



Legal Services Act 2007

2007 CHAPTER 29

PART 9

GENERAL

Offences

197 Offences committed by bodies corporate and unincorporated bodies

- (1) Where an offence committed by a body corporate is proved to have been committed with the consent or connivance of or to be attributable to any neglect on the part of an officer of the body corporate, that officer (as well as the body corporate) is guilty of the offence and is liable to be proceeded against and punished accordingly.
- (2) Where the affairs of a body corporate are managed by its members, subsection (1) applies in relation to the acts and defaults of a member in connection with the member's functions of management as it applies to an officer of the body corporate.
- (3) Proceedings for an offence alleged to have been committed by an unincorporated body are to be brought in the name of that body (and not in that of any of its members) and, for the purposes of any such proceedings, any rules of court relating to the service of documents have effect as if that body were a corporation.
- (4) A fine imposed on an unincorporated body on its conviction of an offence is to be paid out of the funds of that body.
- (5) If an unincorporated body is charged with an offence, section 33 of the Criminal Justice Act 1925 (c. 86) and Schedule 3 to the Magistrates' Courts Act 1980 (c. 43) (procedure on charge of an offence against a corporation) have effect in like manner as in the case of a corporation so charged.
- (6) Where an offence committed by an unincorporated body (other than a partnership) is proved to have been committed with the consent or connivance of, or to be attributable to any neglect on the part of, any officer of the body or any member of its governing

Changes to legislation: There are currently no known outstanding effects for the Legal Services Act 2007, Section 197. (See end of Document for details)

body, that officer or member as well as the unincorporated body is guilty of the offence and liable to be proceeded against and punished accordingly.

(7) Where an offence committed by a partnership is proved to have been committed with the consent or connivance of, or to be attributable to any neglect on the part of, a partner, that partner as well as the partnership is guilty of the offence and liable to be proceeded against and punished accordingly.

(8) In this section—

“offence” means an offence under this Act;

“officer”, in relation to a body corporate, means—

- (a) any director, secretary or other similar officer of the body corporate, or
- (b) any person who was purporting to act in any such capacity.

Changes to legislation:

There are currently no known outstanding effects for the Legal Services Act 2007, Section 197.