
STATUTORY INSTRUMENTS

2021 No. 991

The Domestic Abuse Support (Relevant Accommodation and Housing Benefit and Universal Credit Sanctuary Schemes) (Amendment) Regulations 2021

PART 3

Housing Benefit and Universal Credit: Sanctuary Schemes

Amendments to the Universal Credit Regulations 2013

4. In paragraph 36 of Schedule 4 to the Universal Credit Regulations 2013⁽¹⁾, after subparagraph (5) insert—

- (a) “(6) No deduction for under occupation is to be made in calculating the amount of a renter’s housing cost element under this part where—
- (i) domestic violence has been inflicted upon or threatened against the claimant or a member of the claimant’s extended benefit unit⁽²⁾ (“the victim”) by that person’s partner or former partner, or by a relative;
 - (ii) the victim is not living at the same address as the person who inflicted or threatened the domestic violence, except where that person is a qualifying young person and is a dependant of a member of the claimant’s extended benefit unit; and
 - (iii) the claimant provides evidence from a person acting in an official capacity which demonstrates that the claimant is living in a property adapted under a sanctuary scheme and—
 - (aa) the victim’s circumstances are consistent with those of a person who has had domestic violence inflicted upon or threatened against them; and
 - (bb) the victim has made contact with the person acting in an official capacity in relation to such an incident;

(b) in this paragraph—

“domestic violence” and “person acting in an official capacity” have the meaning given to them in regulation 98(4)⁽³⁾ of these Regulations;

“relative” has the meaning given by section 63(1) of the Family Law Act 1996;

“sanctuary scheme” means a scheme operated by a provider of social housing enabling victims of domestic violence to remain in their homes through the installation of

⁽¹⁾ [S.I. 2013/376](#).

⁽²⁾ “Extended benefit unit” is defined in paragraph 2 of Schedule 4 to the Universal Credit Regulations 2013 ([S.I. 2013/376](#)).

⁽³⁾ Relevant amending instrument is [S.I. 2013/1508](#).

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additional security to the property or the perimeter of the property at which the victim resides.”.