

SCHEDULE 4

Protection of UK-wide Interests

PART 1

Protections for defence and national security

Annual report

10.—(1) Each reporting year the Secretary of State must prepare a report about the exercise of the Secretary of State’s powers under this Part.

(2) But a report is not required for a year if the Secretary of State did not exercise any of those powers in relation to that year.

(3) A report must not identify, or enable the identification of, any person (other than the manager) unless that person has consented to being so identified.

(4) Subject to sub-paragraph (3), each report must contain the following information—

(a) the powers which the Secretary of State has exercised during the reporting year;

(b) the number of occasions on which those powers have been exercised; and

(c) in respect of each such occasion—

(i) the reasons why the power was exercised, and

(ii) the amount of any payment made by the Secretary of State.

(5) If the Secretary of State is of the view that, for reasons of defence or national security, there is an overriding public interest in the reasons mentioned in sub-paragraph (4)(c)(i) not being included in the report—

(a) the Secretary of State must state that view in the report, and

(b) sub-paragraph (4)(c)(i) does not apply.

(6) The Secretary of State must lay a copy of each report before Parliament and the Scottish Parliament.

(7) In this paragraph, “reporting year” means a period of 12 months ending with 31st March.