

# Police and Magistrates' Courts Act 1994

## **1994 CHAPTER 29**

#### PART IV

# MAGISTRATES' COURTS

Inspectors of the magistrates' courts service

## **Powers of inspectors**

- (1) Subject to subsection (2) below, an inspector of the magistrates' courts service exercising his functions under section 86 above shall have at all reasonable times—
  - (a) a right of entry to any court-house or other premises occupied by a magistrates' courts committee, and
  - (b) a right to inspect, and take copies of, any records kept by a magistrates' courts committee, and any other documents containing information relating to the administration of the magistrates' courts for their area, which he considers relevant to the discharge of his functions.
- (2) Subsection (1) above does not entitle an inspector—
  - (a) to be present when a magistrates' court is hearing proceedings in private, or
  - (b) to attend any private deliberations of the justices of the peace.
- (3) The records referred to in paragraph (b) of subsection (1) above include records kept by means of a computer; and an inspector exercising the power to inspect records conferred by that subsection—
  - (a) shall be entitled at any reasonable time to have access to, and inspect and check the operation of, any computer and associated apparatus or material which is or has been in use in connection with the records in question, and
  - (b) may require—
    - (i) the person by whom or on whose behalf the computer is or has been so used, or
    - (ii) any person having charge of, or otherwise concerned with the operation of, the computer, apparatus or material,

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to afford him such reasonable assistance as he may require.