



Housing Act 1996

1996 CHAPTER 52

PART VII

HOMELESSNESS

Duties to persons found to be homeless or threatened with homelessness

191 **Becoming homeless intentionally**

- (1) A person becomes homeless intentionally if he deliberately does or fails to do anything in consequence of which he ceases to occupy accommodation which is available for his occupation and which it would have been reasonable for him to continue to occupy.
- (2) For the purposes of subsection (1) an act or omission in good faith on the part of a person who was unaware of any relevant fact shall not be treated as deliberate.
- (3) A person shall be treated as becoming homeless intentionally if—
 - (a) he enters into an arrangement under which he is required to cease to occupy accommodation which it would have been reasonable for him to continue to occupy, and
 - (b) the purpose of the arrangement is to enable him to become entitled to assistance under this Part,and there is no other good reason why he is homeless.
- (4) A person who is given advice or assistance under section 197 (duty where other suitable alternative accommodation available), but fails to secure suitable accommodation in circumstances in which it was reasonably to be expected that he would do so, shall, if he makes a further application under this Part, be treated as having become homeless intentionally.