



# Companies Act 2006

## 2006 CHAPTER 46

### PART 16

#### AUDIT

### CHAPTER 1

#### REQUIREMENT FOR AUDITED ACCOUNTS

##### *Requirement for audited accounts*

#### **475 Requirement for audited accounts**

- (1) A company's annual accounts for a financial year must be audited in accordance with this Part unless the company—
  - (a) is exempt from audit under—
    - section 477 (small companies),
    - [<sup>F1</sup>section 479A (subsidiary companies)] or
    - section 480 (dormant companies);
  - or
  - (b) is exempt from the requirements of this Part under section 482 (non-profit-making companies subject to public sector audit).
- (2) A company is not entitled to any such exemption unless its balance sheet contains a statement by the directors to that effect.
- (3) A company is not entitled to exemption under any of the provisions mentioned in subsection (1)(a) unless its balance sheet contains a statement by the directors to the effect that—
  - (a) the members have not required the company to obtain an audit of its accounts for the year in question in accordance with section 476, and

**Changes to legislation:** Companies Act 2006, Cross Heading: Requirement for audited accounts is up to date with all changes known to be in force on or before 23 November 2017. 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)

- (b) the directors acknowledge their responsibilities for complying with the requirements of this Act with respect to accounting records and the preparation of accounts.
- (4) The statement required by subsection (2) or (3) must appear on the balance sheet above the signature required by section 414.

**Annotations:**

**Amendments (Textual)**

- F1** Words in s. 475(1)(a) inserted (1.10.2012 with application in accordance with reg. 2 of the amending S.I.) by [The Companies and Limited Liability Partnerships \(Accounts and Audit Exemptions and Change of Accounting Framework\) Regulations 2012 \(S.I. 2012/2301\)](#), regs. 1, 6

**Modifications etc. (not altering text)**

- C1** S. 475 applied (with modifications) (1.10.2008) by [The Limited Liability Partnerships \(Accounts and Audit\) \(Application of Companies Act 2006\) Regulations 2008 \(S.I. 2008/1911\)](#), **reg. 33** (as amended (1.10.2012 with application in accordance with reg. 2 of the amending S.I.) by S.I. 2012/2301, regs. 1, **20(2)**)
- C2** Ss. 475-481 applied (with modifications) (1.10.2009) by [The Unregistered Companies Regulations 2009 \(S.I. 2009/2436\)](#), regs. 3-5, **Sch. 1 para. 11** (with transitional provisions and savings in regs. 7, 9, Sch. 2)
- C3** S. 475 applied (with modifications) in part (31.7.2015) by [The European Grouping of Territorial Cooperation Regulations 2015 \(S.I. 2015/1493\)](#), regs. 1(2), **7(1)** (with reg. 11)
- C4** S. 475(1) applied (with modifications) (6.4.2008) by [The Insurance Accounts Directive \(Miscellaneous Insurance Undertakings\) Regulations 2008 \(S.I. 2008/565\)](#), **reg. 3**

**476 Right of members to require audit**

- (1) The members of a company that would otherwise be entitled to exemption from audit under any of the provisions mentioned in section 475(1)(a) may by notice under this section require it to obtain an audit of its accounts for a financial year.
- (2) The notice must be given by—
- (a) members representing not less in total than 10% in nominal value of the company's issued share capital, or any class of it, or
  - (b) if the company does not have a share capital, not less than 10% in number of the members of the company.
- (3) The notice may not be given before the financial year to which it relates and must be given not later than one month before the end of that year.

**Annotations:**

**Modifications etc. (not altering text)**

- C5** Ss. 475-481 applied (with modifications) (1.10.2009) by [The Unregistered Companies Regulations 2009 \(S.I. 2009/2436\)](#), regs. 3-5, **Sch. 1 para. 11** (with transitional provisions and savings in regs. 7, 9, Sch. 2)
- C6** S. 476 applied (with modifications) (31.7.2015) by [The European Grouping of Territorial Cooperation Regulations 2015 \(S.I. 2015/1493\)](#), regs. 1(2), **7(1)** (with reg. 11)

**Changes to legislation:**

Companies Act 2006, Cross Heading: Requirement for audited accounts is up to date with all changes known to be in force on or before 23 November 2017. 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.

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

- Act amendment to earlier affecting provision S.I. 2008/373 reg. 11(1) by [S.I. 2013/1971 reg. 9\(a\)](#) (This amendment not applied to legislation.gov.uk. Amending Regulations revoked (1.10.2013) without ever being in force by S.I. 2013/2224, reg. 2)
- Act amendment to earlier affecting provision S.I. 2008/373 reg. 3(4) by [S.I. 2013/1971 reg. 4](#) (This amendment not applied to legislation.gov.uk. Amending Regulations revoked (1.10.2013) without ever being in force by S.I. 2013/2224, reg. 2)

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

- s. 156A-156C inserted by [2015 c. 26 s. 87\(4\)](#)