



# Competition Act 1998

## 1998 CHAPTER 41

### PART I

#### COMPETITION

#### CHAPTER V

#### MISCELLANEOUS

#### *Confidentiality and immunity from defamation*

#### <sup>F1</sup>55 **General restrictions on disclosure of information.**

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#### **Textual Amendments**

**F1** S. 56 repealed (20.6.2003) by [Enterprise Act 2002 \(c. 40\)](#), ss. 247(j), 279, [Sch. 26](#); S.I. 2003/1397, art. 2(1), [Sch.](#) (with art. 6)

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

**C1** S. 55 restricted (31.10.2003) by [Railways and Transport Safety Act 2003 \(c. 20\)](#), [s. 115](#); S.I. 2003/2681, art. 2(b)

#### <sup>F1</sup>56 **Director and Secretary of State to have regard to certain matters in relation to the disclosure of information.**

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*Changes to legislation: Competition Act 1998, Cross Heading: Confidentiality and immunity from defamation is up to date with all changes known to be in force on or before 17 April 2024. 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) View outstanding changes*

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**Textual Amendments**

- F1** S. 56 repealed (20.6.2003) by [Enterprise Act 2002 \(c. 40\)](#), ss. 247(j), 279, **Sch. 26**; S.I. 2003/1397, art. 2(1), Sch. (with art. 6)

**57 Defamation.**

For the purposes of the law relating to defamation, absolute privilege attaches to any advice, guidance, notice or direction given, or decision made, by the [<sup>F2</sup>CMA] in the exercise of any of [<sup>F3</sup>its] functions under this Part.

**Textual Amendments**

- F2** Word in s. 57 substituted (1.4.2014) by [Enterprise and Regulatory Reform Act 2013 \(c. 24\)](#), s. 103(3), **Sch. 5 para. 34** (with s. 28); S.I. 2014/416, art. 2(1)(d) (with Sch.)
- F3** Words in s. 57 substituted (1.4.2003) by [Enterprise Act 2002 \(c. 40\)](#), s. 279, **Sch. 25 para. 38(42)**; S.I. 2003/766, art. 2, Sch. (with art. 3) (as amended (20.7.2007) by S.I. 2007/1846, reg. 3(2), Sch.)

**Changes to legislation:**

Competition Act 1998, Cross Heading: Confidentiality and immunity from defamation is up to date with all changes known to be in force on or before 17 April 2024. 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.

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

- Blanket Amendment words substituted by [2005 c. 4 Sch. 11 para. 5](#)

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

- s. 31G-31L and cross-heading inserted by S.I. 2019/93, reg. 8A (as inserted) by [S.I. 2019/1245 reg. 3](#) (This amendment not applied to legislation.gov.uk. The affecting statutory instrument has no legal effect. It was made under a procedure which meant that it ceased to have effect 28 days after signing unless it was debated and approved in Parliament within that time. It was not debated and approved within 28 days, so it has expired with no effect.)
- s. 46(3)(ha)(hb) inserted by S.I. 2019/93, reg. 14(d) (as inserted) by [S.I. 2019/1245 reg. 5](#) (This amendment not applied to legislation.gov.uk. The affecting statutory instrument has no legal effect. It was made under a procedure which meant that it ceased to have effect 28 days after signing unless it was debated and approved in Parliament within that time. It was not debated and approved within 28 days, so it has expired with no effect.)
- s. 47(1)(ca) inserted by S.I. 2019/93, reg. 15(b) (as substituted) by [S.I. 2019/1245 reg. 6](#) (This amendment not applied to legislation.gov.uk. The affecting statutory instrument has no legal effect. It was made under a procedure which meant that it ceased to have effect 28 days after signing unless it was debated and approved in Parliament within that time. It was not debated and approved within 28 days, so it has expired with no effect.)
- s. 60A(10) inserted by [2023 c. 28 s. 6\(10\)](#)
- Sch. 6A para. 1A inserted by S.I. 2019/93, reg. 29A(2) (as inserted) by [S.I. 2019/1245 reg. 7](#) (This amendment not applied to legislation.gov.uk. The affecting statutory instrument has no legal effect. It was made under a procedure which meant that it ceased to have effect 28 days after signing unless it was debated and approved in Parliament within that time. It was not debated and approved within 28 days, so it has expired with no effect.)
- Sch. 6A Pt. 3 inserted by S.I. 2019/93, reg. 29A(4) (as inserted) by [S.I. 2019/1245 reg. 7](#) (This amendment not applied to legislation.gov.uk. The affecting statutory instrument has no legal effect. It was made under a procedure which meant that it ceased to have effect 28 days after signing unless it was debated and approved in Parliament within that time. It was not debated and approved within 28 days, so it has expired with no effect.)