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STATUTORY INSTRUMENTS

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**2021 No. 488**

**The Global Anti-Corruption Sanctions Regulations 2021**

**PART 7**

**Enforcement**

**Penalties for offences**

**31.**—(1) A person who commits an offence under any provision of Part 3 (Finance) or regulation 22 (finance: licensing offences) is liable—

- (a) on summary conviction in England and Wales, to imprisonment for a term not exceeding 12 months or a fine (or both);
- (b) on summary conviction in Scotland, to imprisonment for a term not exceeding 12 months or a fine not exceeding the statutory maximum (or both);
- (c) on summary conviction in Northern Ireland, to imprisonment for a term not exceeding 6 months or a fine not exceeding the statutory maximum (or both);
- (d) on conviction on indictment, to imprisonment for a term not exceeding 7 years or a fine (or both).

(2) A person who commits an offence under regulation 9(6) (confidentiality) is liable—

- (a) on summary conviction in England and Wales, to imprisonment for a term not exceeding 12 months or a fine (or both);
- (b) on summary conviction in Scotland, to imprisonment for a term not exceeding 12 months or a fine not exceeding the statutory maximum (or both);
- (c) on summary conviction in Northern Ireland, to imprisonment for a term not exceeding 6 months or a fine not exceeding the statutory maximum (or both);
- (d) on conviction on indictment, to imprisonment for a term not exceeding 2 years or a fine (or both).

(3) A person who commits an offence under regulation 24(6) or 28 (information offences in connection with Part 3) is liable—

- (a) on summary conviction in England and Wales, to imprisonment for a term not exceeding 6 months or a fine (or both);
- (b) on summary conviction in Scotland, to imprisonment for a term not exceeding 6 months or a fine not exceeding level 5 on the standard scale (or both);
- (c) on summary conviction in Northern Ireland, to imprisonment for a term not exceeding 6 months or a fine not exceeding level 5 on the standard scale (or both).

(4) In relation to an offence committed before paragraph 24(2) of Schedule 22 to the Sentencing Act 2020(1) comes into force, the reference in each of paragraphs (1)(a) and (2)(a) to 12 months is to be read as a reference to 6 months.

**Liability of officers of bodies corporate etc.**

**32.**—(1) Where an offence under these Regulations, committed by a body corporate—

- (a) is committed with the consent or connivance of any director, manager, secretary or other similar officer of the body corporate, or any person who was purporting to act in any such capacity, or
- (b) is attributable to any neglect on the part of any such person,

that person as well as the body corporate is guilty of the offence and is liable to be proceeded against and punished accordingly.

(2) In paragraph (1) “director”, in relation to a body corporate whose affairs are managed by its members, means a member of the body corporate.

(3) Paragraph (1) also applies in relation to a body that is not a body corporate, with the substitution for the reference to a director of the body of a reference—

- (a) in the case of a partnership, to a partner;
- (b) in the case of an unincorporated body other than a partnership—
  - (i) where the body’s affairs are managed by its members, to a member of the body;
  - (ii) in any other case, to a member of the governing body.

**Jurisdiction to try offences**

**33.**—(1) Wherever an offence under these Regulations is committed (whether in the United Kingdom or outside the United Kingdom)—

- (a) proceedings for the offence may be taken at any place in the United Kingdom, and
- (b) the offence may for all incidental purposes be treated as having been committed at any such place.

(2) In the application of paragraph (1) to Scotland, where an offence is committed outside the United Kingdom any such proceedings against a person may be taken—

- (a) in any sheriff court district in which the person is apprehended or is in custody, or
- (b) in such sheriff court district as the Lord Advocate may determine.

(3) In paragraph (2) “sheriff court district” is to be read in accordance with the Criminal Procedure (Scotland) Act 1995 (see section 307(1) of that Act)(2).

**Procedure for offences by unincorporated bodies**

**34.**—(1) Paragraphs (2) and (3) apply if it is alleged that an offence under these Regulations has been committed by an unincorporated body (as opposed to by a member of the body).

(2) Proceedings in England and Wales or Northern Ireland for such an offence must be brought against the body in its own name.

(3) For the purposes of proceedings for such an offence brought against an unincorporated body—

- (a) rules of court relating to the service of documents have effect as if the body were a body corporate;
- (b) the following provisions apply as they apply in relation to a body corporate—
  - (i) section 33 of the Criminal Justice Act 1925(3) and Schedule 3 to the Magistrates’ Courts Act 1980(4);

(2) 1995 c.46.

(3) 1925 c.86. Section 33 was amended by the Statute Law (Repeals) Act 2004 (c.14), section 1(1) and Schedule 1, Part 17. Other amendments have been made to section 33 that are not relevant to these Regulations.

(ii) section 18 of the Criminal Justice Act (Northern Ireland) 1945<sup>(5)</sup> and Article 166 of, and Schedule 4 to, the Magistrates' Courts (Northern Ireland) Order 1981<sup>(6)</sup>.

(4) A fine imposed on an unincorporated body on its conviction of an offence under these Regulations is to be paid out of the funds of the body.

#### **Time limit for proceedings for summary offences**

**35.**—(1) Proceedings for an offence under these Regulations which is triable only summarily may be brought within the period of 12 months beginning with the date on which evidence sufficient in the opinion of the prosecutor to justify the proceedings comes to the prosecutor's knowledge.

(2) But such proceedings may not be brought by virtue of paragraph (1) more than 3 years after the commission of the offence.

(3) A certificate signed by the prosecutor as to the date on which the evidence in question came to the prosecutor's knowledge is conclusive evidence of the date on which it did so; and a certificate to that effect and purporting to be so signed is to be treated as being so signed unless the contrary is proved.

(4) In relation to proceedings in Scotland—

(a) section 136(3) of the Criminal Procedure (Scotland) Act 1995 (date of commencement of summary proceedings) applies for the purposes of this regulation as it applies for the purposes of that section, and

(b) references in this regulation to the prosecutor are to be treated as references to the Lord Advocate.

#### **Application of Chapter 1 of Part 2 of the Serious Organised Crime and Police Act 2005**

**36.** Chapter 1 of Part 2 of the Serious Organised Crime and Police Act 2005 (investigatory powers)<sup>(7)</sup> applies to any offence under Part 3 (Finance) or regulation 22 (finance: licensing offences).

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(4) 1980 c.43. Amendments have been made to Schedule 3 that are not relevant to these Regulations.

(5) 1945 c. 15 (N.I.).

(6) S.I. 1981/1675 (N.I. 26).

(7) 2005 c. 15. Chapter 1 of Part 2 has been amended by the Terrorism Act 2006 (c. 11), section 33(3) and (4); the Northern Ireland (Miscellaneous Provisions) Act 2006 (c. 33), sections 26(2) and 30(2) and Schedules 3 and 5; the Bribery Act 2010 (c. 23), section 17(2) and Schedule 1; the Criminal Justice and Licensing (Scotland) Act 2010 asp 13, section 203 and Schedule 7, paragraph 77; the Crime and Courts Act 2013 (c. 22), section 15 and Schedule 8, paragraphs 157 and 159; the Criminal Finances Act 2017 (c. 22), section 51(1); the Sanctions and Anti-Money Laundering Act 2018, section 59(4) and Schedule 3, paragraph 4; S.I. 2006/1629; and S.I. 2014/834.