



Investigatory Powers Act 2016

2016 CHAPTER 25

PART 2

LAWFUL INTERCEPTION OF COMMUNICATIONS

CHAPTER 3

OTHER PROVISIONS ABOUT INTERCEPTION

Interpretation

60 Part 2: interpretation

(1) In this Part—

F1
...

“intercepting authority” is to be read in accordance with section 18;

“international mutual assistance agreement” has the meaning given by section 10(3);

“mutual assistance warrant” has the meaning given by section 15(4);

“police force” means any of the following—

- (a) any police force maintained under section 2 of the Police Act 1996;
- (b) the metropolitan police force;
- (c) the City of London police force;
- (d) the Police Service of Scotland;
- (e) the Police Service of Northern Ireland;
- (f) the Ministry of Defence Police;
- (g) the Royal Navy Police;
- (h) the Royal Military Police;
- (i) the Royal Air Force Police;
- (j) the British Transport Police Force;

Changes to legislation: Investigatory Powers Act 2016, Cross Heading: Interpretation is up to date with all changes known to be in force on or before 16 August 2023. 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

“relevant content”, in relation to a targeted examination warrant, has the meaning given by section 15(3);

“relevant Scottish application” has the meaning given by section 22;

“secondary data” has the meaning given by section 16, and references to obtaining secondary data from a communication are to be read in accordance with that section;

“targeted examination warrant” has the meaning given by section 15(3).

(2) In this Part references to a member of a police force, in relation to the Royal Navy Police, the Royal Military Police or the Royal Air Force Police, do not include any member of that force who is not for the time being attached to, or serving with, that force or another of those police forces.

(3) See also—

section 261 (telecommunications definitions),
 section 262 (postal definitions),
 section 263 (general definitions),
 section 264 (general definitions: “journalistic material” etc.),
 section 265 (index of defined expressions).

Textual Amendments

F1 Words in s. 60(1) omitted (31.12.2020) by virtue of [The Law Enforcement and Security \(Amendment\) \(EU Exit\) Regulations 2019 \(S.I. 2019/742\)](#), regs. 1, **82(8)** (with reg. 83); 2020 c. 1, Sch. 5 para. 1(1)

Commencement Information

I1 S. 60(1) in force at 13.2.2017 for specified purposes by [S.I. 2017/137](#), **reg. 2(e)**
I2 S. 60(1) in force at 31.5.2018 in so far as not already in force by [S.I. 2018/652](#), **reg. 3(s)**
I3 S. 60(2)(3) in force at 31.5.2018 by [S.I. 2018/652](#), **reg. 3(s)**

Changes to legislation:

Investigatory Powers Act 2016, Cross Heading: Interpretation is up to date with all changes known to be in force on or before 16 August 2023. 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.

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

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

- Sch. 3 para. 8A and cross-heading inserted by [2023 c. 32 Sch. 18 para. 10\(2\)](#)
- Sch. 3 para. 20(2)(ha)(hb) inserted by [2023 c. 32 Sch. 18 para. 10\(3\)\(a\)](#)