



# Investigatory Powers Act 2016

## 2016 CHAPTER 25

### PART 2

#### LAWFUL INTERCEPTION OF COMMUNICATIONS

### CHAPTER 1

#### INTERCEPTION AND EXAMINATION WITH A WARRANT

##### *Power to issue warrants*

#### **18 Persons who may apply for issue of a warrant**

- (1) Each of the following is an “intercepting authority” for the purposes of this Part—
  - (a) a person who is the head of an intelligence service;
  - (b) the Director General of the National Crime Agency;
  - (c) the Commissioner of Police of the Metropolis;
  - (d) the Chief Constable of the Police Service of Northern Ireland;
  - (e) the chief constable of the Police Service of Scotland;
  - (f) the Commissioners for Her Majesty's Revenue and Customs;
  - (g) the Chief of Defence Intelligence;
  - (h) a person who is the competent authority of a country or territory outside the United Kingdom for the purposes of <sup>FI</sup>... an international mutual assistance agreement.
- (2) For the meaning of “head of an intelligence service”, see section 263.
- (3) An application for the issue of a warrant under this Chapter may only be made on behalf of an intercepting authority by a person holding office under the Crown.

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**Changes to legislation:** Investigatory Powers Act 2016, Section 18 is up to date with all changes known to be in force on or before 14 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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#### Textual Amendments

- F1** Words in s. 18(1)(h) omitted (31.12.2020) by virtue of [The Law Enforcement and Security \(Amendment\) \(EU Exit\) Regulations 2019 \(S.I. 2019/742\)](#), regs. 1, **82(4)** (with reg. 83); 2020 c. 1, Sch. 5 para. 1(1)
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#### Commencement Information

- I1** S. 18(1)(a)(g)(2)(3) in force at 31.5.2018 by [S.I. 2018/652](#), **reg. 3(d)**
- I2** S. 18(1)(b)-(f)(h) in force at 30.8.2018 by [S.I. 2018/940](#), **reg. 2(1)(a)** (with reg. 2(2))

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