

*These notes refer to the Freedom of Information Act 2000
(c.36) which received Royal Assent on 30th November 2000*

FREEDOM OF INFORMATION ACT 2000

EXPLANATORY NOTES

COMMENTARY ON SECTIONS

Part I: Access to information held by public authorities

Right to information

Section 12: Exemption where cost of compliance exceeds appropriate limit

57. This section exempts public authorities from the obligation to disclose the information requested, if the cost of doing so exceeds a threshold prescribed by the Secretary of State. It allows the Secretary of State to prescribe different amounts for different authorities. It enables the Secretary of State to make regulations to allow authorities to aggregate the costs of requests for information where two or more requests are made by one person, or by two or more persons acting together. It also enables the Secretary of State to make regulations governing the matters to be taken into account in calculating the costs, and the manner in which they are to be estimated.