STATUTORY INSTRUMENTS

2024 No. 1225

HOUSING, ENGLAND

The Allocation of Housing (Qualification Criteria for Armed Forces) (England) (Amendment) Regulations 2024

Made - - - -	*26th November 2024*
Laid before Parliament	*27th November 2024*
Coming into force	*18th December 2024*

The Secretary of State makes these Regulations in exercise of the powers conferred by section 160ZA(8)(b) of the Housing Act 1996(**a**).

Citation, commencement and extent

1.—(1) These Regulations may be cited as the Allocation of Housing (Qualification Criteria for Armed Forces) (England) (Amendment) Regulations 2024 and come into force on 18th December 2024.

(2) These Regulations extend to England and Wales.

Amendment of the Allocation of Housing (Qualification Criteria for Armed Forces) (England) Regulations 2012

2. In regulation 3(3)(a) of the Allocation of Housing (Qualification Criteria for Armed Forces) (England) Regulations 2012(**b**), omit the words from "within" to the end.

Signed by authority of the Secretary of State for Housing, Communities and Local Government

Matthew Pennycook
Minister of State
26th November 2024 Ministry of Housing, Communities and Local Government

EXPLANATORY NOTE

(This note is not part of the Regulations)

Section 160ZA of the Housing Act 1996 (c. 52) provides that a local housing authority in England may only allocate housing to eligible and qualifying persons. Section 160ZA(7) gives local housing authorities the power to decide what classes of persons are, or are not, qualifying persons, subject to eligibility requirements and regulations under section 160ZA(8).

The Allocation of Housing (Qualification Criteria for Armed Forces) (England) Regulations 2012 (S.I. 2012/1869) ("the principal Regulations") prescribe criteria which local housing authorities

(**a**) 1996 c. 52; section 160ZA was inserted by section 146(1) of the Localism Act 2011 (c. 20).
(**b**) S.I. 2012/1869.

may not use in deciding what classes of persons do not qualify for an allocation of housing. They provide that a local housing authority may not, for that purpose, apply a local connection test to certain persons in or connected to the armed forces, including veterans who have served in the regular armed forces in the five years preceding their application for an allocation of housing.

These Regulations amend the principal Regulations to expand the cohort of veterans of the regular armed forces to whom a local connection test may not be applied. Their effect is that a local housing authority cannot apply a local connection test to any veteran of the regular armed forces when determining whether they qualify for an allocation of housing, regardless of when they last served in those forces.

A full impact assessment has not been produced for this instrument as no, or no significant, impact on the private, voluntary or public sector is foreseen.

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