Registration Function under the Co-operative and Community Benefit Societies Act 2014 Guide

Chapter 9

Our powers



## 9.4 **Appointing an inspector**

- G 9.4.1 We have the power to appoint an inspector to investigate the affairs of a society (except where the society is a regulated housing association) in certain circumstances, for example if it appears to us that:
  - (1) there may be possible fraud against creditors;
  - (2) the society may be breaking the law;
  - (3) members are not getting the information they should expect;
  - (4) members are not being consulted properly, e.g. decisions are being made without a vote.
- G 9.4.2 Inspectors may demand documents and interview people under oath. If anyone obstructs the inspector's work, the court may treat this obstruction as a contempt of court, which is a criminal offence.
- G 9.4.3 Once the inspectors have written their report, we may publish it if we think it would be in the public interest. If we appoint an inspector we can still take other steps.