

DRAFT STATUTORY INSTRUMENTS

2016 No. 0000

DISCLOSURE OF INFORMATION

The Digital Government (Disclosure of Information) Regulations 2016

Made - - - - - ***

Coming into force - - ***

The Minister for the Cabinet Office has had regard in particular to the systems and procedures for the secure handling of information by the person or persons specified in each of the Schedules to these Regulations.

The Minister for the Cabinet Office has consulted the Information Commissioner, the Commission for Her Majesty's Revenue and Customs, the Scottish Ministers, the Welsh Ministers, the Department of Finance in Northern Ireland and such other persons as the Minister for the Cabinet Office considers appropriate, as required by sections 36(5), 40(8) and 48(9) of the Digital Economy Act 2016.

Accordingly, the Minister for the Cabinet Office, with the consent of the Treasury, makes the following Regulations in exercise of the powers conferred by sections 29(2), 29(6), 36(1), 37(1), 40(4), 46(1), 47(1), 48(5), 54(1) and 55(1) of the Digital Economy Act 2016(a):

Citation and commencement

1. These Regulations may be cited as the Digital Government (Disclosure of Information) Regulations 2016 and come into force on [date to be inserted].

Specified persons for the sharing of information in relation to public service delivery

2. The persons set out in Schedule 1 of these Regulations are specified for the purposes of Chapter 1 Part 5 (public service delivery) of the Digital Economy Act 2016.

Specified objectives for the disclosure of information in relation to public service delivery

3.—(1) The following objectives are specified for the purposes of section 29(6) of the Digital Economy Act 2016.

(2) The first objective is—

(a) identifying individuals or households who face multiple disadvantages, and

(a) 2016 c.

- (b) enabling the public services to be provided to such individuals and households to be tailored to their needs.

(3) The second objective is—

- (a) identifying individuals or households who may be eligible for assistance under a relevant scheme,
- (b) making contact with such individuals or households with a view to the provision of such assistance, and
- (c) establishing whether any such individual or household is entitled to such assistance

and a relevant scheme for the purposes of this paragraph is a scheme set up pursuant to a change in the use of any part of the electromagnetic spectrum between 490 and 790 MHz.

(4) The third objective is assisting people living in fuel poverty by—

- (a) reducing their energy costs,
- (b) improving efficiency in their use of energy, or
- (c) improving their health or financial well-being.

Specified persons for the disclosure of information in relation to debts owed to the public sector

4. The persons set out in Schedule 2 of these Regulations are specified for the purposes of section 40 (Disclosure of information to reduce debt owed to the public sector) of the Digital Economy Act 2016.

Specified persons for the disclosure of information in relation to fraud against the public sector

5. The persons set out in Schedule 3 of these Regulations are specified for the purposes of section 48 (Disclosure of information to combat fraud against the public sector) of the Digital Economy Act 2016.

Date

Matt Hancock
Minister for the Cabinet Office
Cabinet Office

We consent to these Regulations

Date

Name
Name
Two of the Lords Commissioners of Her Majesty's Treasury

SCHEDULE 1

Regulation 3

1. The Treasury.
2. The Secretary of State for the Home Department.
3. The Secretary of State for Foreign and Commonwealth Affairs.
4. The Lord Chancellor.
5. The Secretary of State for Justice.

6. The Secretary of State for Defence.
7. The Secretary of State for Business, Innovation and Skills.
8. The Secretary of State for Work and Pensions.
9. The Secretary of State for Communities and Local Government.
10. The Secretary of State for Education.
11. The Secretary of State for International Development.
12. The Secretary of State for Energy and Climate Change.
13. The Secretary of State for Transport.
14. The Secretary of State for Scotland.
15. The Secretary of State for Northern Ireland.
16. The Secretary of State for Wales.
17. The Secretary of State for Culture, Media and Sport.
18. The Secretary of State for the Environment, Food and Rural Affairs.
19. The Minister for the Cabinet Office.
20. Her Majesty's Revenue and Customs.
21. A county council in England.
22. A district council in England.
23. A London borough council.
24. The Common Council of the City of London in its capacity as a local authority.
25. The Council of the Isles of Scilly.
26. The Greater London Authority.
27. A chief officer of police for a police area in England and Wales.
28. A school or academy within the meaning of the Education Act 1996^(a).
29. A university within the meaning of the Further and Higher Education Act 1992^(b).
30. A person providing services to a specified person.

SCHEDULE 2

Regulation 4

1. The Secretary of State for the Home Department.
2. The Lord Chancellor.
3. The Secretary of state for Justice.
4. The Secretary of State for Business, Innovation and Skills.

^(a) 1996 c. 56.

^(b) 1992 c. 13.

5. The Secretary of State for Work and Pensions.
6. The Secretary of State for Transport.
7. The Minister for the Cabinet Office
8. Her Majesty's Revenue and Customs.
9. A county council in England.
10. A district council in England.
11. A London borough council.
12. The Common Council of the City of London in its capacity as a local authority.
13. The Council of the Isles of Scilly.
14. The Greater London Authority.
15. The Student Loans Company.
16. A person providing services to a specified person.

SCHEDULE 3

Regulation 5

1. The Secretary of State for the Home Department.
2. The Lord Chancellor.
3. The Secretary of State for Justice.
4. The Secretary of State for Business, Innovation and Skills.
5. The Secretary of State for Work and Pensions.
6. The Secretary of State for Transport.
7. The Minister for the Cabinet Office.
8. Her Majesty's Revenue and Customs.
9. A county council in England.
10. A district council in England.
11. A London borough council.
12. The Common Council of the City of London in its capacity as a local authority.
13. The Council of the Isles of Scilly.
14. The Greater London Authority.
15. The Student Loans Company.
16. A person providing services to a specified person.

EXPLANATORY NOTE

(This note is not part of the Regulations)

These Regulations relate to the disclosure of information in relation to public service delivery, reducing debt owed to the public sector and combatting fraud against the public sector.

Regulation 3 specifies the persons who may disclose and receive information under the public service delivery power at section 29 of the Digital Economy Act. Those persons are listed in Schedule 1.

Regulation 4 sets out three objectives for which data can be shared for the purposes of improving public service delivery. The first objective is to identify and provide support to individuals or households who face multiple disadvantages. The first objective is not limited to supporting any specific programme. The second objective enables information to be obtained and used to offer additional support under a scheme to vulnerable individuals affected by changes to radio frequencies currently used by terrestrial TV broadcasts at 470-790 MHz. The third objective is to assist those living in fuel poverty by reducing their energy costs, improving efficiency in their use of energy or improving their health or financial well-being.

Regulation 5 specifies the persons who may disclose and receive information under the reduction of debt owed to the public sector power at section 40 of the Digital Economy Act. Those persons are listed in Schedule 2.

Regulation 6 specifies the persons who may disclose and receive information under the combat of fraud against the public sector power at section 48 of the Digital Economy Act. Those persons are listed in Schedule 3.