



# Investigatory Powers Act 2016

## 2016 CHAPTER 25

### PART 5

#### EQUIPMENT INTERFERENCE

##### *Supplementary provision*

#### 135 Part 5: interpretation

(1) In this Part—

“communication” includes—

- (a) anything comprising speech, music, sounds, visual images or data of any description, and
- (b) signals serving either for the impartation of anything between persons, between a person and a thing or between things or for the actuation or control of any apparatus;

“equipment” means equipment producing electromagnetic, acoustic or other emissions or any device capable of being used in connection with such equipment;

“equipment data” has the meaning given by section 100;

“private information” includes information relating to a person's private or family life;

“protected material”, in relation to a targeted examination warrant, has the meaning given by section 99(9);

“senior official” means—

- (a) in the case of a targeted equipment interference warrant which is or may be issued by the Secretary of State or a law enforcement chief, or in the case of a targeted examination warrant which is or may be issued by the Secretary of State, a member of the Senior Civil Service or a member of the Senior Management Structure of Her Majesty's Diplomatic Service;
- (b) in the case of a targeted equipment interference warrant or a targeted examination warrant which is or may be issued by the Scottish Ministers,

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**Changes to legislation:** *Investigatory Powers Act 2016, Section 135 is up to date with all changes known to be in force on or before 28 April 2024. 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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a member of the staff of the Scottish Administration who is a member of the Senior Civil Service;

“targeted examination warrant” has the meaning given by section 99(9).

(2) See also—

section 261 (telecommunications definitions),

section 263 (general definitions),

section 264 (general definitions: “journalistic material” etc.),

section 265 (index of defined expressions).

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#### **Commencement Information**

**II** S. 135 in force at 31.5.2018 by [S.I. 2018/652](#), **reg. 4(p)**

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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):

- s. 58(4)(e) inserted by [2023 c. 41 Sch. 13 para. 9](#)