



Inquiries Act 2005

2005 CHAPTER 12

Inquiry proceedings

20 Further provisions about restriction notices and orders

- (1) Restrictions specified in a restriction notice have effect in addition to any already specified, whether in an earlier restriction notice or in a restriction order.
- (2) Restrictions specified in a restriction order have effect in addition to any already specified, whether in an earlier restriction order or in a restriction notice.
- (3) The Minister may vary or revoke a restriction notice by giving a further notice to the chairman at any time before the end of the inquiry.
- (4) The chairman may vary or revoke a restriction order by making a further order during the course of the inquiry.
- (5) Restrictions imposed under section 19 on disclosure or publication of evidence or documents (“disclosure restrictions”) continue in force indefinitely, unless—
 - (a) under the terms of the relevant notice or order the restrictions expire at the end of the inquiry, or at some other time, or
 - (b) the relevant notice or order is varied or revoked under subsection (3), (4) or (7).

This is subject to subsection (6).

- (6) After the end of the inquiry, disclosure restrictions do not apply to a public authority, or a Scottish public authority, in relation to information held by the authority otherwise than as a result of the breach of any such restrictions.
- (7) After the end of an inquiry the Minister may, by a notice published in a way that he considers suitable—
 - (a) revoke a restriction order or restriction notice containing disclosure restrictions that are still in force, or
 - (b) vary it so as to remove or relax any of the restrictions.

Status: This is the original version (as it was originally enacted).

(8) In this section “restriction notice” and “restriction order” have the meaning given by section 19(2).