



Companies Act 2006

2006 CHAPTER 46

PART 15

ACCOUNTS AND REPORTS

CHAPTER 10

FILING OF ACCOUNTS AND REPORTS

Duty to file accounts and reports

442 Period allowed for filing accounts

- (1) This section specifies the period allowed for the directors of a company to comply with their obligation under section 441 to deliver accounts and reports for a financial year to the registrar.

This is referred to in the Companies Acts as the “period for filing” those accounts and reports.

- (2) The period is—
- (a) for a private company, nine months after the end of the relevant accounting reference period, and
 - (b) for a public company, six months after the end of that period.

This is subject to the following provisions of this section.

- (3) If the relevant accounting reference period is the company's first and is a period of more than twelve months, the period is—
- (a) nine months or six months, as the case may be, from the first anniversary of the incorporation of the company, or
 - (b) three months after the end of the accounting reference period, whichever last expires.

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- (4) If the relevant accounting reference period is treated as shortened by virtue of a notice given by the company under section 392 (alteration of accounting reference date), the period is—
- (a) that applicable in accordance with the above provisions, or
 - (b) three months from the date of the notice under that section,
- whichever last expires.
- (5) [^{F1}Subject to subsection (5A),] if for any special reason the Secretary of State thinks fit he may, on an application made before the expiry of the period otherwise allowed, by notice in writing to a company extend that period by such further period as may be specified in the notice.
- [^{F2}(5A) Any such extension must not have the effect of extending the period for filing to more than twelve months after the end of the relevant accounting reference period.]
- (6) Whether the period allowed is that for a private company or a public company is determined by reference to the company's status immediately before the end of the relevant accounting reference period.
- (7) In this section “the relevant accounting reference period” means the accounting reference period by reference to which the financial year for the accounts in question was determined.

Textual Amendments

- F1** Words in s. 442(5) inserted (with effect in accordance with reg. 2(2)-(5) of the amending S.I.) by [The Companies, Partnerships and Groups \(Accounts and Reports\) Regulations 2015 \(S.I. 2015/980\)](#), regs. 2(1), **8(2)(a)** (with reg. 3)
- F2** S. 442(5A) inserted (with effect in accordance with reg. 2(2)-(5) of the amending S.I.) by [The Companies, Partnerships and Groups \(Accounts and Reports\) Regulations 2015 \(S.I. 2015/980\)](#), regs. 2(1), **8(2)(b)** (with reg. 3)

Modifications etc. (not altering text)

- C1** Ss. 441-448 applied (6.4.2008) by [S.I. 2005/1788](#), reg. 29 (as substituted by [The Companies Act 2006 \(Consequential Amendments etc\) Order 2008 \(S.I. 2008/948\)](#), art. 3(1), **Sch. 1 para. 242(4)** (with arts. 6, 11, 12))
- C2** Ss. 441-444 applied (with modifications) (6.4.2008) by 1996 c. 52, Sch. 1 para. 16D (as substituted by [The Companies Act 2006 \(Consequential Amendments etc\) Order 2008 \(S.I. 2008/948\)](#), art. 3(1), **Sch. 1 para. 202(3)** (with arts. 6, 11, 12))
- C3** Ss. 441-444A applied (with modifications) (1.4.2010) by [Housing and Regeneration Act 2008 \(c. 17\)](#), **ss. 132(1)(2)**, 325; [S.I. 2010/862](#), **art. 2** (with Sch.)
- C4** S. 442 applied (with modifications) (1.10.2009) by [The Overseas Companies Regulations 2009 \(S.I. 2009/1801\)](#), **reg. 40** (with Sch. 8)
- C5** S. 442 applied (with modifications) (1.10.2009) by [The Overseas Companies Regulations 2009 \(S.I. 2009/1801\)](#), **reg. 55** (with Sch. 8)
- C6** Ss. 441-444 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. 17** (as amended: (with effect in accordance with reg. 2(2)-(5) of the amending S.I.) by [The Limited Liability Partnerships, Partnerships and Groups \(Accounts and Audit\) Regulations 2016 \(S.I. 2016/575\)](#), regs. 2(1), **12**); (with effect in accordance with reg. 2(5)(a) of the amending S.I.) by [The Statutory Auditors Regulations 2017 \(S.I. 2017/1164\)](#), reg. 1(2)(3), **Sch. 3 para. 5** (with reg. 2(6)(7)); (1.4.2019) by [The Companies \(Directors Report\) and Limited Liability Partnerships \(Energy and Carbon Report\) Regulations 2018 \(S.I. 2018/1155\)](#), regs. 2, **17**; and (with effect for financial years beginning on

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or after 6.4.2021) by The European Grouping of Territorial Cooperation and Limited Liability Partnerships etc. (Revocations and Amendments) (EU Exit) Regulations 2021 (S.I. 2021/153), regs. 1, **11**)

- C7** S. 442 modified (temp.) (27.6.2020) by The Companies etc. (Filing Requirements) (Temporary Modifications) Regulations 2020 (S.I. 2020/645), regs. 2, **12**
- C8** S. 442 modified (temp.) (27.6.2020) by The Companies etc. (Filing Requirements) (Temporary Modifications) Regulations 2020 (S.I. 2020/645), regs. 2, **11**
- C9** S. 442: power to modify conferred (temp.) (26.6.2020) by Corporate Insolvency and Governance Act 2020 (c. 12), **ss. 39(1)**, 40(e), 49(1) (with ss. 2(2), 5(2), 39(8)(9))

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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. 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\(4\)](#)
- s. 156B(5) omitted by [2023 c. 56 Sch. 2 para. 26](#)
- s. 156C(2) words substituted by [2023 c. 56 s. 41\(2\)\(a\)](#)
- s. 156C(2A) inserted by [2023 c. 56 s. 41\(2\)\(b\)](#)
- s. 156C(3) substituted for s. 156C(3)-(5) by [2023 c. 56 Sch. 2 para. 27](#)
- s. 479A(2)(c)(zi) inserted by [S.I. 2019/177 reg. 4\(b\)\(i\)](#) (This amendment not applied to legislation.gov.uk. Reg. 4 substituted by regs. 4, 4A immediately before IP completion day by S.I. 2019/1392, regs. 1(2), 4)
- s. 1047(4)(i)(j) inserted by [2023 c. 56 s. 21\(2\)](#)
- s. 1087(da) substituted by [2023 c. 56 s. 52\(2\)](#)
- s. 1110E-110G applied by S.I. 2009/1804, reg. 60 (as amended) by [S.I. 2024/234 reg. 26](#)
- s. 11989A applied (with modifications) by S.I. 2009/1804, reg. 79A (as inserted) by [S.I. 2024/234 reg. 46](#)
- Sch. 10 para. 6(2D) inserted by [S.I. 2019/177 reg. 28\(e\)](#) (This amendment not applied to legislation.gov.uk. Reg. 28(e) omitted immediately before IP completion day by virtue of S.I. 2020/523, regs. 1(2), 14(e)(iv))
- Sch. 10 para. 7(2A) inserted by [S.I. 2019/177 reg. 29\(b\)](#) (This amendment not applied to legislation.gov.uk. Reg. 29 substituted immediately before IP completion day by S.I. 2020/523, regs. 1(2), 14(f))