

Business Names Act 2002 No 97

[2002-97]



New South Wales

Status Information

Currency of version

Historical version for 5 October 2004 to 30 June 2005 (accessed 22 November 2024 at 12:51)

Legislation on this site is usually updated within 3 working days after a change to the legislation.

Provisions in force

The provisions displayed in this version of the legislation have all commenced.

Notes—

- **See also**
[Statute Law \(Miscellaneous Provisions\) Bill 2005](#)

Authorisation

This version of the legislation is compiled and maintained in a database of legislation by the Parliamentary Counsel's Office and published on the NSW legislation website, and is certified as the form of that legislation that is correct under section 45C of the [Interpretation Act 1987](#).

File last modified 8 June 2005

Business Names Act 2002 No 97



New South Wales

Contents

Long title	5
Part 1 Preliminary	5
1 Name of Act	5
2 Commencement	5
3 Definitions	5
Part 2 Registration of business names	7
Division 1 Registration	7
4 Business names to be registered	7
5 Application to registration of Licensing and Registration (Uniform Procedures) Act 2002	7
6 Refusal of registration of certain business names	8
7 Refusal of registration of persons not carrying on business in New South Wales	9
8 Refusal of registration of persons found guilty or convicted of certain offences	9
9 Notice may be given of registration of identical business names	10
10 Duration of registration	10
Division 2 Notification of changes in relation to business names	10
11 Notification of additional persons commencing to carry on business under registered business name	10
12 Notification of persons ceasing to carry on business under registered business name	10
13 Notification of persons ceasing to carry on business in New South Wales	11
14 Notification of changes in relation to business	11
15 Notification of changes in relation to person in whose name business name is registered	11

16 General.....	12
Division 3 Cancellation of registration	12
17 Cancellation of registration in relation to business name generally	12
18 Cancellation of registration in relation to person in whose name business name is registered.....	13
19 Applications to Administrative Decisions Tribunal for review.....	14
Division 4 General.....	14
20 Register of business names	14
21 Minister may prohibit registration of certain business names	15
22 Registration does not authorise contravention of other laws	15
23 Effect of certain contraventions on legal proceedings.....	15
24 Use of business name.....	16
25 Invitations to the public to make deposits or loans	17
26 Evidentiary certificates.....	17
27 Evidence as to carrying on business under business name.....	17
Part 3 Administration	17
Division 1 Power to require information and documents.....	17
28 Power to require information and documents.....	17
Division 2 Power to enter premises	18
29 Power to enter land	18
30 Manner in which power of entry to be exercised	18
31 Damage to be minimised	19
Division 3 General.....	19
32 Penalty notices	19
33 Obstruction of authorised officers	20
34 Authorised officers.....	20
35 Delegation of functions	20
36 Exclusion of personal liability	20
Part 4 Miscellaneous	20
37 Offences by corporations.....	20

38 Service of documents	21
39 Proceedings for offences may be taken up to 3 years later.....	21
40 Regulations.....	21
41 Repeal	22
42 Amendment of other legislation	22
43 Savings, transitional and other provisions.....	22
44 Review of Act.....	22
Schedule 1 Amendment of other legislation.....	22
Schedule 2 Savings, transitional and other provisions	26

Business Names Act 2002 No 97



New South Wales

An Act with respect to the registration and use of business names; to repeal the *Business Names Act 1962*; and for other purposes.

Part 1 Preliminary

1 Name of Act

This Act is the *Business Names Act 2002*.

2 Commencement

- (1) This Act commences on a day or days to be appointed by proclamation, except as provided by subsections (2)–(4).
- (2) Schedule 1.1 commences on the commencement of section 5, or on the commencement of section 204B of the *Police Act 1990*, whichever is the later.
- (3) Schedule 1.4 [4] and [5] commence on the commencement of section 5, or on the commencement of Part 2D of the *Home Building Act 1989*, whichever is the later.
- (4) Schedule 1.11 commences on the commencement of section 5, or on the commencement of section 30 of the *Property, Stock and Business Agents Act 2002*, whichever is the later.

3 Definitions

- (1) In this Act:

authorised officer means an authorised officer appointed under section 34.

business includes trade and profession.

business name includes any name, style, title or designation under which business is carried on.

Department means the Department of Fair Trading.

Director-General means the Director-General of the Department.

foreign language character means any character or symbol that is not an English language letter, numeral or punctuation mark.

on-line service means an internet carriage service within the meaning of the *Broadcasting Services Act 1992* of the Commonwealth.

proper address means:

- (a) in relation to an individual, the individual's usual place of residence, and
- (b) in relation to a corporation, the address of the corporation's registered office within the meaning of the *Corporations Act 2001* of the Commonwealth.

proper name means:

- (a) in relation to an individual:
 - (i) the individual's full name, or
 - (ii) the individual's family name, together with the initials or abbreviations of one or more of the individual's given names, and
- (b) in relation to a corporation, the corporation's corporate name.

Register means the register of business names referred to in section 20.

registered means registered under the *Licensing and Registration (Uniform Procedures) Act 2002*, as applied by section 5.

registered particulars means:

- (a) in relation to a person in whose name a business name is registered, the particulars referred to in section 20 (2), and
- (b) in relation to a business for which a business name is registered, the particulars referred to in section 20 (3).

(2) In this Act, a reference to **carrying on business** includes a reference to establishing a place of business and soliciting orders for goods or services, but does not include:

- (a) taking or defending any legal proceedings, or
- (b) establishing or maintaining an account with an authorised deposit-taking institution, or
- (c) effecting any purchase or sale through an independent contractor, or
- (d) creating evidence of any debt or creating any charge on real or personal property, or
- (e) collecting any debt, securing any debt or enforcing a security with respect to any

debt, or

(f) conducting an isolated transaction over a period of not more than 31 days, or

(g) investing funds or holding property.

(3) Notes in the text of this Act do not form part of the Act.

Part 2 Registration of business names

Division 1 Registration

4 Business names to be registered

(1) A person must not carry on business in New South Wales under any business name unless the business name is registered in the name of that person and of each other person (if any) with whom that person is carrying on that business.

Maximum penalty: 50 penalty units.

(2) This section does not prevent a person from carrying on business:

(a) under the proper name of that person and of each other person (if any) with whom that person is carrying on that business, or

(b) under a registered business name, or under a name referred to in paragraph (a), to which are added words that indicate that the business to which the name relates is being carried on in succession to a former owner of the business, or

(c) under a registered business name that is not yet registered in the name of that person, but only during the one-month period referred to in section 11 (1), or

(d) under an unregistered business name that contains foreign language characters, so long as the person also carries on the business under a registered business name that is an English language equivalent of the unregistered business name, or

(e) under any unregistered business name, so long as all orders for the goods or services provided by the business are received exclusively by means of an on-line service.

(3) For the purposes of this section, a business carried on by a receiver, manager, administrator or trustee appointed pursuant to any agreement or court order, or pursuant to any Act or law, is taken to be carried on by the person in respect of whom he or she is appointed.

5 Application to registration of [Licensing and Registration \(Uniform Procedures\) Act 2002](#)

(1) The Director-General may grant registration of a business name in the name of one or

more persons.

- (2) Part 3 of the *Licensing and Registration (Uniform Procedures) Act 2002* (**the applied Act**) applies to and in respect of registration of a business name, subject to the modifications and limitations prescribed by or under this Act.

Note—

See clause 3 of Schedule 2, which temporarily suspends the provisions of the applied Act in relation to the making of applications by way of electronic communication.

- (3) For the purpose of applying Part 3 of the applied Act to registration of a business name:
- (a) the references in section 35 (1) of that Act to “18 years” are to be read as references to “16 years”, and
 - (b) registration may be transferred under that Act, and
 - (c) section 39 of that Act does not have effect.
- (4) Registration of a business name is taken to be fixed-term registration for the purposes of Part 3 of the applied Act.
- (5) Subject to this section, the regulations may make provision for or with respect to such matters concerning registration of a business name as are relevant to the operation of Part 3 of the applied Act.

6 Refusal of registration of certain business names

- (1) A business name is not to be registered if the name contains foreign language characters.
- (2) Unless the Minister so directs, a business name is not to be registered:
- (a) if registration of the name is prohibited by an order in force under section 21, or
 - (b) if the Director-General is of the opinion that the name is undesirable.
- (2A) A business name that includes the word “police” is not to be registered unless the use of that name is the subject of a consent granted under section 204B of the *Police Act 1990*.
- (3) A business name is not to be registered if the Director-General is of the opinion:
- (a) that the name is identical to, or closely resembles, an existing registered business name under which business is being carried on, and
 - (b) that the public would be likely to be misled if business were to be carried on under both names.

- (4) If the Director-General refuses to register a business name, the Director-General may, subject to this section, register an alternative business name nominated by the applicant.

7 Refusal of registration of persons not carrying on business in New South Wales

A business name is not to be registered in the name of a person who is not carrying on business in New South Wales unless the Director-General is satisfied that the person intends to carry on business in New South Wales in the immediate future.

8 Refusal of registration of persons found guilty or convicted of certain offences

- (1) A business name is not to be registered in the name of a person who, within the last 5 years:
- (a) has been found guilty or convicted of a prescribed offence, or
 - (b) has been released from custody (whether on parole or at the end of a term of imprisonment) in respect of a sentence of imprisonment for a prescribed offence of which the person has at any time previously been found guilty or convicted, except with the leave of the District Court.
- (2) An application for leave may not be dealt with until 28 days after notice of the application has been given to the Minister.
- (3) The Minister may be represented at the hearing of, and may oppose, an application for leave.
- (4) No appeal lies against the decision of the District Court on an application for leave.
- (5) In this section, **prescribed offence** means:
- (a) an indictable offence in connection with the promotion, formation or management of a corporation, or
 - (b) an offence involving fraud or dishonesty punishable by imprisonment for 3 months or more, or
 - (c) an offence under section 184, 590, 592, 595, 670A, 728 or 1307 of the [Corporations Act 2001](#) of the Commonwealth, under Part 7.11 of that Act or under any other provision of that Act prescribed by the regulations under this Act, or
 - (d) an offence to which section 5A of the [Business Names Act 1962](#) applied at the time of the relevant finding of guilt or conviction, or
 - (e) an offence that was a prescribed offence at the time of the relevant finding of guilt or conviction.

9 Notice may be given of registration of identical business names

- (1) The Director-General may cause written notice to be given to any person in whose name a business name is newly registered that another business name identical to, or closely resembling, the newly registered business name (being a business name specified in the notice) is already registered.
- (2) A copy of each such notice is to be kept in the Register.
- (3) Evidence that a person was given notice under this section is evidence that the person was made aware, when the notice was given, that some other person was carrying on business under the business name specified in the notice.

10 Duration of registration

Registration of a business name has effect for the period of 3 years from the date on which the name is registered.

Division 2 Notification of changes in relation to business names

11 Notification of additional persons commencing to carry on business under registered business name

- (1) Within one month after a person commences to carry on business in New South Wales under a registered business name, notice of that fact is to be given to the Director-General.
- (2) If notice is not given in accordance with subsection (1), each person in whose name the business name is registered is guilty of an offence.

Maximum penalty:

- (a) for a first offence, 20 penalty units, and
- (b) for a second or subsequent offence, 20 penalty units plus 0.5 penalty units for each day for which the offence continues.

12 Notification of persons ceasing to carry on business under registered business name

- (1) Within one month after a person ceases to carry on business in New South Wales under a registered business name, notice of that fact is to be given to the Director-General.
- (2) If notice is not given in accordance with subsection (1), each person in whose name the business name is registered is guilty of an offence.

Maximum penalty:

- (a) for a first offence, 20 penalty units, and

- (b) for a second or subsequent offence, 20 penalty units plus 0.5 penalty units for each day for which the offence continues.

13 Notification of persons ceasing to carry on business in New South Wales

- (1) Within one month after a person in whose name a business name is registered ceases to carry on business in New South Wales, notice of that fact is to be given to the Director-General.
- (2) If notice is not given in accordance with subsection (1), the person who has ceased to carry on business in New South Wales is guilty of an offence.

Maximum penalty:

- (a) for a first offence, 20 penalty units, and
- (b) for a second or subsequent offence, 20 penalty units plus 0.5 penalty units for each day for which the offence continues.

14 Notification of changes in relation to business

- (1) Within one month after:
 - (a) business is commenced to be carried on in New South Wales under a registered business name, or
 - (b) business ceases to be carried on in New South Wales under a registered business name, or
 - (c) there is any other change in the registered particulars for the business for which a business name is registered,notice of the change is to be given to the Director-General.
- (2) If notice is not given in accordance with subsection (1), each person in whose name the business name is registered is guilty of an offence.

Maximum penalty:

- (a) for a first offence, 20 penalty units, and
- (b) for a second or subsequent offence, 20 penalty units plus 0.5 penalty units for each day for which the offence continues.

15 Notification of changes in relation to person in whose name business name is registered

- (1) Within one month after any change in the registered particulars for a person in whose name a business name is registered, notice of the change is to be given to the Director-General.

- (2) If notice is not given in accordance with subsection (1), the person in relation to whom the change has occurred is guilty of an offence.

Maximum penalty:

- (a) for a first offence, 20 penalty units, and
- (b) for a second or subsequent offence, 20 penalty units plus 0.5 penalty units for each day for which the offence continues.

16 General

- (1) Two or more notices under this Division may be combined in a single document.
- (2) The Director-General may allow further time for the giving of notice required by this Division, and any notice given within that further time is taken to have been duly given.
- (3) An offence under this Division of failing to give notice within a specified period is taken to continue for each day after the end of that period during which the notice remains not given.

Division 3 Cancellation of registration

17 Cancellation of registration in relation to business name generally

- (1) The Director-General may cancel the registration of a business name:
 - (a) if the business name has been registered in contravention of section 6, whether by inadvertence or otherwise, or
 - (b) if the requirements of section 11, 12, 13 or 14 have not been complied with in relation to the business name, or
 - (c) in the case of a business name that includes the word “police”, if the Director-General receives notice that consent to the use of that name has been revoked under section 204B of the *Police Act 1990*.
- (2) The Director-General may also cancel the registration of a business name:
 - (a) if none of the persons in whose names the business name is registered has carried on business in New South Wales during the previous 2 months, and
 - (b) if the Director-General is of the opinion that none of those persons intends to carry on business in New South Wales in the immediate future.
- (3) The Director-General may also cancel the registration of a business name:
 - (a) if none of the persons in whose names the business name is registered has carried on business under that name in New South Wales during the previous 2 months,

and

- (b) if the Director-General has received, but not yet determined, an application by some other person to register a business name that is identical to, or closely resembles, that name, and
 - (c) if the Director-General is of the opinion that the public would be likely to be misled if business were to be carried on in New South Wales under both names.
- (4) Action may not be taken under this section with respect to a business name unless the Director-General:
- (a) has caused notice of the proposed action (including reasons for the proposed action) to be given to each person in whose name the business name is registered, and
 - (b) has given each such person at least 28 days within which to make written submissions to the Director-General in relation to the proposed action, and
 - (c) has taken all such submissions into consideration.

18 Cancellation of registration in relation to person in whose name business name is registered

- (1) The Director-General may amend the registered particulars with respect to a registered business name so as to remove the name of a person in whose name the business name is registered:
- (a) if the person is found guilty or convicted of a prescribed offence within the meaning of section 8, or
 - (b) if the requirements of section 15 have not been complied with in relation to the person.
- (2) The Director-General may also amend the registered particulars with respect to a registered business name so as to remove the name of a person in whose name the business name is registered:
- (a) if the person has not carried on business in New South Wales during the previous 2 months, and
 - (b) if the Director-General is of the opinion that the person does not intend to carry on business in New South Wales in the immediate future.
- (3) Action may not be taken under this section with respect to a business name unless the Director-General:
- (a) has caused notice of the proposed action (including reasons for the proposed action) to be given to the person whose name is proposed to be removed, and

- (b) has given that person at least 28 days within which to make written submissions to the Director-General in relation to the proposed action, and
- (c) has taken all such submissions into consideration.

19 Applications to Administrative Decisions Tribunal for review

A person aggrieved by a decision made by the Director-General under this Division to cancel, whether generally or in relation to that person, the registration of a business name that is registered in that person's name may apply to the Administrative Decisions Tribunal for a review of the decision.

Division 4 General

20 Register of business names

- (1) The Director-General is to establish and maintain a register of business names (**the Register**) for the purposes of this Act, and for the purposes of Part 3 of the *Licensing and Registration (Uniform Procedures) Act 2002*, as applied by this Act.
- (2) For each registered business name there are to be recorded in the Register:
 - (a) the proper name and proper address of each person in whose name the business name is registered, and
 - (b) an address for service of notices in relation to each such person, and
 - (c) such other particulars as are required by the regulations to be recorded in the Register in relation to each such person.
- (3) For each registered business name under which business is carried on in New South Wales there are also to be recorded in the Register:
 - (a) the date on which business commenced to be carried on under that name, and
 - (b) the date on which business ceased to be carried on under that name, and
 - (c) the nature of the business carried on under that name, and
 - (d) the address of each place at or from which business is carried on under that name, and
 - (e) such other particulars as are required by the regulations to be recorded in the Register in relation to the business carried on under that name.
- (4) The regulations may make provision with respect to the manner and form in which the Register is to be maintained.
- (5) The Director-General is to ensure that the Register is made available for public

inspection during normal business hours at such places as may be prescribed by the regulations.

Note—

See also section 49 of the *Licensing and Registration (Uniform Procedures) Act 2002* with respect to the particulars to be recorded in the Register.

21 Minister may prohibit registration of certain business names

(1) The Minister, by order published in the Gazette:

- (a) on his or her own initiative, or
- (b) as a consequence of receiving notice of the kind referred to in subsection (2) pursuant to a corresponding law,

may prohibit the registration as a business name of any name or class of names specified in the order.

(2) On making an order as referred to in subsection (1) (a), the Minister must cause notice of the order to be given to each Minister administering a corresponding law.

(3) In this section, **corresponding law** means a law declared by the regulations to be a corresponding law for the purposes of this section.

Editorial note—

For orders under this section see Gazette No 45 of 15.4.2005, p 1423.

22 Registration does not authorise contravention of other laws

Registration of a business name under this Act does not authorise a person to carry on business under that name if the person is prohibited by some other Act or law from carrying on business under that name.

23 Effect of certain contraventions on legal proceedings

(1) This section applies to a business name under which business is being carried on by a person in contravention of this Act, being:

- (a) an unregistered business name, or
- (b) a business name that is not registered in that person's name, or
- (c) a registered business name in respect of which that person has failed to comply with a requirement of this Act with respect to the notification of any matter.

(2) Legal proceedings commenced by a person carrying on business under a business name in respect of which there is a contravention referred to in subsection (1) are not invalid merely because of the contravention, but the court before which the

proceedings are taken:

- (a) may adjourn the proceedings until the contravention is remedied, or
 - (b) may continue to hear and determine the proceedings on an undertaking by the person to remedy the contravention within such time as the court may direct.
- (3) Legal proceedings taken against a person carrying on business under a business name in respect of which there is a contravention referred to in subsection (1) are not invalid merely because of the contravention, and:
- (a) that business name is taken to be sufficient designation of that person in any process or other legal document or instrument, and
 - (b) any judgment or order given in the proceedings may be enforced against that person.

24 Use of business name

- (1) The following provisions apply to and in respect of any business that is carried on under a registered business name:
- (a) a person in whose name the business name is registered must not issue or sign any letter, statement, invoice, notice, publication, order for goods or services, receipt or other business document in connection with the carrying on of business under that name unless that name appears in legible characters on the document,
 - (b) the business name must at all times be displayed, so as to be conspicuous to the public, at each place at which business is carried on under the business name,
 - (c) the certificate of registration issued in respect of the business name under section 49 of the *Licensing and Registration (Uniform Procedures) Act 2002* must at all times be exhibited, so as to be conspicuous to the public, at the principal place at which business is carried on under that name.
- (2) The provisions of subsection (1) (b) and (c) do not apply to a business in which all orders for the goods or services provided by the business are received exclusively by means of an on-line service.
- (3) If there is any contravention of subsection (1), each person in whose name the business name is registered is guilty of an offence.

Maximum penalty:

- (a) for a first offence, 20 penalty units, and
- (b) for a second or subsequent offence, 20 penalty units plus 0.5 penalty units for each day for which the offence continues.

25 Invitations to the public to make deposits or loans

- (1) A person must not, in or in connection with an invitation to the public to lend or deposit money, use or refer to:
 - (a) a registered business name, or
 - (b) a business name that, if business were carried on in New South Wales under that name, would be required to be registered.

Maximum penalty: 20 penalty units.

- (2) This section does not apply to:
 - (a) an invitation to the public that is made in accordance with the *Corporations Act 2001* of the Commonwealth, or
 - (b) an invitation made to a person whose ordinary business is to lend money.

26 Evidentiary certificates

A certificate:

- (a) that is signed by the Director-General, or by an officer of the Department authorised by the Director-General in that regard, and
- (b) that certifies that, on a specified date or during a specified period, the particulars contained in the Register as to specified matters were as so specified,

is admissible in any proceedings and is evidence of the matters so certified.

Note—

See also section 55 of the *Licensing and Registration (Uniform Procedures) Act 2002* with respect to evidentiary certificates.

27 Evidence as to carrying on business under business name

In any proceedings for an offence against this Act, evidence that a person has carried on business at premises on which a business name is displayed is evidence that the person has carried on business under that name.

Part 3 Administration

Division 1 Power to require information and documents

28 Power to require information and documents

- (1) The Director-General may, by notice in writing served on any person, require the person to do either or both of the following within such time as is specified in the notice:

- (a) to furnish the Director-General with such information as the person possesses in connection with the use of any business name,
 - (b) to produce to the Director-General such documents as the person possesses in connection with the use of any business name.
- (2) A person must not fail to comply with a requirement under this section.
- Maximum penalty: 20 penalty units.

Note—

The furnishing of false or misleading information and the production of false or misleading documents are offences under Division 3 of Part 5 of the *Crimes Act 1900*.

- (3) A person is not excused from furnishing information or producing a document pursuant to a requirement under this section on the ground that to do so may tend to incriminate the person, but any information so furnished or document so produced is not admissible in evidence against the person in any criminal proceedings other than proceedings for an offence under Division 3 of Part 5 of the *Crimes Act 1900*.

Division 2 Power to enter premises

29 Power to enter land

- (1) An authorised officer:
- (a) may enter any premises, other than any part of premises used for residential purposes, and
 - (b) may inspect, and take copies of or extracts from, any document that relates to the carrying on of business at or from the premises,
- for the purpose of ascertaining whether the provisions of this Act are being complied with.
- (2) The power of entry conferred by subsection (1) may only be exercised while business is being carried on, or during the hours that business is usually carried on, at or from the premises.

30 Manner in which power of entry to be exercised

- (1) The powers conferred on an authorised officer by this Division may not be exercised in relation to any premises unless:
- (a) the officer is in possession of a certificate of authority, issued in accordance with the regulations, that evidences his or her authority to exercise those powers, and
 - (b) the occupier of the premises has been given at least 24 hours' notice that those powers are to be exercised.

(2) Reasonable force may be used for the purpose of effecting entry under this Division.

31 Damage to be minimised

- (1) In exercising the powers conferred by this Division, an authorised officer must do as little damage as possible.
- (2) The Director-General must compensate all interested parties for any damage caused by an authorised officer as a consequence of the exercise of the powers conferred by this Division.
- (3) Subsection (2) does not apply to the extent to which the occupier of the premises has obstructed or hindered the authorised officer in the exercise of the powers conferred by this Division.

Division 3 General

32 Penalty notices

- (1) An authorised officer may serve a penalty notice on a person if it appears to the officer that the person has committed an offence against this Act, being an offence prescribed by the regulations as a penalty notice offence.
- (2) A penalty notice is a notice to the effect that, if the person served does not wish to have the matter determined by a court, the person can pay, within the time and to the person specified in the notice, the amount of the penalty prescribed by the regulations for the offence if dealt with under this section.
- (3) A penalty notice may be served personally or by post.
- (4) If the amount of penalty prescribed for an alleged offence is paid under this section, no person is liable to any further proceedings for the alleged offence.
- (5) Payment under this section is not to be regarded as an admission of liability for the purpose of, and does not in any way affect or prejudice, any civil claim, action or proceeding arising out of the same occurrence.
- (6) The regulations may:
 - (a) prescribe an offence for the purposes of this section by specifying the offence or by referring to the provision creating the offence, and
 - (b) prescribe the amount of penalty payable for the offence if dealt with under this section, and
 - (c) prescribe different amounts of penalties for different offences or classes of offences.
- (7) The amount of a penalty prescribed under this section for an offence is not to exceed

the maximum amount of penalty that could be imposed for the offence by a court.

(8) This section does not limit the operation of any other provision of, or made under, this or any other Act relating to proceedings that may be taken in respect of offences.

33 Obstruction of authorised officers

A person must not obstruct or hinder an authorised officer in the exercise of that officer's functions under this Act.

Maximum penalty: 25 penalty units.

Note—

See also section 31 (3), which limits a person's liability to pay compensation for damage done in the exercise of the person's powers under Division 2 where the person has been obstructed or hindered in the exercise of those powers.

34 Authorised officers

The Director-General may appoint any member of staff of the Department as an authorised officer for the purposes of this Act.

35 Delegation of functions

The Director-General may delegate to any person any of the Director-General's functions under this Act, other than this power of delegation.

36 Exclusion of personal liability

Anything done or omitted to be done:

- (a) by the Director-General, or a person acting under the direction of the Director-General,
or
- (b) by an authorised officer,

does not subject the Director-General, person or authorised officer personally to any action, liability, claim or demand if the thing was done, or omitted to be done, in good faith for the purpose of executing this Act.

Part 4 Miscellaneous

37 Offences by corporations

- (1) If a corporation contravenes, whether by act or omission, any provision of this Act, each person who is a director of the corporation or who is concerned in the management of the corporation is taken to have contravened the same provision if the person knowingly authorised or permitted the contravention.
- (2) A person may be proceeded against and convicted under a provision pursuant to

subsection (1) whether or not the corporation has been proceeded against or has been convicted under the provision.

- (3) Nothing in this section affects any liability imposed on a corporation for an offence committed by the corporation under this Act.

38 Service of documents

- (1) A document that is authorised or required by this Act or the regulations to be served on any person may be served:
- (a) in the case of a natural person:
 - (i) by delivering it to the person personally, or
 - (ii) by sending it by post to the address specified by the person for the giving or service of documents or, if no such address is specified, the residential or business address of the person last known to the person giving or serving the document, or
 - (iii) by sending it by facsimile transmission to the facsimile number of the person, or
 - (b) in the case of a body corporate:
 - (i) by leaving it with a person apparently of or above the age of 16 years at, or by sending it by post to, the head office, a registered office or a principal office of the body corporate or to an address specified by the body corporate for the giving or service of documents, or
 - (ii) by sending it by facsimile transmission to the facsimile number of the body corporate.
- (2) In the case of a business name that is registered in relation to more than one person, service of such a document on any one of them is taken to be service on all of them.
- (3) Nothing in this section affects the operation of any provision of a law or of the rules of a court authorising a document to be served on a person in any other manner.

39 Proceedings for offences may be taken up to 3 years later

Proceedings for an offence against this Act may be taken at any time during the period of 3 years after the date on which it is alleged that the offence was committed.

40 Regulations

The Governor may make regulations, not inconsistent with this Act, for or with respect to any matter that by this Act is required or permitted to be prescribed or that is necessary or convenient to be prescribed for carrying out or giving effect to this Act.

41 Repeal

The *Business Names Act 1962* is repealed.

42 Amendment of other legislation

Each Act and instrument referred to in Schedule 1 is amended as set out in that Schedule.

43 Savings, transitional and other provisions

Schedule 2 has effect.

44 Review of Act

- (1) The Minister is to review this Act to determine whether the policy objectives of the Act remain valid and whether the terms of the Act remain appropriate for securing those objectives.
- (2) The review is to be undertaken as soon as possible after the period of 5 years from the date of assent to this Act.
- (3) A report on the outcome of the review is to be tabled in each House of Parliament within 12 months after the end of the period of 5 years.

Schedule 1 Amendment of other legislation

(Section 42)

1.1 Business Names Act 2002

[1] Section 6 Refusal of registration of certain business names

Insert after section 6 (2):

- (2A) A business name that includes the word “police” is not to be registered unless the use of that name is the subject of a consent granted under section 204B of the *Police Act 1990*.

[2] Section 17 Cancellation of registration in relation to business name generally

Insert after section 17 (1) (b):

, or

- (c) in the case of a business name that includes the word “police”, if the Director-General receives notice that consent to the use of that name has been revoked under section 204B of the *Police Act 1990*.

1.2 Fines Act 1996 No 99

Schedule 1 Statutory provisions under which penalty notices issued

Omit "*Business Names Act 1962*, section 28A".

Insert instead "*Business Names Act 2002*, section 32".

1.3 Gaming Machines Act 2001 No 127

[1] Section 43 Prohibition on publishing gaming machine advertising

Omit section 43 (7). Insert instead:

(7) This section prevails over the *Business Names Act 2002*.

[2] Section 44 Prohibition on displaying gambling-related signs

Omit section 44 (7). Insert instead:

(7) This section prevails over the *Business Names Act 2002*.

1.4 Home Building Act 1989 No 147

[1] Section 7 Form of contracts

Omit "*Business Names Act 1962*" from section 7 (7).

Insert instead "*Business Names Act 2002*".

[2] Section 16D Form of contracts for kit homes

Omit "*Business Names Act 1962*" from section 16D (7).

Insert instead "*Business Names Act 2002*".

[3] Section 18 Representations, generally

Omit "*Business Names Act 1962*" from section 18 (2).

Insert instead "*Business Names Act 2002*".

[4] Section 18K Form of contracts

Omit "*Business Names Act 1962*" from section 18K (7).

Insert instead "*Business Names Act 2002*".

[5] Section 18V Misrepresentations about building consultancy licences

Omit “*Business Names Act 1962*” from section 18V (3).

Insert instead “*Business Names Act 2002*”.

1.5 Licensing and Registration (Uniform Procedures) Act 2002 No 28

[1] Schedule 2 Registration to which Part 3 of Act applies

Insert in alphabetical order of Acts and statutory rules:

Business Names Act 2002

section 5 (1), registration of a business name

[2] Schedule 4 Amendment of other Acts and statutory rules

Omit Schedule 4.26.

1.6 Motor Dealers Act 1974 No 52

Section 15 Name under which holder of licence may operate

Omit “*Business Names Act 1962*” from section 15 (1).

Insert instead “*Business Names Act 2002*”.

1.7 Motor Vehicle Repairs Act 1980 No 71

Section 18B Name under which holder of licence may operate

Omit “*Business Names Act 1962*” from section 18B (3).

Insert instead “*Business Names Act 2002*”.

1.8 Partnership Act 1892 No 12

[1] Section 49 Definitions

Omit “*Business Names Act 1962*” from the definition of **Registrar**.

Insert instead “*Business Names Act 2002*”.

[2] Section 55 Registration of limited partnership

Omit “*Business Names Act 1962*” from section 55 (2).

Insert instead “*Business Names Act 2002*”.

[3] Section 59 Business Names Act 2002 not to apply

Omit “*Business Names Act 1962*”.

Insert instead “*Business Names Act 2002*”.

1.9 Printing and Newspapers Act 1973 No 46

[1] Section 3 Provisions in respect of certain printed documents

Omit “*Business Names Act 1962*” from section 3 (1) (d).

Insert instead “*Business Names Act 2002*”.

[2] Section 4 Provision in respect of printing and publishing newspapers

Omit “*Business Names Act 1962*” from section 4 (1) (a).

Insert instead “*Business Names Act 2002*”.

1.10 Property, Stock and Business Agents Act 1941 No 28

Section 43A Business names

Omit “*Business Names Act 1962*” from section 43A (6).

Insert instead “*Business Names Act 2002*”.

1.11 Property, Stock and Business Agents Act 2002 No 66

Section 30 Business names

Omit “*Business Names Act 1962*” wherever occurring.

Insert instead “*Business Names Act 2002*”.

1.12 Travel Agents Act 1986 No 5

[1] Section 12 Name under which licensee may operate

Omit “*Business Names Act 1962*” from section 12 (1).

Insert instead “*Business Names Act 2002*”.

[2] Section 35 Name to appear on documents

Omit “section 20 of the *Business Names Act 1962*” from section 35 (3).

Insert instead “section 24 of the *Business Names Act 2002*”.

Schedule 2 Savings, transitional and other provisions

(Section 43)

Part 1 Preliminary

1 Regulations

- (1) The regulations may contain provisions of a savings or transitional nature consequent on the enactment of the following Acts:

 this Act

- (2) Such a provision may, if the regulations so provide, take effect from the date of assent to the Act concerned or a later day.
- (3) To the extent to which such a provision takes effect from a date that is earlier than the date of its publication in the Gazette, the provision does not operate so as:
 - (a) to affect, in a manner prejudicial to any person (other than the State or an authority of the State), the rights of that person existing before the date of that publication, or
 - (b) to impose liabilities on any person (other than the State or an authority of the State) in respect of anything done or omitted to be done before the date of that publication.

Part 2 Provisions consequent on enactment of this Act

2 Definition

In this Part:

the 1962 Act means the *Business Names Act 1962*.

3 Electronic applications for registration

- (1) Despite Part 3 of the *Licensing and Registration (Uniform Procedures) Act 2002* (as applied by section 5 of this Act), an application referred to in section 41 of that Act may not be made by means of electronic communication.
- (2) Subclause (1) does not limit the effect of the *Electronic Transactions Act 2000*.
- (3) This clause ceases to have effect on a day to be appointed by proclamation.

4 Registration of business names

Any business name that, immediately before the commencement of this clause, was registered under the 1962 Act is taken to have been registered under this Act, and its registration continues in force for the residue of the period for which it would have

continued in force under the 1962 Act if this Act had not been enacted.

5 Notification of changes

Any notification given under section 12 of the 1962 Act before the commencement of this clause is taken to have been given under the corresponding provision of Division 2 of Part 2 of this Act.

6 Registration of similar business names

Section 9 (3) extends to a notice given under section 7A of the 1962 Act.

7 Requirements as to information

Any requirement under section 13 of the 1962 Act that was made before the commencement of this clause is taken to be a requirement under section 28 of this Act.

8 Stay of proceedings

Any stay of proceedings that was in force under section 14 (1) of the 1962 Act immediately before the commencement of this clause is taken to be an order for the adjournment of proceedings under section 23 (2) (a) of this Act.

9 Certificates of registration

Any certificate issued under section 23 of the 1962 Act is taken to be a certificate issued under section 26 of this Act.

10 Evidentiary matters

Section 27 of this Act extends to matters arising before the commencement of this clause.

11 Delegations

Any delegation that, immediately before the commencement of this clause, was in force under section 31A of the 1962 Act is taken to be a delegation under section 35 of this Act.

12 Continuation of certain regulations

The [Business Names Regulation 2000](#) is taken to be a regulation under this Act, and may be amended and repealed accordingly.

13 Construction of certain references

In any Act or instrument:

- (a) a reference to the 1962 Act extends to this Act, and
- (b) a reference to a provisions of the 1962 Act extends to the corresponding provision of this Act.

14 General saving

Subject to this Schedule and the regulations:

- (a) anything begun under a provision of the 1962 Act for which there is a corresponding provision in this Act may be continued and completed under the 1962 Act as if this Act had not been enacted, and
- (b) subject to paragraph (a), anything done under a provision of the 1962 Act for which there is a corresponding provision in this Act (including anything arising under paragraph (a)) is taken to have been done under the corresponding provision of this Act.