



Legal Services Act 2007

2007 CHAPTER 29

[^{F1}PART 5A

APPROVED REGULATORS: INFORMATION POWERS

[^{F1}The Law Society's information powers relating to economic crime

Textual Amendments

- F1** Pt. 5A inserted (26.10.2023 for specified purposes, 4.3.2024 in so far as not already in force) by Economic Crime and Corporate Transparency Act 2023 (c. 56), ss. 210(2), 219(1)(2)(b); S.I. 2024/269, reg. 2(z64)

111A The Law Society's information powers relating to economic crime

- (1) The Law Society may, by notice, require a person falling within subsection (3) to—
 - (a) provide information, or information of a description, specified in the notice;
 - (b) produce documents, or documents of a description, specified in the notice.
- (2) The Law Society may only exercise the power in subsection (1) in relation to information or documents which the Law Society considers it necessary or expedient to have for the purposes of, or in connection with, the performance of its regulatory functions for purposes relating to the prevention or detection of economic crime.
- (3) The persons are—
 - (a) a solicitor;
 - (b) an employee of a solicitor;
 - (c) a body recognised under section 9 of the Administration of Justice Act 1985;
 - (d) an employee or manager of, or person with an interest in, such a body;
 - (e) a licensed body;
 - (f) a manager or employee of a licensed body;

Changes to legislation: There are currently no known outstanding effects for the Legal Services Act 2007, Cross
Heading: The Law Society's information powers relating to economic crime. (See end of Document for details)

- (g) a non-authorised person who has an interest or an indirect interest, or holds a material interest (within the meaning of Part 5 of this Act), in a licensed body;
 - (h) a person who was, but is no longer, of a description mentioned within any of paragraphs (a) to (g).
- (4) A notice under subsection (1)—
- (a) may specify the manner and form in which the information is to be provided or document produced;
 - (b) must specify the period within which the information is to be provided or document produced;
 - (c) may require the information to be provided, or document to be produced, to the Law Society or to a person specified in the notice.
- (5) The Law Society may pay to any person such reasonable costs as may be incurred by that person in connection with the provision of any information, or production of any document, by that person pursuant to a notice under subsection (1).
- (6) The Law Society, or a person specified under subsection (4)(c) in a notice, may take copies of or extracts from a document produced pursuant to a notice under subsection (1).
- (7) In this section “economic crime” has the meaning given by section 193(1) of the Economic Crime and Corporate Transparency Act 2023.

111B Enforcement of information powers relating to economic crime

- (1) If a person refuses or otherwise fails to comply with a notice under section 111A(1), the Law Society may apply to the High Court for an order requiring the person to comply with the notice or with such directions for the like purpose as may be contained in the order.
- (2) On an application under subsection (1), the High Court may order a person other than the person to whom the notice was given to provide information or produce documents specified in the notice, if the High Court is satisfied that there is reason to suspect that the information or documents have come into the possession or custody or under the control of that other person.
- (3) Section 111A(4) applies in relation to an order under subsection (2) as it applies in relation to a notice under section 111A(1).
- (4) An order under this section may direct the Law Society to pay such reasonable costs as may be incurred by a person in connection with the provision of any information, or production of any document, by that person pursuant to the order.
- (5) A person may take copies of or extracts from a document produced to them pursuant to an order under this section.

111C Provision of information relating to economic crime by other persons

- (1) The Law Society may apply to the High Court for an order requiring a person who does not fall within section 111A(3) to—
 - (a) provide information, or information of a description, specified in the order, or
 - (b) produce documents, or documents of a description, specified in the order.

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Heading: The Law Society's information powers relating to economic crime. (See end of Document for details)

- (2) The High Court may make an order under this section only if it is satisfied—
 - (a) that it is likely that the information or document is in the possession or custody of, or under the control of, the person, and
 - (b) that it is necessary or expedient for the Law Society to have the information or document for the purposes of, or in connection with, the performance of its regulatory functions for purposes relating to the prevention or detection of economic crime.
- (3) Section 111A(4) applies in relation to an order under this section as it applies in relation to a notice under section 111A(1).
- (4) An order under this section may direct the Law Society to pay such reasonable costs as may be incurred by a person in connection with the provision of any information, or production of any document, by that person pursuant to the order.
- (5) A person may take copies of or extracts from a document produced to them pursuant to an order under this section.
- (6) In this section “economic crime” has the meaning given by section 193(1) of the Economic Crime and Corporate Transparency Act 2023.]

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