

**Changes to legislation:** Immigration Act 1971, Cross Heading: Power to search and obtain information is up to date with all changes known to be in force on or before 12 April 2024. There are changes that may be brought into force at a future date. Changes that have been made appear in the content and are referenced with annotations. (See end of Document for details) View outstanding changes

## SCHEDULES

### [<sup>F1</sup>SCHEDULE 4A

#### ENFORCEMENT POWERS IN RELATION TO SHIPS

##### Textual Amendments

- F1** Sch. 4A inserted (31.5.2016) by [Immigration Act 2016 \(c. 19\)](#), s. 94(1), [Sch. 14 para. 8](#); S.I. 2016/603, reg. 2(d)

### PART 3

#### NORTHERN IRELAND

##### *Power to search and obtain information*

- 25 (1) This paragraph applies if a relevant officer has reasonable grounds to suspect that there is evidence on the ship (other than items subject to legal privilege) relating—
- (a) to an offence under section [<sup>F2</sup>24B, 25 or 25A of this Act or section 21 of the 2006 Act], or
  - (b) to an offence that is connected with an offence under any of those sections.
- (2) The relevant officer may search—
- (a) the ship;
  - (b) anyone on the ship;
  - (c) anything on the ship (including cargo).
- (3) The relevant officer may require a person on the ship to give information about himself or herself or about anything on the ship.
- (4) The power to search conferred by sub-paragraph (2)—
- (a) is only a power to search to the extent that it is reasonably required for the purpose of discovering evidence of the kind mentioned in sub-paragraph (1), and
  - (b) in the case of a search of a person, does not authorise a relevant officer to require the person to remove any clothing in public other than an outer coat, jacket or gloves.
- (5) In exercising a power conferred by sub-paragraph (2) or (3) a relevant officer may—
- (a) open any containers;
  - (b) require the production of documents, books or records relating to the ship or anything on it (but not including anything the officer has reasonable grounds to believe to be an item subject to legal privilege);

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- (c) make photographs or copies of anything the production of which the officer has power to require.
- (6) The power in sub-paragraph (5)(b) to require the production of documents, books or records includes, in relation to documents, books or records kept in electronic form, power to require the provision of the documents, books or records in a form in which they are legible and can be taken away.
- (7) Sub-paragraph (5) is without prejudice to the generality of the powers conferred by sub-paragraphs (2) and (3).
- (8) A power conferred by this paragraph may be exercised on the ship or elsewhere.]

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**Textual Amendments**

- F2** Words in [Sch. 4A para. 25\(1\)\(a\)](#) substituted (12.4.2023) by [Nationality and Borders Act 2022 \(c. 36\)](#), s. 87(1), [Sch. 6 para. 10\(12\)](#); S.I. 2023/283, reg. 3(b)

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

- Act applied by [2008 c. 4 s. 133\(7\)\(8\)](#)

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

- s. 10(1A)(1B) inserted by [1999 c. 33 Sch. 14 para. 47\(3\)](#)
- s. 24(1)(fa) inserted by [2023 c. 37 s. 10\(2\)](#)
- s. 24C-24F inserted by [2016 c. 19 s. 44\(2\)](#)
- s. 26A(1)(b)(ia) inserted by [2016 c. 19 Sch. 11 para. 25](#)
- s. 27(1)(aa) inserted by [2023 c. 37 s. 10\(3\)\(a\)](#)
- s. 27(1)(ba) inserted by [2023 c. 37 s. 10\(3\)\(b\)](#)
- s. 28CA(1)(bb) substituted for word in s. 28CA(1)(b) by [2016 c. 19 s. 44\(5\)](#)
- Sch. 2 para. 27B(4A) inserted by [2004 c. 19 s. 16](#)
- Sch. 2 para. 26(4) inserted by [2016 c. 19 s. 74\(1\)](#)
- Sch. 2 Pt. 1A inserted by [2016 c. 19 Sch. 13](#)
- Sch. 2 para. 11A inserted by [2023 c. 37 s. 10\(4\)](#)