



Police Act 1997

1997 CHAPTER 50

PART III

AUTHORISATION OF ACTION IN RESPECT OF PROPERTY

Authorisations requiring approval

98 Matters subject to legal privilege.

- (1) Subject to subsection (5) below, in section 97 “matters subject to legal privilege” means matters to which subsection (2), (3) or (4) below applies.
- (2) This subsection applies to communications between a professional legal adviser and—
 - (a) his client, or
 - (b) any person representing his client,which are made in connection with the giving of legal advice to the client.
- (3) This subsection applies to communications—
 - (a) between a professional legal adviser and his client or any person representing his client, or
 - (b) between a professional legal adviser or his client or any such representative and any other person,which are made in connection with or in contemplation of legal proceedings and for the purposes of such proceedings.
- (4) This subsection applies to items enclosed with or referred to in communications of the kind mentioned in subsection (2) or (3) and made—
 - (a) in connection with the giving of legal advice, or
 - (b) in connection with or in contemplation of legal proceedings and for the purposes of such proceedings.
- (5) For the purposes of section 97—

Changes to legislation: Police Act 1997, Section 98 is up to date with all changes known to be in force on or before 09 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](#)

- (a) communications and items are not matters subject to legal privilege when they are in the possession of a person who is not entitled to possession of them, and
- (b) communications and items held, or oral communications made, with the intention of furthering a criminal purpose are not matters subject to legal privilege.

Changes to legislation:

Police Act 1997, Section 98 is up to date with all changes known to be in force on or before 09 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.

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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. 112(2A) inserted by [2011 c. 24 \(N.I.\) s. 101](#)
- s. 112(2A) inserted by [2009 c. 26 s. 93](#) (This amendment not applied to [legislation.gov.uk](#). S. 93 repealed (10.9.2012) without ever being in force by 2012 c. 9, ss. 79(1), 120, Sch. 10 Pt. 6; S.I. 2012/2234, art. 2(cc))
- s. 113(3)(e) words inserted by [S.S.I. 2006/50 art. 2\(2\)](#)
- s. 113(3G) inserted by [2002 c. 32 Sch. 12 para. 14](#)
- s. 113(3G) inserted by 2002 c. 32, Sch. 12 para. 14 (as extended) by [2003 asp 5 s. 12\(1\)\(c\)](#)
- s. 113(3EA)(3EB) inserted by [S.I. 2003/417 \(N.I.\) art. 17\(4\)](#)
- s. 113(3EC)(3ED) inserted by [S.I. 2003/417 \(N.I.\) art. 47\(3\)](#)
- s. 113(4A) inserted by [2003 c. 44 Sch. 35 para. 3\(3\)](#)
- s. 113(4A) insertion by 2003 c. 44, Sch. 35 para. 3(3) extended to N.I. by [2005 c. 15 s. 167\(a\)](#)
- s. 113A(6A)-(6C) inserted by [2011 asp 1 s. 188\(b\)](#)
- s. 115(5)(ec) inserted by [2002 c. 32 Sch. 12 para. 15\(2\)](#)
- s. 115(5)(ec) inserted by 2002 c. 32, Sch. 12 para. 15(2) (as extended) by [2003 asp 5 s. 12\(1\)\(c\)](#)
- s. 115(5)(ga) inserted by [2001 c. 12 s. 21](#) (Amendment not applied to [legislation.gov.uk](#). S. 21 repealed (6.4.2006 for E.W.) by 2003 c. 44, Sch. 37 Pt. 11; S.I. 2006/751, art. 2(d))
- s. 115(6BB) inserted by [2002 c. 32 Sch. 12 para. 15\(3\)](#)
- s. 115(6BB) inserted by 2002 c. 32, Sch. 12 para. 15(3) (as extended) by [2003 asp 5 s. 12\(1\)\(c\)](#)
- s. 115(6EA) inserted by [S.I. 2003/417 \(N.I.\) art. 17\(5\)](#)
- s. 115(6EB) inserted by [S.I. 2003/417 \(N.I.\) art. 47\(4\)](#)
- s. 115(9A)(9B) inserted by [2003 c. 44 Sch. 35 para. 4\(5\)](#)
- s. 115(9A)(9B) insertion by 2003 c. 44, Sch. 35 para. 4(5) extended to N.I. by [2005 c. 15 s. 167\(a\)](#)
- s. 118(2ZA) inserted by [2009 c. 26 s. 95](#)
- s. 118(2ZA) words substituted by [S.I. 2012/3006 art. 37\(j\)](#) (This amendment not applied to [legislation.gov.uk](#). The insertion of s. 118(2ZA) by 2009 c. 26, s. 95 is still prospective)
- s. 121(a) inserted by [2006 asp 10 s. 3\(8\)\(a\)](#)
- Sch. 8B para. 102(ea) inserted by [2023 c. 47 s. 3\(2\)](#)