



# Investigatory Powers Act 2016

## 2016 CHAPTER 25

### PART 6

#### BULK WARRANTS

#### CHAPTER 1

##### BULK INTERCEPTION WARRANTS

##### *Duration, modification and cancellation of warrants*

#### **148 Cancellation of warrants**

- (1) The Secretary of State, or a senior official acting on behalf of the Secretary of State, may cancel a bulk interception warrant at any time.
- (2) If the Secretary of State, or a senior official acting on behalf of the Secretary of State, considers that any of the cancellation conditions are met in relation to a bulk interception warrant, the person must cancel the warrant.
- (3) The cancellation conditions are—
  - (a) that the warrant is no longer necessary in the interests of national security;
  - (b) that the conduct authorised by the warrant is no longer proportionate to what is sought to be achieved by that conduct;
  - (c) that the examination of intercepted content or secondary data obtained under the warrant is no longer necessary for any of the specified operational purposes (see section 142).
- (4) But the condition in subsection (3)(a) does not apply where the warrant has been modified so that it no longer authorises or requires the interception of communications or the obtaining of secondary data.

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**Changes to legislation:** *Investigatory Powers Act 2016, Section 148 is up to date with all changes known to be in force on or before 12 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*

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- (5) Where a warrant is cancelled under this section, the person to whom the warrant was addressed must, so far as is reasonably practicable, secure that anything in the process of being done under the warrant stops as soon as possible.
- (6) A warrant that has been cancelled under this section may not be renewed.

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#### Commencement Information

**II** [S. 148](#) in force at 27.6.2018 by [S.I. 2018/652](#), [reg. 10\(a\)](#)

**Changes to legislation:**

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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\(3\)\(a\)](#)