



# Regulation of Investigatory Powers Act 2000

## 2000 CHAPTER 23

### PART I

#### COMMUNICATIONS

#### CHAPTER I

#### INTERCEPTION

*Restrictions on use of intercepted material etc.*

#### 17 Exclusion of matters from legal proceedings.

- (1) Subject to section 18, no evidence shall be adduced, question asked, assertion or disclosure made or other thing done in, for the purposes of or in connection with any legal proceedings [<sup>F1</sup> or Inquiries Act proceedings] which (in any manner)—
  - (a) discloses, in circumstances from which its origin in anything falling within subsection (2) may be inferred, any of the contents of an intercepted communication or any related communications data; or
  - (b) tends (apart from any such disclosure) to suggest that anything falling within subsection (2) has or may have occurred or be going to occur.
- (2) The following fall within this subsection—
  - (a) conduct by a person falling within subsection (3) that was or would be an offence under section 1(1) or (2) of this Act or under section 1 of the <sup>M1</sup>Interception of Communications Act 1985;
  - (b) a breach by the Secretary of State of his duty under section 1(4) of this Act;
  - (c) the issue of an interception warrant or of a warrant under the <sup>M2</sup>Interception of Communications Act 1985;

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*Changes to legislation:* There are outstanding changes not yet made by the legislation.gov.uk editorial team to Regulation of Investigatory Powers Act 2000. Any changes that have already been made by the team appear in the content and are referenced with annotations. (See end of Document for details)

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- (d) the making of an application by any person for an interception warrant, or for a warrant under that Act;
  - (e) the imposition of any requirement on any person to provide assistance with giving effect to an interception warrant.
- (3) The persons referred to in subsection (2)(a) are—
- (a) any person to whom a warrant under this Chapter may be addressed;
  - (b) any person holding office under the Crown;
  - [<sup>F2</sup>(c) any member of the staff of the Serious Organised Crime Agency;]
  - [<sup>F3</sup>(ca) any member of the Scottish Crime and Drug Enforcement Agency;]
  - (e) any person employed by or for the purposes of a police force;
  - (f) any person providing a postal service or employed for the purposes of any business of providing such a service; and
  - (g) any person providing a public telecommunications service or employed for the purposes of any business of providing such a service.
- (4) [<sup>F4</sup> In this section—
- “Inquiries Act proceedings” means proceedings of an inquiry under the Inquiries Act 2005;
  - “intercepted communications” means] any communication intercepted in the course of its transmission by means of a postal service or telecommunication system.

#### Annotations:

##### Amendments (Textual)

- F1** Words in s. 17(1) inserted (7.6.2005) by [Inquiries Act 2005 \(c. 12\)](#), ss. 48, 51, **Sch. 2 para. 20(2)** (with ss. 44, 50); S.I. 2005/1432, **art. 2**
- F2** S. 17(3)(c) substituted (1.4.2006) for s. 17(3)(c)(d) by [Serious Organised Crime and Police Act 2005 \(c. 15\)](#), ss. 59, 178, **Sch. 4 para. 133(1)** (with Sch. 4 para. 133(2)); S.I. 2006/378, **art. 4(1)**, Sch. para. 10 (subject to art. 4(2)-(7))
- F3** S. 17(3)(ca) inserted (1.4.2007) by [The Police, Public Order and Criminal Justice \(Scotland\) Act 2006 \(Consequential Provisions and Modifications\) Order 2007 \(S.I. 2007/1098\)](#), arts. 1(3), 6, **Sch. para. 4(3)**
- F4** Words in s. 17(4) substituted (7.6.2005) by [Inquiries Act 2005 \(c. 12\)](#), ss. 48, 51, **Sch. 2 para. 20(3)** (with ss. 44, 50); S.I. 2005/1432, **art. 2**

##### Marginal Citations

- M1** 1985 c. 56.  
**M2** 1985 c. 56.

**Changes to legislation:**

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**Changes and effects yet to be applied to the whole Act, associated Parts and Chapters:**

Whole provisions yet to be inserted into this Act (including any effects on those provisions):

- Sch. A1 inserted by [S.I. 2011/1340 reg. 2\(4\) Sch.](#)

**Commencement Orders yet to be applied to the Regulation of Investigatory Powers Act 2000:**

Commencement Orders bringing provisions within this Act into force:

- [S.I. 2007/2196 art. 2](#) commences [\(2000 c. 23\)](#)

Commencement Orders bringing legislation that affects this Act into force:

- [S.I. 2007/935 art. 2-7](#) commences [\(2006 c. 40\)](#)
- [S.I. 2007/1442 art. 2](#) commences [\(2006 c. 52\)](#)
- [S.I. 2007/2045 art. 2](#) commences [\(2007 c. 6\)](#)
- [S.I. 2009/1059](#) Order transitional provisions for effects of commencing [SI 2009/812](#)
- [S.I. 2010/1621 art. 1 2](#) commences [\(S.I. 2010/231\)](#)
- [S.I. 2010/2703 art. 2](#) commences [\(2010 c. 25\)](#)
- [S.I. 2011/2329 art. 2 3](#) commences [\(2011 c. 5\)](#)
- [S.S.I. 2007/84 art. 3](#) commences [\(2006 asp 10\)](#)