



# Housing Act 1996

## 1996 CHAPTER 52

### PART VII

#### HOMELESSNESS<sup>[F1]</sup>: ENGLAND]

##### *Right to request review of decision*

#### **204 Right of appeal to county court on point of law.**

- (1) If an applicant who has requested a review under section 202—
- is dissatisfied with the decision on the review, or
  - is not notified of the decision on the review within the time prescribed under section 203,

he may appeal to the county court on any point of law arising from the decision or, as the case may be, the original decision.

- (2) An appeal must be brought within 21 days of his being notified of the decision or, as the case may be, of the date on which he should have been notified of a decision on review.

<sup>[F1]</sup>(2A) The court may give permission for an appeal to be brought after the end of the period allowed by subsection (2), but only if it is satisfied—

- where permission is sought before the end of that period, that there is a good reason for the applicant to be unable to bring the appeal in time; or
- where permission is sought after that time, that there was a good reason for the applicant's failure to bring the appeal in time and for any delay in applying for permission.]

- (3) On appeal the court may make such order confirming, quashing or varying the decision as it thinks fit.

- (4) Where the authority were under a duty under section 188, 190<sup>[F2]</sup>, 199A] or 200 to secure that accommodation is available for the applicant's occupation<sup>[F3]</sup>, <sup>F4</sup>... they may] secure that accommodation is so available—

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**Changes to legislation:** Housing Act 1996, Section 204 is up to date with all changes known to be in force on or before 22 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

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- (a) during the period for appealing under this section against the authority’s decision, and
- (b) if an appeal is brought, until the appeal (and any further appeal) is finally determined.

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**Textual Amendments**

- F1** S. 204(2A) inserted (30.9.2002) by 2002 c. 7, s. 18(1), **Sch. 1 para. 17(a)** (with s. 20(4)); S.I. 2002/1736, art. 2(1), **Sch. Pt. 1**; S.I. 2002/2324, **art. 3** (subject to transitional provisions in art. 4)
- F2** Word in s. 204(4) inserted (3.4.2018) by Homelessness Reduction Act 2017 (c. 13), **ss. 5(11)**, 13(3); S.I. 2018/167, **reg. 3(e)** (with **reg. 4(1)**)
- F3** Words in s. 204(4) substituted (31.7.2002 for E. and 30.9.2002 for W.) by 2002 c. 7, s. 18(1), **Sch. 1 para. 17(b)** (with s. 20(4)); S.I. 2002/1799, **art. 2**; S.I. 2002/1736, art. 2(1), **Sch. Pt. 1**
- F4** Words in s. 204(4) omitted (3.4.2018) by virtue of Homelessness Reduction Act 2017 (c. 13), **ss. 4(6)**, 13(3); S.I. 2018/167, **reg. 3(d)** (with **reg. 4(1)**)

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**Modifications etc. (not altering text)**

- C1** Ss. 183-218 modified (3.4.1997) by S.I. 1997/797, **art. 2(1)**
- C2** S. 204(4) restricted (8.1.2003) by 2002 c. 41, **s. 55(4)(b)** (with s. 159); S.I. 2002/2811, art. 2, **Sch. S. 204(4) restricted (*prosp.*)** by 2002 c. 41, ss. 54, 162(2), **Sch. 3 para. 1(1)(j)** (with s. 159)

**Changes to legislation:**

Housing Act 1996, Section 204 is up to date with all changes known to be in force on or before 22 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.

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**Changes and effects yet to be applied to :**

- specified provision(s) savings for amendments by 2018 anaw 1, s. 6, Sch. 6 by [S.I. 2019/110 reg. 5](#)

**Changes and effects yet to be applied to the whole Act associated Parts and Chapters:**

- Act savings and transitional provisions for amendments by S.I. 2022/1166 by [S.I. 2022/1172 Regulations](#)

Whole provisions yet to be inserted into this Act (including any effects on those provisions):

- s. 124(1A) inserted by [2016 c. 22 Sch. 7 para. 20\(2\)](#)
- s. 124(6) inserted by [2016 c. 22 Sch. 7 para. 20\(6\)](#)
- s. 124A124B inserted by [2016 c. 22 Sch. 7 para. 21](#)
- s. 125A(3A)(3B) inserted by [2016 c. 22 Sch. 7 para. 22\(3\)](#)
- s. 130A inserted by [2016 c. 22 Sch. 8 para. 7](#)
- s. 133(1A) inserted by [2016 c. 22 Sch. 8 para. 9\(2\)](#)
- s. 143J(3A) inserted by [2016 c. 22 Sch. 8 para. 13\(2\)](#)
- s. 143J(7)(a) words omitted by [S.I. 2022/1166 reg. 25\(11\)\(b\)](#) (This amendment comes into force immediately after 2016 c. 22, s. 120 and Sch. 8 para. 13(3) come into force)
- s. 143GA143GB inserted by [2016 c. 22 Sch. 8 para. 10](#)
- s. 143MA(3A)-(3D) inserted by [2016 c. 22 Sch. 7 para. 27\(3\)](#)
- s. 143MB inserted by [2016 c. 22 Sch. 7 para. 28](#)