



# Housing Act 1996

## 1996 CHAPTER 52

### PART VII **E+W**

#### HOMELESSNESS

##### *Homelessness and threatened homelessness*

#### **178** Meaning of associated person. **E+W**

- (1) For the purposes of this Part, a person is associated with another person if—
- (a) they are or have been married to each other;
  - [<sup>F1</sup>(aa) they are or have been civil partners of each other;]
  - (b) they are cohabitants or former cohabitants;
  - (c) they live or have lived in the same household;
  - (d) they are relatives;
  - (e) they have agreed to marry one another (whether or not that agreement has been terminated);
  - [<sup>F2</sup>(ea) they have entered into a civil partnership agreement between them (whether or not that agreement has been terminated);]
  - (f) in relation to a child, each of them is a parent of the child or has, or has had, parental responsibility for the child.
- (2) If a child has been adopted or has been freed for adoption by virtue of any of the enactments mentioned in section 16(1) of the <sup>M1</sup>Adoption Act 1976, two persons are also associated with each other for the purposes of this Part if—
- (a) one is a natural parent of the child or a parent of such a natural parent, and
  - (b) the other is the child or a person—
    - (i) who has become a parent of the child by virtue of an adoption order or who has applied for an adoption order, or
    - (ii) with whom the child has at any time been placed for adoption.
- (3) In this section—

*Status: Point in time view as at 05/12/2005. This version of this provision has been superseded.*

*Changes to legislation: Housing Act 1996, Section 178 is up to date with all changes known to be in force on or before 19 August 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)*

“adoption order” has the meaning given by section 72(1) of the Adoption Act 1976;

“child” means a person under the age of 18 years;

[<sup>F3</sup>“civil partnership agreement” has the meaning given by section 73 of the Civil Partnership Act 2004;]

[<sup>F4</sup>“cohabitants” means—

(a) a man and a woman who, although not married to each other, are living together as husband and wife, or

(b) two people of the same sex who, although not civil partners of each other, are living together as if they were civil partners;

and “former cohabitants” shall be construed accordingly;]

“parental responsibility” has the same meaning as in the <sup>M2</sup>Children Act 1989; and

“relative”, in relation to a person, means—

(a) the father, mother, stepfather, stepmother, son, daughter, stepson, stepdaughter, grandmother, grandfather, grandson or granddaughter of that person or of that person’s [<sup>F5</sup> spouse, civil partner, former spouse or former civil partner ], or

(b) the brother, sister, uncle, aunt, niece or nephew (whether of the full blood or of the half blood or by [<sup>F6</sup> marriage or civil partnership ]) of that person or of that person’s [<sup>F5</sup> spouse, civil partner, former spouse or former civil partner ],

and includes, in relation to a person who is living or has lived with another person as husband and wife, a person who would fall within paragraph (a) or (b) if the parties were married to each other.

#### Textual Amendments

- F1** S. 178(1)(aa) inserted (5.12.2005) by [Civil Partnership Act 2004 \(c. 33\)](#), s. 263(2), [Sch. 8 para. 61\(2\)](#); [S.I. 2005/3175](#), art. 2(1), [Sch. 1](#)
- F2** S. 178(1)(ea) inserted (5.12.2005) by [Civil Partnership Act 2004 \(c. 33\)](#), s. 263(2), [Sch. 8 para. 61\(3\)](#); [S.I. 2005/3175](#), art. 2(1), [Sch. 1](#)
- F3** Words in s. 178(3) inserted (5.12.2005) by [Civil Partnership Act 2004 \(c. 33\)](#), s. 263(2), [Sch. 8 para. 61\(4\)](#); [S.I. 2005/3175](#), art. 2(1), [Sch. 1](#)
- F4** Words in s. 178(3) substituted (5.12.2005) by [Civil Partnership Act 2004 \(c. 33\)](#), s. 263(2), [Sch. 8 para. 61\(5\)](#); [S.I. 2005/3175](#), art. 2(1), [Sch. 1](#)
- F5** Words in s. 178(3) substituted (5.12.2005) by [Civil Partnership Act 2004 \(c. 33\)](#), s. 263(2), [Sch. 8 para. 61\(6\)](#); [S.I. 2005/3175](#), art. 2(1), [Sch. 1](#)
- F6** Words in s. 178(3) substituted (5.12.2005) by [Civil Partnership Act 2004 \(c. 33\)](#), s. 263(2), [Sch. 8 para. 61\(7\)](#); [S.I. 2005/3175](#), art. 2(1), [Sch. 1](#)

#### Marginal Citations

- M1** 1976 c. 36.  
**M2** 1989 c. 41.

**Status:**

Point in time view as at 05/12/2005. This version of this provision has been superseded.

**Changes to legislation:**

Housing Act 1996, Section 178 is up to date with all changes known to be in force on or before 19 August 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.