



Inquiries Act 2005

2005 CHAPTER 12

Inquiry proceedings

18 Public access to inquiry proceedings and information

- (1) Subject to any restrictions imposed by a notice or order under section 19, the chairman must take such steps as he considers reasonable to secure that members of the public (including reporters) are able—
 - (a) to attend the inquiry or to see and hear a simultaneous transmission of proceedings at the inquiry;
 - (b) to obtain or to view a record of evidence and documents given, produced or provided to the inquiry or inquiry panel.
- (2) No recording or broadcast of proceedings at an inquiry may be made except—
 - (a) at the request of the chairman, or
 - (b) with the permission of the chairman and in accordance with any terms on which permission is given.

Any such request or permission must be framed so as not to enable a person to see or hear by means of a recording or broadcast anything that he is prohibited by a notice under section 19 from seeing or hearing.

- (3) Section 32(2) of the Freedom of Information Act 2000 (c. 36) (certain inquiry records etc exempt from obligations under that Act) does not apply in relation to information contained in documents that, in pursuance of rules under section 41(1)(b) below, have been passed to and are held by a public authority.
- (4) Section 37(1)(b) of the Freedom of Information (Scotland) Act 2002 (asp 13) (certain inquiry records etc exempt from obligations under that Act) does not apply in relation to information contained in documents that, in pursuance of rules under section 41(1)(b) below, have been passed to and are held by a Scottish public authority.

Changes to legislation:

There are currently no known outstanding effects for the Inquiries Act 2005, Section 18.