



Inquiries Act 2005

2005 CHAPTER 12

Constitution of inquiry

13 Power to suspend inquiry

- (1) The Minister may at any time, by notice to the chairman, suspend an inquiry for such period as appears to him to be necessary to allow for—
 - (a) the completion of any other investigation relating to any of the matters to which the inquiry relates, or
 - (b) the determination of any civil or criminal proceedings (including proceedings before a disciplinary tribunal) arising out of any of those matters.
- (2) The power conferred by subsection (1) may be exercised whether or not the investigation or proceedings have begun.
- (3) Before exercising that power the Minister must consult the chairman.
- (4) A notice under subsection (1) may suspend the inquiry until a specified day, until the happening of a specified event or until the giving by the Minister of a further notice to the chairman.
- (5) Where the Minister gives a notice under subsection (1) he must—
 - (a) set out in the notice his reasons for suspending the inquiry;
 - (b) lay a copy of the notice, as soon as is reasonably practicable, before the relevant Parliament or Assembly.
- (6) A member of an inquiry panel may not exercise the powers conferred by this Act during any period of suspension; but the duties imposed on a member of an inquiry panel by section 9(3) and (4) continue during any such period.
- (7) In this section “period of suspension” means the period beginning with the receipt by the chairman of the notice under subsection (1) and ending with whichever of the following is applicable—
 - (a) the day referred to in subsection (4);
 - (b) the happening of the event referred to in that subsection;

Changes to legislation: *There are currently no known outstanding effects for the Inquiries Act 2005, Section 13. (See end of Document for details)*

- (c) the receipt by the chairman of the further notice under that subsection.

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