

# PRESS RELEASE

## STEPHENS & SON

### SOLICITORS

**Q: I am a director of a limited company and I understand that new rules relating to the Companies Act will be introduced on 1<sup>st</sup> October. What are they and will they affect me?**



There has been a major overhaul of Company Law throughout the UK under the Companies Act 2006. Whilst most of the Act is already in force, on 1<sup>st</sup> October final changes come into effect.

Companies House forms are changing, so if you file a hard copy form check with Companies House that you are using the correct one. Beware, company formation documents have changed radically.

From a personal perspective the information that is publicly available about directors will change. Currently, a director must provide a residential address to Companies House and only rarely can it be omitted from the register (by having a Confidentiality Order where the director is in danger from 'activists' who target certain companies).

In order to provide greater privacy, from 1<sup>st</sup> October a director will have a 'service address', which will be publicly available and a 'usual residential address'. The residential address will only be made available to public authorities and credit reference agencies.

Residential addresses already noted at Companies House before 1<sup>st</sup> October will be treated as a service address. So it may make sense to change the company's service address at the first opportunity on or after 1<sup>st</sup> October to the general correspondence or the registered office address. If your registered address is at an accountant or solicitor's offices you will need to agree with them how correspondence will be dealt with and their charges for this service.

There are other changes such as where you may keep your company's records - either the registered office or a SAIL address (single alternative inspection location) - but you should seek advice before making these changes.

ENDS

Peter E Daniels, at **Stephens & Son LLP**, [ped@stephens-son.co.uk](mailto:ped@stephens-son.co.uk) Tel: (01634)

**[www.stephens-son.co.uk](http://www.stephens-son.co.uk)**