

Consumers, Estate Agents and Redress Act 2007

2007 CHAPTER 17

PART 2

COMPLAINTS HANDLING AND REDRESS SCHEMES

Requirements relating to redress schemes

48 Membership of redress schemes: supplementary

(1) In this Part-

"qualifying redress scheme" means a redress scheme within paragraph (a) or (b) of section 47(1);

"redress scheme" means a scheme under which consumer complaints may be made to, and investigated and determined by, an independent person ("the independent person");

"scheme administrator", in relation to a redress scheme, means the person who administers the scheme,

and references to approval of a redress scheme are to approval of the scheme for the purposes of section 47(1)(a).

- (2) In the definition of "redress scheme", "independent", in relation to a consumer complaint, means independent of—
 - (a) the regulated provider against whom the complaint is made, and
 - (b) the regulator who is the relevant regulator in relation to the regulated provider.
- (3) Nothing in this Part prevents a qualifying redress scheme providing—
 - (a) for membership to be open to persons who are not subject to any duty to belong to a qualifying redress scheme;

- (b) for the investigation and determination of complaints other than those in relation to which such a duty applies, made against members who have voluntarily accepted the jurisdiction of the scheme over such complaints.
- (4) For the purposes of the law relating to defamation, proceedings under a qualifying redress scheme (in relation to a consumer complaint and a regulated provider to which an order under section 47 applies) are to be treated in the same way as proceedings before a court.