

# Serious Organised Crime and Police Act 2005

## **2005 CHAPTER 15**

### PART 2

INVESTIGATIONS, PROSECUTIONS, PROCEEDINGS AND PROCEEDS OF CRIME

### **CHAPTER 1**

INVESTIGATORY POWERS OF DPP, ETC.

# Introductory

# Offences to which this Chapter applies

- (1) This Chapter applies to the following offences—
  - (a) any offence listed in Schedule 2 to the Proceeds of Crime Act 2002 (c. 29) (lifestyle offences: England and Wales);
  - (b) any offence listed in Schedule 4 to that Act (lifestyle offences: Scotland);
  - (c) any offence under sections 15 to 18 of the Terrorism Act 2000 (c. 11) (offences relating to fund-raising, money laundering etc.);
  - (d) any offence under section 170 of the Customs and Excise Management Act 1979 (c. 2) (fraudulent evasion of duty) or section 72 of the Value Added Tax Act 1994 (c. 23) (offences relating to VAT) which is a qualifying offence;
  - (e) any offence under section 17 of the Theft Act 1968 (c. 60) (false accounting), or any offence at common law of cheating in relation to the public revenue, which is a qualifying offence;
  - (f) any offence under section 1 of the Criminal Attempts Act 1981 (c. 47), or in Scotland at common law, of attempting to commit any offence in paragraph (c) or any offence in paragraph (d) or (e) which is a qualifying offence;

Status: This is the original version (as it was originally enacted).

- (g) any offence under section 1 of the Criminal Law Act 1977 (c. 45), or in Scotland at common law, of conspiracy to commit any offence in paragraph (c) or any offence in paragraph (d) or (e) which is a qualifying offence.
- (2) For the purposes of subsection (1) an offence in paragraph (d) or (e) of that subsection is a qualifying offence if the Investigating Authority certifies that in his opinion—
  - (a) in the case of an offence in paragraph (d) or an offence of cheating the public revenue, the offence involved or would have involved a loss, or potential loss, to the public revenue of an amount not less than £5,000;
  - (b) in the case of an offence under section 17 of the Theft Act 1968 (c. 60), the offence involved or would have involved a loss or gain, or potential loss or gain, of an amount not less than £5,000.
- (3) A document purporting to be a certificate under subsection (2) is to be received in evidence and treated as such a certificate unless the contrary is proved.
- (4) The Secretary of State may by order—
  - (a) amend subsection (1), in its application to England and Wales, so as to remove an offence from it or add an offence to it;
  - (b) amend subsection (2), in its application to England and Wales, so as to—
    - (i) take account of any amendment made by virtue of paragraph (a) above, or
    - (ii) vary the sums for the time being specified in subsection (2)(a) and (b).
- (5) The Scottish Ministers may by order—
  - (a) amend subsection (1), in its application to Scotland, so as to remove an offence from it or add an offence to it:
  - (b) amend subsection (2), in its application to Scotland, so as to—
    - (i) take account of any amendment made by virtue of paragraph (a) above or
    - (ii) vary the sums for the time being specified in subsection (2)(a) and (b).