



Online Safety Act 2023

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ONLINE SAFETY ACT 2023

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Changes to legislation: Online Safety Act 2023 is up to date with all changes known to be in force on or before 12 March 2025. There are changes that may be brought into force at a future date. Changes that have been made appear in the content and are referenced with annotations. (See end of Document for details) View outstanding changes

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 - 41 (1) For the purposes of this Schedule, content of a...
 - 42 In this Schedule— “consumer content” has the same meaning as...

SCHEDULE 9 — Certain internet services not subject to duties relating to regulated provider pornographic content

- 1 Internal business services (entire internet service)
- 2 Internal business services (part of internet service)
- 3 Services provided by public bodies
- 4 Services provided by persons providing education or childcare
- 5 On-demand programme services and non-UK on-demand programme services that are Tier 1 services (entire internet service)
- 6 On-demand programme services and non-UK on-demand programme services that are Tier 1 services (part of internet service)
- 7 Interpretation

SCHEDULE 10 — Recovery of OFCOM’s initial costs

- 1 Recovery of initial costs
- 2 Recovery of initial costs: first phase
- 3 Further recovery of initial costs
- 4 End of the recovery process
- 5 Providers for part of a year only
- 6 Calculation of the recoverable amount
- 7 Regulations about recovery of initial costs
- 8 Interpretation

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SCHEDULE 11 — Categories of regulated user-to-user services and regulated search services: regulations

- 1 Regulations specifying threshold conditions for categories of Part 3 services
- 2 Procedure for first regulations under paragraph 1
- 3 Procedure for amending or replacing regulations under paragraph 1
- 4 Publication of OFCOM’s advice under paragraphs 2 and 3
- 5 Interpretation
- 6 In this Schedule the “characteristics” of a user-to-user part of...
- 7 In this Schedule— “content that is harmful to children” has...

SCHEDULE 12 — OFCOM’s powers of entry, inspection and audit

- 1 Authorised persons
- 2 Power of entry and inspection without a warrant
- 3 Notice requiring information, documents or tests at inspection
- 4 Audit
- 5 Conditions for issue of a warrant
- 6 Evidence of authority
- 7 Powers exercisable by warrant
- 8 Powers of seizure: supplementary
- 9 Further provision about executing warrants
- 10 Entry and search under a warrant must be within the...
- 11 An authorised person executing a warrant may take such other...
- 12 A person taken on to the premises under paragraph 11...
- 13 An authorised person may use reasonable force, if necessary, for...
- 14 A warrant authorises entry on one occasion only, unless it...
- 15 If the premises are unoccupied or the occupier is temporarily...
- 16 Return of warrants
- 17 Restrictions on powers
- 18 Offences
- 19 Interpretation
- 20 References in this Schedule to a person “acting under this...
- 21 In this Schedule “enforceable requirement” has the same meaning as...
- 22 In paragraphs 6 to 17 and 20 “warrant” means a...
- 23 In the application of paragraph 5(1) to Scotland, the reference...
- 24 In the application of paragraph 5(1) to Northern Ireland, the...

SCHEDULE 13 — Penalties imposed by OFCOM under Chapter 6 of Part 7

- 1 Meaning of “penalty” in this Schedule
- 2 Amount of penalties: principles
- 3 Limitation to type and amount of penalties previously proposed
- 4 Maximum amount of penalties
- 5 Maximum amount of penalties: group of entities
- 6 Recovery of penalties

SCHEDULE 14 — Amendments consequential on offences in Part 10 of this Act

PART 1 — AMENDMENTS CONSEQUENTIAL ON OFFENCES IN SECTIONS 179, 181 AND 183

- 1 Football Spectators Act 1989
- 2 Sexual Offences Act 2003
- 3 In Schedule 5 to the Sexual Offences Act 2003, in...
- 4 Regulatory Enforcement and Sanctions Act 2008
- 5 Elections Act 2022

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PART 2 — AMENDMENTS CONSEQUENTIAL ON OFFENCE IN SECTION 184

- 6 Children and Young Persons Act 1933
- 7 Visiting Forces Act 1952
- 8 Children and Young Persons Act (Northern Ireland) 1968 (c. 34 (N.I.))
- 9 Criminal Attempts Act 1981
- 10 Criminal Attempts and Conspiracy (Northern Ireland) Order 1983 (S.I. 1983/1120 (N.I. 13))
- 11 Armed Forces Act 2006
- 12 Serious Crime Act 2007

PART 3 — AMENDMENTS CONSEQUENTIAL ON OFFENCES IN SECTIONS 187 AND 188

- 13 Children and Young Persons Act 1933
- 14 Police and Criminal Evidence Act 1984
- 15 Sexual Offences (Amendment) Act 1992
- 16 Sexual Offences Act 2003
- 17 Criminal Justice Act 2003
- 18 Anti-social Behaviour, Crime and Policing Act 2014
- 19 Modern Slavery Act 2015
- 20 Sentencing Act 2020
- 21 Elections Act 2022

PART 4 — AMENDMENTS CONSEQUENTIAL ON SECTION 190

- 22 Criminal Justice and Courts Act 2015
- 23 Domestic Abuse Act 2021
- 24 Overseas Operations (Service Personnel and Veterans) Act 2021
- 25 Criminal Justice (Electronic Commerce) (Amendment) (EU Exit) Regulations 2021 (S.I. 2021/835)

SCHEDULE 15 — Liability of parent entities etc

- 1 Joint provisional notices of contravention
- 2 Liability of parent entities for failures by subsidiary entities
- 3 Liability of subsidiary entities for failures by parent entities
- 4 Liability of fellow subsidiary entities for failures by subsidiary entities
- 5 Liability of controlling individuals for failures by entities
- 6 OFCOM's guidance
- 7 Interpretation
- 8 In its application for the purposes of this Schedule, paragraph...
- 9 For the purposes of this Schedule, sections 1161(4) and 1162...

SCHEDULE 16 — Amendments of Part 4B of the Communications Act

- 1 Part 4B of the Communications Act (video-sharing platform services) is...
- 2 In section 368U (maintenance of list of providers)—
- 3 In section 368V(4) (meaning of “significant differences”), for the words...
- 4 In section 368Y(2)(d) (information to be provided by providers of...
- 5 In section 368Z1(3) (duty to take appropriate measures), for the...
- 6 In section 368Z10(3)(a) (power to demand information), for the words...
- 7 For section 368Z12 (co-operation with member States and the European...

SCHEDULE 17 — Video-sharing platform services: transitional provision etc

PART 1 — INTERPRETATION

- 1 (1) In this Schedule, “pre-existing Part 4B service” means—

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- 2 In this Schedule— “the relevant day”, in relation to a...
PART 2 — DURING THE TRANSITIONAL PERIOD
- 3 Pre-existing Part 4B services which are regulated user-to-user services
- 4 Regulated user-to-user services that include regulated provider
pornographic content
- 5 Pre-existing Part 4B services which form part of regulated user-to-user
services
- 6 Regulated user-to-user services with a Part 4B part and another user-to-
user part
- 7 Regulated user-to-user services with a Part 4B part and a search engine
- 8 Regulated user-to-user services with a Part 4B part but no other user-to-
user part or search engine
- 9 Assessments of pre-existing Part 4B services or of services which
include a pre-existing Part 4B service
- 10 Operation of section 368U of the Communications Act
- 11 Video-sharing platform services which start up, or start up again, during
the transitional period
- 12 (1) Sub-paragraph (2) applies in relation to a pre-existing Part...
- 13 Paragraphs 11 and 12 apply regardless of whether, or when,...
PART 3 — APPLICATION OF PART 6 OF THIS ACT: FEES
- 14 Introduction
- 15 In this Part “relevant regulated service” means—
- 16 Application of section 83
- 17 (1) This paragraph applies in relation to a person who...
- 18 Application of section 84: transitional charging year
- 19 (1) If a person who is the provider of a...
- 20 Application of section 84: non-transitional charging year
- 21 Amounts wholly referable to relevant Part 4B service
- 22 Interpretation of this Part
- 23 For the purposes of this Part a charging year is...
- 24 (1) In this Part “exempt provider” means a person within...
- 25 In this Part the following terms have the same meaning...
PART 4 — AFTER THE END OF THE TRANSITIONAL PERIOD
- 26 Interpretation of this Part
- 27 For the purposes of this Part an investigation relating to...
- 28 OFCOM as appropriate regulatory authority
- 29 Duties of service providers to co-operate with investigations
- 30 Demands for information, and enforcement of such demands
- 31 Enforcement notifications, financial penalties etc
- 32 Suspension or restriction of service for contraventions or failures

Changes to legislation:

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Changes and effects yet to be applied to :

- s. 59(6) words substituted by [2024 c. 13 Sch. 21 para. 13\(2\)](#)
- s. 74(3)(b) words substituted by [2024 c. 13 Sch. 21 para. 13\(3\)\(a\)](#)
- s. 74(3)(c) words substituted by [2024 c. 13 Sch. 21 para. 13\(3\)\(b\)](#)
- s. 209 omitted by [2023 c. 50 s. 210\(3\)\(a\)](#)
- s. 218(3)(b) words substituted by [2024 c. 13 Sch. 21 para. 13\(4\)](#)
- s. 222(6)(b) words substituted by [2024 c. 13 Sch. 21 para. 13\(5\)](#)
- Sch. 16 omitted by [2023 c. 50 s. 210\(3\)\(b\)](#)