#### STATUTORY INSTRUMENTS

# 2018 No. 860

# The Companies (Miscellaneous Reporting) Regulations 2018

# PART 2

# Amendments to the Companies Act 2006

2. The Companies Act 2006 is amended in accordance with regulations 3 to 6.

#### **Amendment of section 414C**

**3.** In section 414C(1) (contents of the strategic report), in subsection (2), at the end insert— "Section 414CZA (section 172(1) statement) and sections 414CA and 414CB(2) (non-financial information statement) make further provision about the contents of a strategic report."

#### **Insertion of section 414CZA (section 172(1) statement)**

4. After section 414C insert—

### "Section 172(1) statement

- **414CZA.**—(1) A strategic report for a financial year of a company must include a statement (a "section 172(1) statement") which describes how the directors have had regard to the matters set out in section 172(1)(a) to (f) when performing their duty under section 172.
- (2) Subsection (1) does not apply if the company qualifies as medium-sized in relation to that financial year (see sections 465 to 467)."

## Section 172(1) statement to be made available on website

5. After section 426A(3) (supplementary material) insert—

"Section 172(1) statement: requirements as to website publication

#### Section 172(1) statement to be made available on website

**426B.**—(1) This section applies if—

(a) a company is required by section 414CZA to include a section 172(1) statement in its strategic report for a financial year, and

<sup>(1) 2006</sup> c.46; section 414C was inserted by the Companies Act 2006 (Strategic Report and Directors' Report) Regulations 2013 (S.I. 2013/1970), regulations 2 and 3.

<sup>(2) 2006</sup> c.46; sections 414CA and 414CB were inserted by the Companies, Partnerships and Groups (Accounts and Non-Financial Reporting) Regulations 2016 (S.I. 2016/1245), regulations 2 and 4.

<sup>(3) 2006</sup> c.46; section 426A was inserted by the Companies Act 2006 (Strategic Report and Directors' Report) Regulations 2013 (S.I. 2013/1970), regulations 9 and 12.

- (b) the company is an unquoted company in relation to that financial year.
- (2) The company must ensure that the section 172(1) statement—
  - (a) is made available on a website, and
  - (b) remains so available until—
    - (i) the section 172(1) statement for the company's next financial year is made available in accordance with this section, or
    - (ii) if the obligation under this section to make a section 172(1) statement available does not arise in relation to the company's next financial year, the end of the company's next financial year.
- (3) The section 172(1) statement must be made available on a website that—
  - (a) is maintained by or on behalf of the company, and
  - (b) identifies the company in question.
- (4) Access to the section 172(1) statement made available on the website under subsection (2), and the ability to obtain a hard copy of the statement from the website, must not be—
  - (a) conditional on the payment of a fee, or
  - (b) otherwise restricted, except so far as necessary to comply with any enactment or regulatory requirement (in the United Kingdom or elsewhere).
  - (5) The section 172(1) statement—
    - (a) must be made available on a website as soon as reasonably practicable, and
    - (b) must be kept available throughout the period specified in subsection (2)(b)(i) or (as the case may be) (ii).
- (6) A failure to make the section 172(1) statement available on a website throughout the period specified in subsection (2)(b)(i) or (as the case may be) (ii) is disregarded if—
  - (a) the statement is made available on the website for part of that period, and
  - (b) the failure is wholly attributable to circumstances that it would not be reasonable to have expected the company to prevent or avoid.
- (7) In the event of default in complying with this section, an offence is committed by every officer of the company who is in default.
- (8) A person guilty of an offence under subsection (7) is liable on summary conviction to a fine not exceeding level 3 on the standard scale."

#### **Amendment of Schedule 8**

6. In Schedule 8 after the entry relating to "review period (in Part 24)" insert—

"section 172(1) statement section 414CZA(1)"