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**Changes to legislation:** Equality Act 2010, Cross Heading: Single-sex services is up to date with all changes known to be in force on or before 11 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](#)