) inserted (1.4.2007 for certain purposes and 1.11.2007 otherwise) by [The Financial Services and Markets Act 2000 \(Markets in Financial Instruments\) Regulations 2007 \(S.I. 2007/126\), regs. 1\(2\), 3\(5\), Sch. 5 para. 9\(b\)](#)

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Modifications etc. (not altering text)

- C5** Ss. 170-175 applied (8.6.2023 for specified purposes, 7.10.2023 in so far as not already in force) by [The Financial Services and Markets Act 2000 \(Financial Promotion\) \(Amendment\) Order 2023 \(S.I. 2023/612\)](#), art. 1(2), **Sch. para. 1(j)** (with art. 11)
- C9** S. 171 applied (22.7.2013) by [The Alternative Investment Fund Managers Regulations 2013 \(S.I. 2013/1773\)](#), regs. 1, **71(2)(c)**
- C10** S. 171 applied (20.4.2015 for specified purposes, 21.12.2015 for specified purposes, 21.3.2016 in so far as not already in force) by [The Mortgage Credit Directive Order 2015 \(S.I. 2015/910\)](#), arts. 1(5), **23(2)(g)** (with Pt. 4)
- C11** S. 171 applied (31.5.2021 for specified purposes) by [The Civil Liability Act 2018 \(Financial Conduct Authority\) \(Whiplash\) Regulations 2021 \(S.I. 2021/594\)](#), regs. 1, **2(4)(e)**
- C12** S. 171(1)-(3) applied (with modifications) (1.1.2014) by [The Capital Requirements Regulations 2013 \(S.I. 2013/3115\)](#), regs. 1(2), **14**
- C13** S. 171(5)(6) applied (with modifications) (1.1.2014) by [The Capital Requirements Regulations 2013 \(S.I. 2013/3115\)](#), regs. 1(2), **14**

172 Additional power of persons appointed as a result of section 168(1) or (4).

- (1) An investigator has the powers conferred by section 171.
- (2) An investigator may also require a person who is neither the subject of the investigation (“the person under investigation”) nor a person connected with the person under investigation—
- (a) to attend before the investigator at a specified time and place and answer questions; or
 - (b) otherwise to provide such information as the investigator may require for the purposes of the investigation.
- (3) A requirement may only be imposed under subsection (2) if the investigator is satisfied that the requirement is necessary or expedient for the purposes of the investigation.
- (4) “Investigator” means a person appointed as a result of subsection (1) or (4) of section 168.
- (5) “Specified” means specified in a notice in writing.

Modifications etc. (not altering text)

- C5** Ss. 170-175 applied (8.6.2023 for specified purposes, 7.10.2023 in so far as not already in force) by [The Financial Services and Markets Act 2000 \(Financial Promotion\) \(Amendment\) Order 2023 \(S.I. 2023/612\)](#), art. 1(2), **Sch. para. 1(j)** (with art. 11)
- C14** S. 172 applied (20.4.2015 for specified purposes, 21.12.2015 for specified purposes, 21.3.2016 in so far as not already in force) by [The Mortgage Credit Directive Order 2015 \(S.I. 2015/910\)](#), arts. 1(5), **23(2)(h)** (with Pt. 4)
- C15** S. 172 applied (31.5.2021) by [The Civil Liability Act 2018 \(Financial Conduct Authority\) \(Whiplash\) Regulations 2021 \(S.I. 2021/594\)](#), regs. 1, **2(4)(f)**

173 Powers of persons appointed as a result of section 168(2).

- (1) Subsections (2) to (4) apply if an investigator considers that any person (“A”) is or may be able to give information which is or may be relevant to the investigation.

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- (2) The investigator may require A—
 - (a) to attend before him at a specified time and place and answer questions; or
 - (b) otherwise to provide such information as he may require for the purposes of the investigation.
- (3) The investigator may also require A to produce at a specified time and place any specified documents or documents of a specified description which appear to the investigator to relate to any matter relevant to the investigation.
- (4) The investigator may also otherwise require A to give him all assistance in connection with the investigation which A is reasonably able to give.
- (5) “Investigator” means a person appointed under subsection (3) of section 168 (as a result of subsection (2) of that section).

Modifications etc. (not altering text)

- C5** Ss. 170-175 applied (8.6.2023 for specified purposes, 7.10.2023 in so far as not already in force) by [The Financial Services and Markets Act 2000 \(Financial Promotion\) \(Amendment\) Order 2023 \(S.I. 2023/612\)](#), art. 1(2), [Sch. para. 1\(j\)](#) (with art. 11)
- C16** S. 173 applied (20.4.2015 for specified purposes, 21.12.2015 for specified purposes, 21.3.2016 in so far as not already in force) by [The Mortgage Credit Directive Order 2015 \(S.I. 2015/910\)](#), arts. 1(5), [23\(2\)\(i\)](#) (with Pt. 4)
- C17** S. 173 applied (31.5.2021) by [The Civil Liability Act 2018 \(Financial Conduct Authority\) \(Whiplash\) Regulations 2021 \(S.I. 2021/594\)](#), regs. 1, [2\(4\)\(g\)](#)

174 Admissibility of statements made to investigators.

- (1) A statement made to an investigator by a person in compliance with an information requirement is admissible in evidence in any proceedings, so long as it also complies with any requirements governing the admissibility of evidence in the circumstances in question.
- (2) But in criminal proceedings in which that person is charged with an offence to which this subsection applies or in proceedings in relation to action to be taken against that person under section 123 [^{F6}to which this subsection applies]—
 - (a) no evidence relating to the statement may be adduced, and
 - (b) no question relating to it may be asked,by or on behalf of the prosecution or (as the case may be) [^{F7}a regulator], unless evidence relating to it is adduced, or a question relating to it is asked, in the proceedings by or on behalf of that person.
- (3) Subsection (2) applies to any offence other than one—
 - (a) under section 177(4) or 398;
 - (b) under section 5 of the ^{M1}Perjury Act 1911 (false statements made otherwise than on oath);
 - (c) under section 44(2) of the ^{M2}Criminal Law (Consolidation)(Scotland) Act 1995 (false statements made otherwise than on oath); or
 - (d) under Article 10 of the ^{M3}Perjury (Northern Ireland) Order 1979.

[^{F8}(3A) Subsection (2) applies to proceedings in relation to action to be taken under section 123(2) or (3) against a person who may have contravened Article 14

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(prohibition of insider dealing and of unlawful disclosure of inside information) or Article 15 (prohibition of market manipulation) of the market abuse regulation.]

- (4) “Investigator” means a person appointed under section 167 or 168(3) or (5) [^{F9}, or a person appointed under section 169 who has the powers conferred by virtue of subsection (2A) of that section].
- (5) “Information requirement” means a requirement imposed by an investigator under section 171, 172, 173 or 175.

Textual Amendments

- F6** Words in s. 174(2) inserted (3.7.2016) by [The Financial Services and Markets Act 2000 \(Market Abuse\) Regulations 2016 \(S.I. 2016/680\)](#), regs. 1, **10(10)(a)**
- F7** Words in s. 174(2) substituted (1.4.2013) by [Financial Services Act 2012 \(c. 21\)](#), s. 122(3), **Sch. 12 para. 12** (with [Sch. 20](#)); [S.I. 2013/423](#), art. 3, [Sch.](#)
- F8** S. 174(3A) inserted (3.7.2016) by [The Financial Services and Markets Act 2000 \(Market Abuse\) Regulations 2016 \(S.I. 2016/680\)](#), regs. 1, **10(10)(b)**
- F9** Words in s. 174(4) inserted (3.7.2016) by [The Financial Services and Markets Act 2000 \(Market Abuse\) Regulations 2016 \(S.I. 2016/680\)](#), regs. 1, **10(10)(c)**

Modifications etc. (not altering text)

- C5** [Ss. 170-175](#) applied (8.6.2023 for specified purposes, 7.10.2023 in so far as not already in force) by [The Financial Services and Markets Act 2000 \(Financial Promotion\) \(Amendment\) Order 2023 \(S.I. 2023/612\)](#), art. 1(2), **Sch. para. 1(j)** (with art. 11)
- C18** S. 174 applied (1.12.2001 for E.W.S. and 1.11.2004 for N.I.) by [S.I. 2001/1228](#), regs. 1(2)(c), 30(5) (with [reg. 1\(2\)\(3\)](#)); [S.I. 2001/3538](#), art. 2(1); [S.R. 2004/335](#), regs. 1(1)(b), **30(5)** (with [reg. 1\(2\)](#))
S. 174 applied (with modifications) (1.12.2001) by [S.I. 2001/3646](#), **arts. 1(1)**, 2(4), 4(5)
- C19** S. 174 applied (with modifications) (7.6.2010) by [The Credit Rating Agencies Regulations 2010 \(S.I. 2010/906\)](#), **reg. 16(4)**
- C20** S. 174 applied (22.7.2013) by [The Alternative Investment Fund Managers Regulations 2013 \(S.I. 2013/1773\)](#), regs. 1, **71(2)(d)**
- C21** S. 174 applied (20.4.2015 for specified purposes, 21.12.2015 for specified purposes, 21.3.2016 in so far as not already in force) by [The Mortgage Credit Directive Order 2015 \(S.I. 2015/910\)](#), arts. 1(5), **23(2)(j)** (with Pt. 4)
- C22** S. 174 applied (with modifications) (31.5.2021) by [The Civil Liability Act 2018 \(Financial Conduct Authority\) \(Whiplash\) Regulations 2021 \(S.I. 2021/594\)](#), regs. 1, **2(4)(h)**

Marginal Citations

- M1** 1911 c. 6.
- M2** 1995 c. 39.
- M3** [S.I. 1979/1714 \(N.I. 19\)](#).

175 Information and documents: supplemental provisions.

- (1) If [^{F10}either regulator] or an investigator has power under this Part to require a person to produce a document but it appears that the document is in the possession of a third person, that power may be exercised in relation to the third person.
- (2) If a document is produced in response to a requirement imposed under this Part, the person to whom it is produced may—
- (a) take copies or extracts from the document; or

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- (b) require the person producing the document, or any relevant person, to provide an explanation of the document.
- [^{F11}(2A) A document so produced may be retained for so long as the person to whom it is produced considers that it is necessary to retain it (rather than copies of it) for the purposes for which the document was requested.
- (2B) If the person to whom a document is so produced has reasonable grounds for believing—
- (a) that the document may have to be produced for the purposes of any legal proceedings, and
 - (b) that it might otherwise be unavailable for those purposes,
- it may be retained until the proceedings are concluded.]
- (3) If a person who is required under this Part to produce a document fails to do so, the [^{F12}regulator] or an investigator may require him to state, to the best of his knowledge and belief, where the document is.
- (4) A lawyer may be required under this Part to furnish the name and address of his client.
- (5) No person may be required under this Part to disclose information or produce a document in respect of which he owes an obligation of confidence by virtue of carrying on the business of banking unless—
- (a) he is the person under investigation or a member of that person’s group;
 - (b) the person to whom the obligation of confidence is owed is the person under investigation or a member of that person’s group;
 - (c) the person to whom the obligation of confidence is owed consents to the disclosure or production; or
 - (d) the imposing on him of a requirement with respect to such information or document has been specifically authorised by the investigating authority.
- [^{F13}(5A) Nothing in this Part is to be read as enabling a person to secure the disclosure by a telecommunications operator or postal operator of communications data without the consent of the operator.
- (5B) In subsection (5A) “communications data”, “postal operator” and “telecommunications operator” have the same meanings as in the Investigatory Powers Act 2016 (see sections 261 and 262 of that Act).]
- (6) If a person claims a lien on a document, its production under this Part does not affect the lien.
- (7) “Relevant person”, in relation to a person who is required to produce a document, means a person who—
- (a) has been or is or is proposed to be a director or controller of that person;
 - (b) has been or is an auditor of that person;
 - (c) has been or is an actuary, accountant or lawyer appointed or instructed by that person; or
 - (d) has been or is an employee of that person.
- (8) “Investigator” means a person appointed under section 167 or 168(3) or (5).

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Textual Amendments

- F10** Words in s. 175(1) substituted (1.4.2013) by [Financial Services Act 2012 \(c. 21\), s. 122\(3\), Sch. 12 para. 13\(2\)](#) (with [Sch. 20](#)); [S.I. 2013/423](#), art. 3, Sch.
- F11** S. 175(2A)(2B) inserted (1.4.2013) by [Financial Services Act 2012 \(c. 21\), s. 122\(3\), Sch. 12 para. 13\(3\)](#) (with [Sch. 20](#)); [S.I. 2013/423](#), art. 3, Sch.
- F12** Word in s. 175(3) substituted (1.4.2013) by [Financial Services Act 2012 \(c. 21\), s. 122\(3\), Sch. 12 para. 13\(4\)](#) (with [Sch. 20](#)); [S.I. 2013/423](#), art. 3, Sch.
- F13** S. 175(5A)(5B) inserted (22.7.2020) by [Investigatory Powers Act 2016 \(c. 25\), s. 272\(1\), Sch. 2 para. 9](#) (with [Sch. 9 paras. 7, 8, 10](#)); [S.I. 2020/766](#), reg. 2(d)

Modifications etc. (not altering text)

- C5** Ss. 170-175 applied (8.6.2023 for specified purposes, 7.10.2023 in so far as not already in force) by [The Financial Services and Markets Act 2000 \(Financial Promotion\) \(Amendment\) Order 2023 \(S.I. 2023/612\)](#), art. 1(2), [Sch. para. 1\(j\)](#) (with art. 11)
- C23** Pt. 11 applied in part (with modifications) (31.12.2020) by [The Over the Counter Derivatives, Central Counterparties and Trade Repositories \(Amendment, etc., and Transitional Provision\) \(EU Exit\) Regulations 2019 \(S.I. 2019/335\)](#), regs. 1(1), [75](#) (with savings in [S.I. 2019/680](#), reg. 11); 2020 c. 1, Sch. 5 para. 1(1)
- C24** Pt. 11 applied in part (with modifications) (31.12.2020) by [The Transparency of Securities Financing Transactions and of Reuse \(Amendment\) \(EU Exit\) Regulations 2019 \(S.I. 2019/542\)](#), regs. 1, [36](#) (with savings in [S.I. 2019/680](#), reg. 11); 2020 c. 1, Sch. 5 para. 1(1)
- C25** Pt. 11 applied (with modifications) (31.12.2020) by [The Credit Rating Agencies \(Amendment etc.\) \(EU Exit\) Regulations 2019 \(S.I. 2019/266\)](#), regs. 1(3), [18\(1\)](#) (as amended by [S.I. 2020/1384](#), regs. 1(4), 50(3)) (with savings in [S.I. 2019/680](#), reg. 11); 2020 c. 1, Sch. 5 para. 1(1)
- C26** S. 175 applied (with modifications) (11.4.2002 for certain purposes and 27.4.2002 otherwise) by [The Financial Services and Markets Act 2000 \(Regulated Activities\) Order 2001 \(S.I. 2001/544\)](#), art. 9G(9) (as inserted by [The Financial Services and Markets Act 2000 \(Regulated Activities\) \(Amendment\) Order 2002 \(S.I. 2002/682\)](#), arts. 1(2), 4)
- C27** S. 175 applied (with modifications) (7.6.2010) by [The Credit Rating Agencies Regulations 2010 \(S.I. 2010/906\)](#), [reg. 17](#)
- C28** S. 175 applied (22.7.2013) by [The Alternative Investment Fund Managers Regulations 2013 \(S.I. 2013/1773\)](#), regs. 1, [71\(2\)\(e\)](#)
- C29** S. 175 applied (20.4.2015 for specified purposes, 21.12.2015 for specified purposes, 21.3.2016 in so far as not already in force) by [The Mortgage Credit Directive Order 2015 \(S.I. 2015/910\)](#), arts. 1(5), [23\(2\)\(k\)](#) (with Pt. 4)
- C30** S. 175 applied (with modifications) (13.7.2016) by [The Financial Services and Markets Act 2000 \(Transparency of Securities Financing Transactions and of Reuse\) Regulations 2016 \(S.I. 2016/715\)](#), regs. 1(2), 7
- C31** S. 175 applied by [S.I. 2018/1149](#), reg. 60 (as inserted (1.3.2019) by [The Financial Services Contracts \(Transitional and Saving Provision\) \(EU Exit\) Regulations 2019 \(S.I. 2019/405\)](#), regs. 1(2), 3)
- C32** S. 175 applied (with modifications) by [S.I. 2018/1201](#), Sch. 3 para. 12H(2) (as substituted (6.9.2019) by [The Financial Services \(Electronic Money, Payment Services and Miscellaneous Amendments\) \(EU Exit\) Regulations 2019 \(S.I. 2019/1212\)](#), regs. 1(2), [7\(8\)](#))
- C33** S. 175 applied (with modifications) by [S.I. 2018/1201](#), Sch. 3 para. 32A(2) (as substituted (6.9.2019) by [The Financial Services \(Electronic Money, Payment Services and Miscellaneous Amendments\) \(EU Exit\) Regulations 2019 \(S.I. 2019/1212\)](#), regs. 1(2), [7\(15\)](#))
- C34** S. 175 applied (31.12.2020) by [The Electronic Commerce and Solvency 2 \(Amendment etc.\) \(EU Exit\) Regulations 2019 \(S.I. 2019/1361\)](#), regs. 1(2), [20](#) (as amended by [S.I. 2019/1390](#), regs. 1(2), 6); 2020 c. 1, Sch. 5 para. 1(1)
- C35** S. 175 applied (31.5.2021) by [The Civil Liability Act 2018 \(Financial Conduct Authority\) \(Whiplash\) Regulations 2021 \(S.I. 2021/594\)](#), regs. 1, [2\(4\)\(i\)](#)

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- C36** S. 175(2)-(4)(6) amended (1.12.2001 for E.W.S. and 1.11.2004 for N.I) by S.I. 2001/1228, regs. 1(2)(c), 30(6) (with reg. 1(2)(3)); S.I. 2001/3538, art. 2(1); S.R. 2004/335, regs. 1(1)(b), 30(6) (with reg. 1(2))
- C37** S. 175(2)-(6) applied (with modifications) (1.1.2014) by The Capital Requirements Regulations 2013 (S.I. 2013/3115), regs. 1(2), 14
- C38** S. 175(2)(2A)(2B) modified (E.W.S.) (29.11.2018 for specified purposes, 1.4.2019 in so far as not already in force) by The Financial Services and Markets Act 2000 (Claims Management Activity) Order 2018 (S.I. 2018/1253), arts. 1(2)(3), 55(6)
- C39** S. 175(8) applied (with modifications) (1.1.2014) by The Capital Requirements Regulations 2013 (S.I. 2013/3115), regs. 1(2), 14

176 Entry of premises under warrant.

- (1) A justice of the peace may issue a warrant under this section if satisfied on information on oath given by or on behalf of the Secretary of State, [^{F14}either regulator] or an investigator that there are reasonable grounds for believing that the first, second or third set of conditions is satisfied.
- (2) The first set of conditions is—
- (a) that a person on whom an information requirement has been imposed has failed (wholly or in part) to comply with it; and
 - (b) that on the premises specified in the warrant—
 - (i) there are documents which have been required; or
 - (ii) there is information which has been required.
- (3) The second set of conditions is—
- (a) that the premises specified in the warrant are premises of [^{F15}a person to whom subsection (3A) applies];
 - (b) that there are on the premises documents or information in relation to which an information requirement could be imposed; and
 - (c) that if such a requirement were to be imposed—
 - (i) it would not be complied with; or
 - (ii) the documents or information to which it related would be removed, tampered with or destroyed.
- [^{F16}(3A) This subsection applies to the following persons—
- (a) an authorised person;
 - (b) an appointed representative;
 - (c) a relevant parent undertaking of an FCA investment firm;
 - (d) a person who provides a service to an FCA investment firm or to a relevant parent undertaking of such a firm.]

(4) The third set of conditions is—

 - (a) that an offence mentioned in section 168 for which the maximum sentence on conviction on indictment is two years or more has been (or is being) committed by any person;
 - (b) that there are on the premises specified in the warrant documents or information relevant to whether that offence has been (or is being) committed;
 - (c) that an information requirement could be imposed in relation to those documents or information; and
 - (d) that if such a requirement were to be imposed—

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- (i) it would not be complied with; or
 - (ii) the documents or information to which it related would be removed, tampered with or destroyed.
- (5) A warrant under this section shall authorise a constable—
- (a) to enter the premises specified in the warrant;
 - (b) to search the premises and take possession of any documents or information appearing to be documents or information of a kind in respect of which a warrant under this section was issued (“the relevant kind”) or to take, in relation to any such documents or information, any other steps which may appear to be necessary for preserving them or preventing interference with them;
 - (c) to take copies of, or extracts from, any documents or information appearing to be of the relevant kind;
 - (d) to require any person on the premises to provide an explanation of any document or information appearing to be of the relevant kind or to state where it may be found; and
 - (e) to use such force as may be reasonably necessary.
- [^{F17}(5A) A warrant under this section may be executed by any constable.
- (5B) The warrant may authorise persons to accompany any constable who is executing it.
- (5C) The powers in subsection (5) may be exercised by a person authorised by the warrant to accompany a constable; but that person may exercise those powers only in the company of, and under the supervision of, a constable.]
- (6) In England and Wales, sections 15(5) to (8) and section [^{F18}16(3) to (12)] of the ^{M4}Police and Criminal Evidence Act 1984 (execution of search warrants and safeguards) apply to warrants issued under this section.
- (7) In Northern Ireland, Articles 17(5) to (8) and [^{F19}18(3) to (12)] of the ^{M5}Police and Criminal Evidence (Northern Ireland) Order 1989 apply to warrants issued under this section.
- ^{F20}(8)
- (9) In the application of this section to Scotland—
- (a) for the references to a justice of the peace substitute references to a justice of the peace or a sheriff; and
 - (b) for the references to information on oath substitute references to evidence on oath.
- (10) “Investigator” means a person appointed under section 167 or 168(3) or (5).
- (11) “Information requirement” means a requirement imposed—
- (a) by [^{F21}a regulator] under section [^{F22}[^{F23}87C, 87J,]] 165 [^{F24}, 165A, 169A] or 175; [^{F25}or]
 - [^{F26}(aa) by the FCA under regulation 26, 28 or 33 of the Public Offers and Admissions to Trading Regulations 2024; or]
 - (b) by an investigator under section 171, 172, 173 or 175.

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Textual Amendments

- F14** Words in s. 176(1) substituted (1.4.2013) by [Financial Services Act 2012 \(c. 21\), s. 122\(3\), Sch. 12 para. 14\(2\)](#) (with [Sch. 20](#)); S.I. 2013/423, art. 3, Sch.
- F15** Words in s. 176(3)(a) substituted (1.7.2021) by [Financial Services Act 2021 \(c. 22\), s. 49\(5\), Sch. 2 para. 9\(2\)](#) (with [Sch. 2 Pt. 3](#)); S.I. 2021/671, reg. 4(b)
- F16** S. 176(3A) inserted (1.7.2021) by [Financial Services Act 2021 \(c. 22\), s. 49\(5\), Sch. 2 para. 9\(3\)](#) (with [Sch. 2 Pt. 3](#)); S.I. 2021/671, reg. 4(b)
- F17** S. 176(5A)-(5C) inserted (1.4.2013) by [Financial Services Act 2012 \(c. 21\), s. 122\(3\), Sch. 12 para. 14\(3\)](#) (with [Sch. 20](#)); S.I. 2013/423, art. 3, Sch.
- F18** Words in s. 176(6) substituted (1.4.2013) by [Financial Services Act 2012 \(c. 21\), s. 122\(3\), Sch. 12 para. 14\(4\)](#) (with [Sch. 20](#)); S.I. 2013/423, art. 3, Sch.
- F19** Words in s. 176(7) substituted (1.4.2013) by [Financial Services Act 2012 \(c. 21\), s. 122\(3\), Sch. 12 para. 14\(5\)](#) (with [Sch. 20](#)); S.I. 2013/423, art. 3, Sch.
- F20** S. 176(8) omitted (1.4.2013) by virtue of [Financial Services Act 2012 \(c. 21\), s. 122\(3\), Sch. 12 para. 14\(6\)](#) (with [Sch. 20](#)); S.I. 2013/423, art. 3, Sch.
- F21** Words in s. 176(11)(a) substituted (1.4.2013) by [Financial Services Act 2012 \(c. 21\), s. 122\(3\), Sch. 12 para. 14\(7\)](#) (with [Sch. 20](#)); S.I. 2013/423, art. 3, Sch.
- F22** Words in s. 176(11)(a) omitted (30.1.2024 for specified purposes) by virtue of [The Public Offers and Admissions to Trading Regulations 2024 \(S.I. 2024/105\), reg. 2\(2\)\(3\), Sch. 3 para. 16\(a\)](#) (with regs. 48-50)
- F23** Words in s. 176(11)(a) inserted (1.7.2005) by [The Prospectus Regulations 2005 \(S.I. 2005/1433\), reg. 2\(1\), Sch. 1 para. 12](#)
- F24** Words in s. 176(11)(a) inserted (8.6.2010) by [Financial Services Act 2010 \(c. 28\), ss. 24\(1\), 26\(2\)\(d\) \(e\), Sch. 2 para. 17](#)
- F25** Word in s. 176(11)(a) omitted (30.1.2024 for specified purposes) by virtue of [The Public Offers and Admissions to Trading Regulations 2024 \(S.I. 2024/105\), reg. 2\(2\)\(3\), Sch. 3 para. 16\(b\)](#) (with regs. 48-50)
- F26** S. 176(11)(aa) inserted (30.1.2024 for specified purposes) by [The Public Offers and Admissions to Trading Regulations 2024 \(S.I. 2024/105\), reg. 2\(2\)\(3\), Sch. 3 para. 16\(c\)](#) (with regs. 48-50)

Modifications etc. (not altering text)

- C40** S. 176 extended (17.8.2001 for certain purposes otherwise 1.12.2001) by [1992 c. 40, s. 62A](#) (as inserted (17.8.2001 for certain purposes otherwise 1.12.2001) by S.I. 2001/2617, arts. 2, 8, 13(1), [Sch. 3 Pt. I para. 77](#) (with [art. 13\(3\), Sch. 5](#))); S.I. 2001/3538, [art. 2\(1\)](#)
- S. 176 modified (17.8.2001 for certain purposes otherwise 1.12.2001) by [1986 c. 53, s. 52B](#) (as substituted (17.8.2001 for certain purposes otherwise 1.12.2001) by S.I. 2001/2617, arts. 2, 8, 13(1), [Sch. 3 Pt. I para. 151](#) (with [art. 13\(3\), Sch. 5](#))); S.I. 2001/3538, [art. 2\(1\)](#)
- S. 176 modified (1.12.2001) by S.I. 1995/1537, [reg. 23\(4\)](#) (as amended (1.12.2001) by S.I. 2001/3649, [arts. 1, 509\(e\)](#))
- C41** S. 176 amended (18.7.2002 for certain purposes and 21.8.2002 otherwise) by [The Electronic Commerce Directive \(Financial Services and Markets\) Regulations 2002 \(S.I. 2002/1775\), regs. 1, 12\(3\)](#)
- S. 176 applied (with modifications) (11.4.2002 for certain purposes and 27.4.2002 otherwise) by [The Financial Services and Markets Act 2000 \(Regulated Activities\) Order 2001 \(S.I. 2001/544\), art. 9G\(9\)](#) (as inserted by [The Financial Services and Markets Act 2000 \(Regulated Activities\) \(Amendment\) Order 2002 \(S.I. 2002/682\), arts. 1\(2\), 4](#))
- C42** S. 176 applied (with modifications) (1.4.2013) by [The Financial Services Act 2012 \(Transitional Provisions\) \(Miscellaneous Provisions\) Order 2013 \(S.I. 2013/442\), arts. 1\(3\), 21](#)
- C43** S. 176 applied (22.7.2013) by [The Alternative Investment Fund Managers Regulations 2013 \(S.I. 2013/1773\), regs. 1, 71\(1\)\(d\)\(2\)\(f\)](#)

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- C44** S. 176 applied (20.4.2015 for specified purposes, 21.12.2015 for specified purposes, 21.3.2016 in so far as not already in force) by [The Mortgage Credit Directive Order 2015 \(S.I. 2015/910\)](#), arts. 1(5), **23(2)(i)** (with Pt. 4)
- C45** S. 176 applied (with modifications) (31.5.2021) by [The Civil Liability Act 2018 \(Financial Conduct Authority\) \(Whiplash\) Regulations 2021 \(S.I. 2021/594\)](#), regs. 1, **2(4)(j)**
- C46** S. 176 applied (with modifications) (8.6.2023 for specified purposes, 7.10.2023 in so far as not already in force) by [The Financial Services and Markets Act 2000 \(Financial Promotion\) \(Amendment\) Order 2023 \(S.I. 2023/612\)](#), art. 1(2), **Sch. para. 17** (with art. 11)
- C47** S. 176(1)-(9) applied (1.12.2001) by [S.I. 2001/1228](#), **regs. 1(2)(c)**, 30(7) (with reg. 1(2)(3)); [S.I. 2001/3538](#), **art. 2(1)**
- C48** S. 176(1)-(8) applied (with modifications) (N.I.) (1.11.2004) by [Open-Ended Investment Companies Regulations \(Northern Ireland\) 2004 \(S.R. 2004/335\)](#), regs. 1(1)(b), **30(7)** (with reg. 1(2))
- C49** S. 176(1)-(3) applied (with modifications) (1.1.2014) by [The Capital Requirements Regulations 2013 \(S.I. 2013/3115\)](#), regs. 1(2), **14**
- C50** S. 176(2) extended (1.12.2001) by [S.I. 2001/3646](#), **arts. 1(1)**, 13(2)
- C51** S. 176(5): powers of seizure extended (1.4.2003) by [2001 c. 16](#), ss. 50, 52-54, 68, 138(2), Sch. 1 Pt. 1 para. 69; [S.I. 2003/708](#), **art. 2(a)(c)(j)**
- C52** S. 176(5)-(11) applied (with modifications) (1.1.2014) by [The Capital Requirements Regulations 2013 \(S.I. 2013/3115\)](#), regs. 1(2), **14**
- C53** S. 176(11) restricted (temp. from 11.8.2001 until 1.12.2001) by [S.I. 2001/2659](#), **arts. 1(3)**, 2(3); [S.I. 2001/3538](#), **art. 2(1)**
- C54** S. 176(8) applied (with modifications) (1.4.2003) by [2001 c. 16](#), ss. 57(1)(o)(4), 138(2); [S.I. 2003/708](#), **art. 2(a)**
- C55** S. 176(11) restricted (temp. from 8.4.2002 until 2.7.2002) by [The Financial Services and Markets Act 2000 \(Permission and Applications\) \(Credit Unions etc.\) Order 2002 \(S.I. 2002/704\)](#), **art. 8(3)**

Marginal Citations

- M4** [1984 c. 60](#).
- M5** [S.I. 1989/1341 \(N.I. 12\)](#).

[^{F27}176A Retention of documents taken under section 176

- (1) Any document of which possession is taken under section 176 (“a seized document”) may be retained so long as it is necessary to retain it (rather than copies of it) in the circumstances.
- (2) A person claiming to be the owner of a seized document may apply to a magistrates' court or (in Scotland) the sheriff for an order for the delivery of the document to the person appearing to the court or sheriff to be the owner.
- (3) If on an application under subsection (2) the court or (in Scotland) the sheriff cannot ascertain who is the owner of the seized document the court or sheriff (as the case may be) may make such order as the court or sheriff thinks fit.
- (4) An order under subsection (2) or (3) does not affect the right of any person to take legal proceedings against any person in possession of a seized document for the recovery of the document.
- (5) Any right to bring proceedings (as described in subsection (4)) may only be exercised within 6 months of the date of the order made under subsection (2) or (3).]

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Textual Amendments

- F27** S. 176A inserted (1.4.2013) by [Financial Services Act 2012 \(c. 21\)](#), s. 122(3), **Sch. 12 para. 15** (with [Sch. 20](#)); [S.I. 2013/423](#), art. 3, Sch.

Modifications etc. (not altering text)

- C56** S. 176A applied (22.7.2013) by [The Alternative Investment Fund Managers Regulations 2013 \(S.I. 2013/1773\)](#), regs. 1, **71(2)(g)**
- C57** S. 176A applied (with modifications) (1.1.2014) by [The Capital Requirements Regulations 2013 \(S.I. 2013/3115\)](#), regs. 1(2), **14**
- C58** S. 176A applied (20.4.2015 for specified purposes, 21.12.2015 for specified purposes, 21.3.2016 in so far as not already in force) by [The Mortgage Credit Directive Order 2015 \(S.I. 2015/910\)](#), arts. 1(5), **23(2)(m)** (with Pt. 4)
- C59** S. 176A modified (E.W.S.) (29.11.2018 for specified purposes, 1.4.2019 in so far as not already in force) by [The Financial Services and Markets Act 2000 \(Claims Management Activity\) Order 2018 \(S.I. 2018/1253\)](#), arts. 1(2)(3), **61**
- C60** S. 176A applied (with modifications) (31.5.2021) by [The Civil Liability Act 2018 \(Financial Conduct Authority\) \(Whiplash\) Regulations 2021 \(S.I. 2021/594\)](#), regs. 1, **2(4)(k)**
- C61** S. 176A applied (8.6.2023 for specified purposes, 7.10.2023 in so far as not already in force) by [The Financial Services and Markets Act 2000 \(Financial Promotion\) \(Amendment\) Order 2023 \(S.I. 2023/612\)](#), art. 1(2), **Sch. para. 1(k)** (with art. 11)

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

- Act applied (with modifications) by [S.I. 2023/1347 reg. 8](#)
- Act power to apply conferred (temp. until 15.5.2039) by [2014 c. 21 s. 79\(4\)](#)
- Act power to apply conferred (temp. until 15.5.2039) by [2014 c. 21 s. 81\(10\)](#)

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

- Pt. 17 Ch. 3B inserted by [2023 c. 29 s. 64\(3\)](#)
- Pt. 20C inserted by [2016 c. 14 s. 30\(3\)](#)
- s. 31(1)(aa) inserted by [2021 c. 22 s. 22\(2\)](#)
- s. 32A inserted by [2021 c. 22 s. 22\(3\)](#)
- s. 32A power to apply (with modifications) conferred by [2021 c. 22 s. 23\(10\)](#)
- s. 36A and cross-heading inserted by [2021 c. 22 s. 22\(4\)](#)
- s. 71J and cross-heading inserted by [2021 c. 22 Sch. 8 para. 4](#)
- s. 86(9A) inserted by [S.I. 2019/707 reg. 8\(9\)](#) (This amendment not applied to legislation.gov.uk. Reg. 8(6)-(10) omitted (6.9.2019) by virtue of S.I. 2019/1234, regs. 1(2), 13(c))
- s. 87A(11) inserted by [S.I. 2019/707 reg. 10\(5\)](#) (This amendment not applied to legislation.gov.uk. Reg. 10(4)(5) omitted (6.9.2019) by virtue of S.I. 2019/1234, regs. 1(2), 15(b))
- s. 124(10)(c)(i) word omitted by [S.I. 2019/310 reg. 5\(11\)\(b\)](#) (This amendment not applied to legislation.gov.uk. Reg. 5(11)(b) omitted immediately before IP completion day by virtue of S.I. 2020/1385, regs. 1(4), 51(2)(e))
- s. 129(7)(a) word inserted by [S.I. 2019/310 reg. 5\(12\)\(a\)\(i\)](#) (This amendment not applied to legislation.gov.uk. Reg. 5(12)(a)(b) omitted immediately before IP completion day by virtue of S.I. 2020/1385, regs. 1(4), 51(2)(f))
- s. 129(7)(c) omitted and word by [S.I. 2019/310 reg. 5\(12\)\(a\)\(ii\)](#) (This amendment not applied to legislation.gov.uk. Reg. 5(12)(a)(b) omitted immediately before IP completion day by virtue of S.I. 2020/1385, regs. 1(4), 51(2)(f))
- s. 214(5A) inserted by [2021 c. 22 Sch. 8 para. 8](#)
- s. 261E(A1) inserted by [2023 c. 29 s. 64\(2\)\(a\)](#)
- s. 367A inserted by [2021 c. 22 Sch. 8 para. 10](#)
- s. 395(13)(h)(i) inserted by [2021 c. 22 Sch. 8 para. 12\(2\)\(c\)](#)
- s. 395(13)(bc)-(be) word inserted by [2021 c. 22 Sch. 8 para. 12\(2\)\(b\)](#)
- s. 395(14) inserted by [2021 c. 22 Sch. 8 para. 12\(3\)](#)
- s. 427A(3) words substituted by [2002 c. 40 Sch. 17 para. 59](#) (This amendment not applied to legislation.gov.uk. The Financial Services and Markets Act 2000 does not contain a section 427A.)
- Sch. 1ZA para. 32(c) and word inserted by [2021 c. 22 Sch. 8 para. 18](#)
- Sch. 2A para. 19(2)(b)(iia) inserted by [2023 c. 29 Sch. 10 para. 19\(a\)](#)
- Sch. 2A2B power to apply (with modifications) conferred by [2021 c. 22 s. 23\(10\)](#)
- Sch. 2A power to apply (with modifications) conferred by [2021 c. 22 s. 23\(10\)](#)
- Sch. 2B inserted by [2021 c. 22 Sch. 7](#)
- Sch. 2B power to apply (with modifications) conferred by [2021 c. 22 s. 23\(10\)](#)
- Sch. 11A para. 5(3) inserted by [S.I. 2019/707 reg. 38\(5\)\(b\)](#) (This amendment not applied to legislation.gov.uk. Reg. 38(2)-(5)(7)(8) omitted (6.9.2019) by virtue of S.I. 2019/1234, regs. 1(2), 20)

- Sch. 17A para. 12 words substituted by [S.I. 2019/662 reg. 13\(1\)](#) (This amendment not applied to [legislation.gov.uk](#). Reg. 13(1) substituted (25.6.2020) by S.I. 2020/646, regs. 1(2)(c), 11(3))