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STATUTORY RULES OF NORTHERN IRELAND

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**2012 No. 192**

**The Building Regulations (Northern Ireland) 2012**

**PART R**

Access to and use of buildings

**Application and interpretation**

**90.**—(1) Subject to paragraphs (2), (3) and (4) this Part shall apply to any building or part of a building.

(2) This Part shall not apply to—

- (a) any garage or outbuilding associated with a dwelling;
- (b) any part of a building which is used solely to enable the building or any service or fitting in the building to be inspected, maintained or repaired; and
- (c) the alteration or extension of an existing dwelling to which this Part did not apply when the dwelling was erected other than where the alteration or extension affects a facility suitable for use by people with an impairment of mobility, hearing or sight, in the existing building.

(3) The requirements of regulation 92 shall not apply to—

- (a) a dwelling; and
- (b) any building that is being extended where reasonable provision for access to the extension is provided through the building being extended.

(4) The requirements of regulation 93 shall not apply to—

- (a) a dwelling; and
- (b) an extension to a building where there is provision for suitable sanitary accommodation in the building being extended and all users of the extension can gain access to and use that sanitary accommodation.

(5) In this Part—

“Dwelling” means a house or flat;

“Entrance storey” in a dwelling means the storey which contains the principal entrance for the dwelling;

“Independent access” to a part of or extension to a building means a route of access to that part or extension which does not require the user to pass through any other part of the building;

“Principal entrance” in relation to a dwelling means the entrance a visitor (not familiar with the dwelling) will normally expect to use to enter it;

“Principal storey” in a dwelling means the storey nearest to the entrance storey which contains a habitable room, or if there are two such storeys equally near, either such storey;

“Sanitary accommodation” has the meaning assigned to it by regulation 84 in Part P; and

“Sanitary convenience” means a water closet and washbasin.

### **Access and use**

**91.** Reasonable provision shall be made for people to have access to, into, within and to use a building and its facilities:

Provided that in a dwelling this requirement shall be limited to the entrance storey or, where that storey contains no habitable room, to the principal storey.

### **Access to extensions**

**92.** Reasonable provision shall be made for independent access to an extension to a building.

### **Sanitary accommodation in extensions**

**93.** Where sanitary accommodation is provided in a building, reasonable provision shall be made for the provision of suitable sanitary accommodation in any extension to the building.

### **Sanitary conveniences in dwellings**

**94.** In a dwelling a sanitary convenience shall be provided—

- (a) in the entrance storey; or
- (b) where the entrance storey contains no habitable rooms – in the principal storey.