



# Regulation of Investigatory Powers Act 2000

## 2000 CHAPTER 23

### PART I

#### COMMUNICATIONS

#### CHAPTER I

#### INTERCEPTION

#### *Interception warrants*

#### **7 Issue of warrants**

- (1) An interception warrant shall not be issued except—
  - (a) under the hand of the Secretary of State; or
  - (b) in a case falling within subsection (2), under the hand of a senior official.
- (2) Those cases are—
  - (a) an urgent case in which the Secretary of State has himself expressly authorised the issue of the warrant in that case; and
  - (b) a case in which the warrant is for the purposes of a request for assistance made under an international mutual assistance agreement by the competent authorities of a country or territory outside the United Kingdom and either—
    - (i) it appears that the interception subject is outside the United Kingdom; or
    - (ii) the interception to which the warrant relates is to take place in relation only to premises outside the United Kingdom.
- (3) An interception warrant—

---

*Status: This is the original version (as it was originally enacted).*

---

- (a) must be addressed to the person falling within section 6(2) by whom, or on whose behalf, the application for the warrant was made; and
  - (b) in the case of a warrant issued under the hand of a senior official, must contain, according to whatever is applicable—
    - (i) one of the statements set out in subsection (4); and
    - (ii) if it contains the statement set out in subsection (4)(b), one of the statements set out in subsection (5).
- (4) The statements referred to in subsection (3)(b)(i) are—
- (a) a statement that the case is an urgent case in which the Secretary of State has himself expressly authorised the issue of the warrant;
  - (b) a statement that the warrant is issued for the purposes of a request for assistance made under an international mutual assistance agreement by the competent authorities of a country or territory outside the United Kingdom.
- (5) The statements referred to in subsection (3)(b)(ii) are—
- (a) a statement that the interception subject appears to be outside the United Kingdom;
  - (b) a statement that the interception to which the warrant relates is to take place in relation only to premises outside the United Kingdom.