



Reserve Forces Act 1996

1996 CHAPTER 14

PART II

ENLISTMENT AND CONDITIONS OF SERVICE

Supplementary

20 Command, posting etc. of men in permanent service.

- (1) Men of a reserve force who are in permanent service shall be placed under the command of such officers as the Defence Council or an authorised officer may direct and may be attached to any body or unit of Her Majesty's armed forces.
- (2) Men of the reserve forces in permanent service may, without their consent—
 - (a) in the case of the reserve naval and marine forces, be drafted or posted, appointed or transferred to any naval or marine body or unit;
 - (b) in the case of the reserve land forces, be posted, appointed or transferred to any military body or unit (including, in the case of a man of the [^{F1}Army Reserve], transfer to any corps);
 - (c) in the case of the reserve air forces, be posted, appointed or transferred to any air-force unit or body,by order of the Defence Council or an authorised officer.
- (3) A man of a reserve force who has been the subject of an order under subsection (2) is entitled, if he continues as a member of that force on being released from permanent service, to be returned with all convenient speed to the corps, unit or body in which he was serving immediately before he was accepted into permanent service.
- (4) In this section “authorised officer” means an officer authorised for the purposes of this section by or in accordance with directions of the Defence Council.

Changes to legislation: Reserve Forces Act 1996, Section 20 is up to date with all changes known to be in force on or before 31 May 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](#)

Textual Amendments

- F1** Words in [Act](#) substituted (1.10.2014) by [Defence Reform Act 2014 \(c. 20\)](#), s. [44\(3\)\(b\)\(4\)](#), [50\(1\)](#) (with s. [49\(4\)](#), Sch. 7 para. [12\(3\)](#)); S.I. 2014/2370, art. [4\(a\)](#)

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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):

- Sch. 2 para. 3(2A) inserted by [2003 c. 44 Sch. 3 para. 65](#)