

FREEDOM OF INFORMATION ACT 2000

EXPLANATORY NOTES

COMMENTARY ON SECTIONS

Part II: Exempt information

Section 24: National security

94. **Section 24** exempts information not covered by section 23, where an exemption is required to safeguard national security. A certification process is provided which is similar to that in section 23.
95. **Subsection (2)** provides that the obligation under section 1(1)(a) to confirm or deny whether the requested information is held does not arise where such an exemption is required in order to safeguard national security.
96. **Subsection (4)** allows a certificate to describe information by means of a general description. A certificate may apply to information existing at the time the certificate is issued or it may also cover information acquired or recorded at a later date.