



Corporate Manslaughter and Corporate Homicide Act 2007

2007 CHAPTER 19

Corporate manslaughter and corporate homicide

1 The offence

- (1) An organisation to which this section applies is guilty of an offence if the way in which its activities are managed or organised—
 - (a) causes a person's death, and
 - (b) amounts to a gross breach of a relevant duty of care owed by the organisation to the deceased.
- (2) The organisations to which this section applies are—
 - (a) a corporation;
 - (b) a department or other body listed in Schedule 1;
 - (c) a police force;
 - (d) a partnership, or a trade union or employers' association, that is an employer.
- (3) An organisation is guilty of an offence under this section only if the way in which its activities are managed or organised by its senior management is a substantial element in the breach referred to in subsection (1).
- (4) For the purposes of this Act—
 - (a) “relevant duty of care” has the meaning given by section 2, read with sections 3 to 7;
 - (b) a breach of a duty of care by an organisation is a “gross” breach if the conduct alleged to amount to a breach of that duty falls far below what can reasonably be expected of the organisation in the circumstances;
 - (c) “senior management”, in relation to an organisation, means the persons who play significant roles in—
 - (i) the making of decisions about how the whole or a substantial part of its activities are to be managed or organised, or

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- (ii) the actual managing or organising of the whole or a substantial part of those activities.
- (5) The offence under this section is called—
- (a) corporate manslaughter, in so far as it is an offence under the law of England and Wales or Northern Ireland;
 - (b) corporate homicide, in so far as it is an offence under the law of Scotland.
- (6) An organisation that is guilty of corporate manslaughter or corporate homicide is liable on conviction on indictment to a fine.
- (7) The offence of corporate homicide is indictable only in the High Court of Justiciary.

Commencement Information

II [S. 1](#) in force at 6.4.2008 by [S.I. 2008/401](#), [art. 2](#)

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