

---

STATUTORY INSTRUMENTS

---

**2003 No. 1417**

**The Land Registration Rules 2003**

**PART 15**

**GENERAL PROVISIONS**

*Retention and return of documents*

**Retention of documents on completion of an application**

**203.**—(1) Subject to paragraphs (2) to (5), on completion of any application the registrar may retain all or any of the documents that accompanied the application and must return all other such documents to the applicant or as otherwise specified in the application.

(2) When making an application, an applicant or his conveyancer may request the return of all or any of the documents accompanying the application.

(3) Except on an application for first registration, a person making a request under paragraph (2) must deliver with the application certified copies of the documents which are the subject of the request.

(4) On an application for first registration, a person making a request under paragraph (2) for the return of any statutory declaration, subsisting lease, subsisting charge or the latest document of title must deliver with the application certified copies of any such documents as are the subject of the request, but shall not be required to deliver copies of any other documents.

(5) Subject to the delivery of any certified copies required under paragraphs (3) or (4), the registrar must comply with any request made under paragraph (2).

(6) The registrar may destroy any document retained under paragraph (1) if he is satisfied that either—

- (a) he has made and retained a sufficient copy of the document, or
- (b) further retention of the document is unnecessary.

(7) If the registrar considers that he no longer requires delivery of certified copies of documents, or classes of documents, under this rule he may, in such manner as he thinks appropriate for informing persons who wish to make applications, give notice to that effect and on and after the date specified in such notice—

- (a) the requirement under this rule to deliver certified copies of the documents covered by the notice no longer applies, and
- (b) the registrar may amend any Schedule 1 form to reflect that fact.

(8) In paragraph (4) the “latest document of title” means the document vesting the estate sought to be registered in the applicant or where the estate vested in the applicant by operation of law the most recent document that vested the estate in a predecessor of the applicant.