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**Changes to legislation:** Equality Act 2010, Paragraph 27 is up to date with all changes known to be in force on or before 18 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

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## SCHEDULES

### SCHEDULE 3

#### SERVICES AND PUBLIC FUNCTIONS: EXCEPTIONS

#### PART 7

#### [<sup>F1</sup> SEPARATE, SINGLE AND CONCESSIONARY SERVICES, ETC]

##### Textual Amendments

- F1** Sch. 3 Pt. 7 heading substituted (1.10.2012) by virtue of [The Equality Act 2010 \(Age Exceptions\) Order 2012 \(S.I. 2012/2466\)](#), [art. 4](#)

#### *Single-sex services*

- 27 (1) A person does not contravene section 29, so far as relating to sex discrimination, by providing a service only to persons of one sex if—
- (a) any of the conditions in sub-paragraphs (2) to (7) is satisfied, and
  - (b) the limited provision is a proportionate means of achieving a legitimate aim.
- (2) The condition is that only persons of that sex have need of the service.
- (3) The condition is that—
- (a) the service is also provided jointly for persons of both sexes, and
  - (b) the service would be insufficiently effective were it only to be provided jointly.
- (4) The condition is that—
- (a) a joint service for persons of both sexes would be less effective, and
  - (b) the extent to which the service is required by persons of each sex makes it not reasonably practicable to provide separate services.
- (5) The condition is that the service is provided at a place which is, or is part of—
- (a) a hospital, or
  - (b) another establishment for persons requiring special care, supervision or attention.
- (6) The condition is that—
- (a) the service is provided for, or is likely to be used by, two or more persons at the same time, and
  - (b) the circumstances are such that a person of one sex might reasonably object to the presence of a person of the opposite sex.
- (7) The condition is that—

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- (a) there is likely to be physical contact between a person (A) to whom the service is provided and another person (B), and
  - (b) B might reasonably object if A were not of the same sex as B.
- (8) This paragraph applies to a person exercising a public function in relation to the provision of a service as it applies to the person providing the service.

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**Commencement Information**

- II** Sch. 3 wholly in force at 1.10.2012; Sch. 3 not in force at Royal assent see s. 216; Sch. 3 in force at 1.10.2010 for certain purposes by [S.I. 2010/2317](#), [art. 2\(3\)](#); Sch. 3 in force so far as not already in force at 1.10.2012 by [S.I. 2012/1569](#), [art. 2\(d\)](#)

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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. 40A inserted by [2023 c. 51 s. 1](#)
- s. 120(9) inserted by [2023 c. 51 s. 2\(b\)](#)
- s. 124A inserted by [2023 c. 51 s. 3](#)