



# Supported Housing (Regulatory Oversight) Act 2023

## 2023 CHAPTER 26

*Advice, strategy and standards*

### **1 Supported Housing Advisory Panel**

- (1) The Secretary of State must appoint a panel of persons, to be known as “the Supported Housing Advisory Panel”, to provide information and advice about or in connection with supported exempt accommodation to—
  - (a) the Secretary of State,
  - (b) local housing authorities in England, and
  - (c) social services authorities in England.
- (2) The persons appointed under subsection (1) must include—
  - (a) at least one person who appears to the Secretary of State to represent the interests of registered providers of social housing in England,
  - (b) at least one person who appears to the Secretary of State to represent the interests of local housing authorities in England,
  - (c) at least one person who appears to the Secretary of State to represent the interests of social services authorities in England,
  - (d) at least one person who appears to the Secretary of State to represent the interests of charities providing supported exempt accommodation, and
  - (e) at least one person who appears to the Secretary of State to represent the interests of residents (or potential residents) of supported exempt accommodation;but the Secretary of State is not required to appoint different persons under each of paragraphs (a) to (e).
- (3) The Secretary of State must, after complying with [subsection \(2\)](#), and after consulting the existing members of the panel, appoint a person to chair the panel, and the person becomes a member of the panel on appointment.

- (4) The Secretary of State must comply with [subsections \(1\) to \(3\)](#) before the end of the period of one year beginning with the date on which this Act is passed.
- (5) The panel—
  - (a) must provide information or advice on such matters within [subsection \(1\)](#), to such persons within that subsection, as the Secretary of State may direct, and
  - (b) subject to that, may provide such information or advice within [subsection \(1\)](#), to such persons within that subsection, as it considers appropriate (whether or not requested to do so).
- (6) A member of the panel is to hold and vacate office in accordance with the terms and conditions of the member’s appointment which—
  - (a) must include provision requiring the member to declare any financial or other personal interest relevant to the functions of the panel, and
  - (b) may include provision under which the member is paid remuneration or allowances.
- (7) A person appointed to the panel under [subsection \(1\) or \(3\)](#)—
  - (a) is to be appointed for a term not exceeding five years, and
  - (b) may, upon expiry of that term, be reappointed for one further term not exceeding five years.
- (8) In [this section](#) “information and advice about or in connection with supported exempt accommodation” includes information and advice about anything which, in the view of the panel, could have a significant impact on the provision or regulation of supported exempt accommodation.

## **2 Local supported housing strategies**

- (1) A local housing authority in England must—
  - (a) carry out a review of the supported exempt accommodation in its district, and
  - (b) in the light of that review, publish a strategy, to be known as a “supported housing strategy”, for the provision of supported exempt accommodation in its district.
- (2) A local housing authority—
  - (a) must comply with [subsection \(1\)](#) before such date as may be specified in regulations made by the Secretary of State, and
  - (b) subsequently, must comply with that subsection before the end of each five-year period beginning with the day on which it published its most recent supported housing strategy.
- (3) A supported housing strategy must, in particular, include—
  - (a) the local housing authority’s assessment of—
    - (i) the current availability of supported exempt accommodation in its district, and
    - (ii) the likely need for supported exempt accommodation in its district during the period of five years beginning with the date on which the strategy is published;
  - (b) such other matters as may be specified in regulations made by the Secretary of State.

- (4) The social services authority in respect of a district in England must give the local housing authority for that district (where that is a different authority) such assistance in connection with the carrying out of its duties under [this section](#) as the local housing authority may reasonably require.
- (5) A local housing authority in England must have regard to its supported housing strategy in the exercise of its functions.
- (6) A social services authority in England must, in the exercise of its social services functions—
  - (a) where it is also a local housing authority, have regard to its supported housing strategy, or
  - (b) in any other case, have regard to the supported housing strategy of each local housing authority in respect of whose district it is the social services authority.
- (7) The Secretary of State may issue guidance—
  - (a) applicable to local housing authorities or social services authorities generally, or
  - (b) applicable to specified descriptions of local housing authorities or social services authorities,in relation to the exercise of their functions under [this section](#).
- (8) A local housing authority or a social services authority must have regard to any guidance issued under [subsection \(7\)](#) that is applicable to it.
- (9) A statutory instrument containing regulations under this section is subject to annulment in pursuance of a resolution of either House of Parliament.

### **3 National Supported Housing Standards**

- (1) The Secretary of State may prepare and publish national standards for England, to be known as “National Supported Housing Standards”, in relation to any aspect of the provision of supported exempt accommodation.
- (2) National Supported Housing Standards may, in particular, set minimum standards in respect of—
  - (a) the type or condition of premises used for the provision of supported exempt accommodation, or
  - (b) the provision of care, support or supervision at supported exempt accommodation.
- (3) The Secretary of State must keep National Supported Housing Standards under review and may, whenever the Secretary of State considers appropriate—
  - (a) prepare and publish amended or replacement standards, or
  - (b) withdraw standards.
- (4) The Secretary of State may publish or withdraw a standard by such means as the Secretary of State considers appropriate for bringing the publication or withdrawal to the attention of persons likely to be affected by it.