



Inquiries into Fatal Accidents and Sudden Deaths etc. (Scotland) Act 2016

2016 asp 2

Inquiries into certain deaths

1 Inquiries under this Act

- (1) Where an inquiry is to be held into the death of a person in accordance with sections 2 to 7, the procurator fiscal must—
 - (a) investigate the circumstances of the death, and
 - (b) arrange for the inquiry to be held.
- (2) An inquiry is to be conducted by a sheriff.
- (3) The purpose of an inquiry is to—
 - (a) establish the circumstances of the death, and
 - (b) consider what steps (if any) might be taken to prevent other deaths in similar circumstances.
- (4) But it is not the purpose of an inquiry to establish civil or criminal liability.
- (5) In this Act, unless the context requires otherwise—
 - (a) “inquiry” means an inquiry held, or to be held, under this Act,
 - (b) references to a “sheriff” in relation to an inquiry are to a sheriff of the sheriffdom in which the inquiry is, or is to be, held.