

*These notes relate to the Inquiries into Fatal Accidents and Sudden Deaths etc. (Scotland) Act 2016 (asp 2) which received Royal Assent on 14 January 2016*

# **INQUIRIES INTO FATAL ACCIDENTS AND SUDDEN DEATHS ETC. (SCOTLAND) ACT 2016**

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## **EXPLANATORY NOTES**

### **COMMENTARY ON SECTIONS**

#### ***Reasons where inquiry not held***

##### ***Section 9 – Reasons for decision not to hold an inquiry***

37. Under section 9, where it is decided that an FAI is not to be held, the Lord Advocate must give reasons (in writing) for that decision. This duty only applies where a request is made by the spouse or partner (civil or cohabiting) or nearest relative of the deceased and the Lord Advocate is only required to respond to these persons. This reflects COPFS' current practice and would cover situations such as when the Lord Advocate decides that an FAI should not be held in terms of section 4. Paragraph (b) includes a same sex couple living together.