

Changes to legislation: There are currently no known outstanding effects for the National Security Act 2023, Schedule 3. (See end of Document for details)

SCHEDULES

SCHEDULE 3

Section 24

DISCLOSURE ORDERS

PART 1

ENGLAND AND WALES AND NORTHERN IRELAND

Introductory

- 1 (1) This Part of this Schedule applies in England and Wales and Northern Ireland.
- (2) “Relevant investigation” means an investigation into the identification of relevant property or its movement or use.
- (3) “Relevant property” means—
 - (a) money or other property which is likely to be used for the purposes of foreign power threat activity, or
 - (b) proceeds of involvement in foreign power threat activity.
- (4) The reference to proceeds of involvement in foreign power threat activity includes a reference to any money, other property or benefit in money’s worth, which wholly or partly, and directly or indirectly, represents the proceeds of the involvement (including payments or rewards in connection with the involvement).
- (5) “Appropriate officer” means—
 - (a) a constable, or
 - (b) a National Crime Agency officer.

Commencement Information

- | | |
|-----------|--|
| 11 | Sch. 3 para. 1 not in force at Royal Assent, see 100(1) |
| 12 | Sch. 3 para. 1 in force at 20.12.2023 by S.I. 2023/1272, reg. 2(a) |

Disclosure orders

- 2 (1) An appropriate officer may apply to a judge for a disclosure order.
- (2) The application must state that a person or property specified in the application is subject to a relevant investigation and the order is sought for the purposes of the investigation.
- (3) The judge may grant the application if satisfied that conditions 1 to 3 are met.
- (4) Condition 1 is that there are reasonable grounds for suspecting that the property specified in the application is relevant property.

Changes to legislation: There are currently no known outstanding effects for the National Security Act 2023, Schedule 3. (See end of Document for details)

- (5) Condition 2 is that there are reasonable grounds for believing that information which may be provided in compliance with a requirement imposed under the order is likely to be of substantial value, whether by itself or with other information, to the investigation.
- (6) Condition 3 is that there are reasonable grounds for believing that it is in the public interest for the information to be provided, having regard to the benefit likely to accrue to the investigation if the information is obtained.
- (7) A disclosure order is an order authorising an appropriate officer to give to any person the officer considers has relevant information notice in writing requiring the person to do any or all of the following with respect to any matter relevant to the investigation—
- (a) answer questions, either at a time specified in the notice or at once, at a place so specified;
 - (b) provide information specified in the notice, by a time and in a manner so specified;
 - (c) produce documents, or documents of a description, specified in the notice, either at or by a time so specified or at once, and in a manner so specified.
- (8) “Relevant information” means information (whether or not contained in a document) which the appropriate officer considers to be relevant to the investigation.
- (9) A person is not bound to comply with a requirement imposed by a notice given under a disclosure order unless evidence of authority to give the notice is produced.
- (10) An appropriate officer may not make an application under this paragraph unless the officer is a senior officer or is authorised to do so by a senior officer.

Commencement Information

I3 Sch. 3 para. 2 not in force at Royal Assent, see 100(1)

I4 Sch. 3 para. 2 in force at 20.12.2023 by S.I. 2023/1272, reg. 2(a)

Supplementary provision

- 3 (1) A disclosure order does not confer the right to require a person—
- (a) to answer any question,
 - (b) to provide any information, or
 - (c) to produce any document or other material,
- which the person would be entitled to refuse to answer, provide or produce on grounds of legal professional privilege in proceedings in the High Court.
- (2) But a lawyer may be required to provide the name and address of a client.
- (3) A disclosure order does not confer the right to require a person to produce excluded material.
- (4) A disclosure order has effect despite any restriction on the disclosure of information imposed by an enactment or otherwise.
- (5) An appropriate officer may take copies of any documents produced in compliance with a requirement to produce them imposed under a disclosure order.

Changes to legislation: There are currently no known outstanding effects for the National Security Act 2023, Schedule 3. (See end of Document for details)

- (6) The documents may be retained for so long as it is necessary to retain them (as opposed to a copy of them) in connection with the investigation for the purposes of which the order was made.
- (7) But if an appropriate officer has reasonable grounds for believing that—
 - (a) the documents may need to be produced for the purposes of any legal proceedings, and
 - (b) they might otherwise be unavailable for those purposes,they may be retained until the proceedings are concluded.
- (8) An appropriate officer may retain documents under sub-paragraph (7) only if the officer is a senior officer or is authorised to do so by a senior officer.

Commencement Information

- I5** Sch. 3 para. 3 not in force at Royal Assent, see 100(1)
I6 Sch. 3 para. 3 in force at 20.12.2023 by S.I. 2023/1272, reg. 2(a)

Applications

- 4 An application for a disclosure order may be made without notice to a judge in chambers.

Commencement Information

- I7** Sch. 3 para. 4 not in force at Royal Assent, see 100(1)
I8 Sch. 3 para. 4 in force at 20.12.2023 by S.I. 2023/1272, reg. 2(a)

Discharge or variation

- 5 (1) An application to discharge or vary a disclosure order may be made to the Crown Court by—
 - (a) the person who applied for the order;
 - (b) any person affected by the order.
- (2) If the application for the disclosure order was made by a constable, an application to discharge or vary the order may be made by a different constable.
- (3) If the application for the disclosure order was made by a National Crime Agency officer, an application to discharge or vary the order may be made by a different National Crime Agency officer.
- (4) An appropriate officer may not make an application to discharge or vary a disclosure order unless the officer is a senior officer or is authorised to do so by a senior officer.
- (5) The Crown Court may—
 - (a) discharge the order;
 - (b) vary the order.

Changes to legislation: There are currently no known outstanding effects for the National Security Act 2023, Schedule 3. (See end of Document for details)

Commencement Information

- I9** Sch. 3 para. 5 not in force at Royal Assent, see 100(1)
I10 Sch. 3 para. 5 in force at 20.12.2023 by S.I. 2023/1272, reg. 2(a)

Rules of court

- 6 Rules of court may make provision as to the practice and procedure to be followed in connection with proceedings relating to disclosure orders.

Commencement Information

- I11** Sch. 3 para. 6 not in force at Royal Assent, see 100(1)
I12 Sch. 3 para. 6 in force at 20.12.2023 by S.I. 2023/1272, reg. 2(a)

Offences

- 7 (1) A person commits an offence if without reasonable excuse the person fails to comply with a requirement imposed under a disclosure order.
- (2) A person guilty of an offence under sub-paragraph (1) is liable—
- (a) on summary conviction in England and Wales, to imprisonment for a term not exceeding the maximum term for summary offences or a fine (or both);
 - (b) 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).
- (3) A person commits an offence if, in purported compliance with a requirement imposed under a disclosure order, the person—
- (a) makes a statement which the person knows to be false or misleading in a material particular, or
 - (b) recklessly makes a statement which is false or misleading in a material particular.
- (4) A person guilty of an offence under sub-paragraph (3) is liable—
- (a) on conviction on indictment, to imprisonment for a term not exceeding 2 years or a fine (or both);
 - (b) on summary conviction in England and Wales, to imprisonment for a term not exceeding the general limit in a magistrates' court or a fine (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).

Commencement Information

- I13** Sch. 3 para. 7 not in force at Royal Assent, see 100(1)
I14 Sch. 3 para. 7 in force at 20.12.2023 by S.I. 2023/1272, reg. 2(a)

Changes to legislation: There are currently no known outstanding effects for the National Security Act 2023, Schedule 3. (See end of Document for details)

Statements

- 8 (1) A statement made by a person in response to a requirement imposed under a disclosure order may not be used in evidence against that person in criminal proceedings.
- (2) Sub-paragraph (1) does not apply on a prosecution for—
- (a) an offence under paragraph 7(3),
 - (b) an offence under section 5 of the Perjury Act 1911 or Article 10 of the Perjury (Northern Ireland) Order 1979 (S.I. 1979/1714 (N.I. 19)) (false statements), or
 - (c) some other offence where, in giving evidence, the person makes a statement inconsistent with the statement mentioned in sub-paragraph (1).
- (3) A statement may not be used against a person by virtue of sub-paragraph (2)(c) unless—
- (a) evidence relating to it is adduced, or
 - (b) a question relating to it is asked,
- by or on behalf of the person in the proceedings arising out of the prosecution.

Commencement Information

I15 Sch. 3 para. 8 not in force at Royal Assent, see 100(1)

I16 Sch. 3 para. 8 in force at 20.12.2023 by S.I. 2023/1272, reg. 2(a)

Interpretation

- 9 (1) This paragraph applies for the interpretation of this Part of this Schedule.
- (2) “Disclosure order” has the meaning given by paragraph 2.
- (3) “Judge” means—
- (a) in relation to England and Wales, a judge entitled to exercise the jurisdiction of the Crown Court;
 - (b) in relation to Northern Ireland, a judge of the Crown Court.
- (4) “Senior officer” means—
- (a) a constable of at least the rank of superintendent;
 - (b) the Director General of the National Crime Agency or any other National Crime Agency officer authorised by the Director General (whether generally or specifically) for this purpose.
- (5) “Document” means anything in which information of any description is recorded.
- (6) “Excluded material”—
- (a) in relation to England and Wales, has the same meaning as in the Police and Criminal Evidence Act 1984;
 - (b) in relation to Northern Ireland, has the same meaning as in the Police and Criminal Evidence (Northern Ireland) Order 1989 (S.I. 1989/1341 (N.I. 12)).
- (7) The terms defined in paragraph 1 have the meanings given in that paragraph.

Changes to legislation: There are currently no known outstanding effects for the National Security Act 2023, Schedule 3. (See end of Document for details)

Commencement Information

- I17** Sch. 3 para. 9 not in force at Royal Assent, see 100(1)
I18 Sch. 3 para. 9 in force at 20.12.2023 by S.I. 2023/1272, reg. 2(a)

PART 2

SCOTLAND

Introductory

- 10 (1) This Part of this Schedule applies in Scotland.
 (2) In this Part of this Schedule “relevant investigation” and “relevant property” have the same meaning as in Part 1 of this Schedule.

Commencement Information

- I19** Sch. 3 para. 10 not in force at Royal Assent, see 100(1)
I20 Sch. 3 para. 10 in force at 20.12.2023 by S.I. 2023/1272, reg. 2(a)

Disclosure orders

- 11 (1) The Lord Advocate may apply to the High Court of Justiciary for a disclosure order.
 (2) The application must state that a person or property specified in the application is subject to a relevant investigation and the order is sought for the purposes of the investigation.
 (3) The court may grant the application if satisfied that conditions 1 to 3 are met.
 (4) Condition 1 is that there are reasonable grounds for suspecting that the property specified in the application is relevant property.
 (5) Condition 2 is that there are reasonable grounds for believing that information which may be provided in compliance with a requirement imposed under the order is likely to be of substantial value, whether by itself or with other information, to the investigation.
 (6) Condition 3 is that there are reasonable grounds for believing that it is in the public interest for the information to be provided, having regard to the benefit likely to accrue to the investigation if the information is obtained.
 (7) A disclosure order is an order authorising the Lord Advocate to give to any person the Lord Advocate considers has relevant information notice in writing requiring the person to do any or all of the following with respect to any matter relevant to the investigation—
 (a) answer questions, either at a time specified in the notice or at once, at a place so specified;
 (b) provide information specified in the notice, by a time and in a manner so specified;

Changes to legislation: There are currently no known outstanding effects for the National Security Act 2023, Schedule 3. (See end of Document for details)

- (c) produce documents, or documents of a description, specified in the notice, either at or by a time so specified or at once, and in a manner so specified.
- (8) “Relevant information” means information (whether or not contained in a document) which the Lord Advocate considers to be relevant to the investigation.
- (9) A person is not bound to comply with a requirement imposed by a notice given under a disclosure order unless evidence of authority to give the notice is produced.

Commencement Information

- I21** Sch. 3 para. 11 not in force at Royal Assent, see 100(1)
- I22** Sch. 3 para. 11 in force at 20.12.2023 by S.I. 2023/1272, reg. 2(a)

Supplementary provision

- 12 (1) A disclosure order does not confer the right to require a person—
 - (a) to answer any question,
 - (b) to provide any information, or
 - (c) to produce any document,which the person would be entitled to refuse to answer, provide or produce in legal proceedings on grounds of confidentiality of communications.
- (2) A disclosure order has effect despite any obligation as to secrecy or other restriction on the disclosure of information imposed by an enactment or otherwise.
- (3) The Lord Advocate may take copies of any documents produced in compliance with a requirement to produce them imposed under a disclosure order.
- (4) The documents may be retained for so long as it is necessary to retain them (as opposed to a copy of them) in connection with the investigation for the purposes of which the order was made.
- (5) But if the Lord Advocate has reasonable grounds for believing that—
 - (a) the documents may need to be produced for the purposes of any legal proceedings, and
 - (b) they might otherwise be unavailable for those purposes,they may be retained until the proceedings are concluded.

Commencement Information

- I23** Sch. 3 para. 12 not in force at Royal Assent, see 100(1)
- I24** Sch. 3 para. 12 in force at 20.12.2023 by S.I. 2023/1272, reg. 2(a)

Applications

- 13 An application for a disclosure order may be made without notice to a judge of the High Court of Justiciary.

Changes to legislation: There are currently no known outstanding effects for the National Security Act 2023, Schedule 3. (See end of Document for details)

Commencement Information

- I25** Sch. 3 para. 13 not in force at Royal Assent, see 100(1)
I26 Sch. 3 para. 13 in force at 20.12.2023 by S.I. 2023/1272, reg. 2(a)

Discharge or variation

- 14 (1) An application to discharge or vary a disclosure order may be made to the High Court of Justiciary by—
- (a) the Lord Advocate;
 - (b) any person affected by the order.
- (2) The High Court of Justiciary may—
- (a) discharge the order;
 - (b) vary the order.

Commencement Information

- I27** Sch. 3 para. 14 not in force at Royal Assent, see 100(1)
I28 Sch. 3 para. 14 in force at 20.12.2023 by S.I. 2023/1272, reg. 2(a)

Rules of court

- 15 (1) Provision may be made in rules of court as to the discharge and variation of disclosure orders.
- (2) Rules of court are, without prejudice to section 305 of the Criminal Procedure (Scotland) Act 1995, to be made by Act of Adjournal.

Commencement Information

- I29** Sch. 3 para. 15 not in force at Royal Assent, see 100(1)
I30 Sch. 3 para. 15 in force at 20.12.2023 by S.I. 2023/1272, reg. 2(a)

Offences

- 16 (1) A person commits an offence if without reasonable excuse the person fails to comply with a requirement imposed under a disclosure order.
- (2) A person guilty of an offence under sub-paragraph (1) is liable on summary conviction to imprisonment for a term not exceeding 6 months or a fine not exceeding level 5 on the standard scale (or both).
- (3) A person commits an offence if, in purported compliance with a requirement imposed under a disclosure order, the person—
- (a) makes a statement which the person knows to be false or misleading in a material particular, or
 - (b) recklessly makes a statement which is false or misleading in a material particular.
- (4) A person guilty of an offence under sub-paragraph (3) is liable—

Changes to legislation: There are currently no known outstanding effects for the National Security Act 2023, Schedule 3. (See end of Document for details)

- (a) on conviction on indictment, to imprisonment for a term not exceeding two years or a fine (or both);
- (b) on summary conviction, to imprisonment for a term not exceeding 12 months or a fine not exceeding the statutory maximum (or both).

Commencement Information

- I31** Sch. 3 para. 16 not in force at Royal Assent, see 100(1)
- I32** Sch. 3 para. 16 in force at 20.12.2023 by S.I. 2023/1272, reg. 2(a)

Statements

- 17 (1) A statement made by a person in response to a requirement imposed under a disclosure order may not be used in evidence against that person in criminal proceedings.
- (2) Sub-paragraph (1) does not apply on a prosecution for—
- (a) an offence under paragraph 16(3),
 - (b) perjury, or
 - (c) some other offence where, in giving evidence, the person makes a statement inconsistent with the statement mentioned in sub-paragraph (1).
- (3) A statement may not be used against a person by virtue of sub-paragraph (2)(c) unless—
- (a) evidence relating to it is adduced, or
 - (b) a question relating to it is asked,
- by or on behalf of the person in the proceedings arising out of the prosecution.

Commencement Information

- I33** Sch. 3 para. 17 not in force at Royal Assent, see 100(1)
- I34** Sch. 3 para. 17 in force at 20.12.2023 by S.I. 2023/1272, reg. 2(a)

Interpretation

- 18 (1) This paragraph applies for the interpretation of this Part of this Schedule.
- (2) “Disclosure order” has the meaning given by paragraph 11.
- (3) “Document” means anything in which information of any description is recorded.

Commencement Information

- I35** Sch. 3 para. 18 not in force at Royal Assent, see 100(1)
- I36** Sch. 3 para. 18 in force at 20.12.2023 by S.I. 2023/1272, reg. 2(a)

Changes to legislation:

There are currently no known outstanding effects for the National Security Act 2023, Schedule 3.