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## EXPLANATORY NOTE

*(This note is not part of the Order)*

This Order brings into force the Late Payment of Commercial Debts (Interest) Act 1998 for all remaining commercial contracts for the supply of goods or services not already covered by the preceding four commencement orders. The previous Orders covered contracts between (respectively as suppliers and purchasers) small businesses and large businesses, small businesses and public authorities and small businesses and other small businesses. This is the fifth Commencement Order.

This Order partially implements Directive [2000/35/EC](#) of the European Parliament and Council of 29th June 2000 on combating late payment in commercial transactions. A Transposition Note detailing the manner of implementation of this Directive is available at [www.dti.gov.uk](http://www.dti.gov.uk) or from Investment Directorate, Small Business Service, St Mary's House, c/o Moorfoot, Sheffield S1 4PQ. Tel: 0114-259-7847.