



Housing Act 2004

2004 CHAPTER 34

PART 7

SUPPLEMENTARY AND FINAL PROVISIONS

Meaning of “house in multiple occupation”

259 HMOs: persons treated as occupying premises as only or main residence

- (1) This section sets out when persons are to be treated for the purposes of section 254 as occupying a building or part of a building as their only or main residence.
- (2) A person is to be treated as so occupying a building or part of a building if it is occupied by the person—
 - (a) as the person’s residence for the purpose of undertaking a full-time course of further or higher education;
 - (b) as a refuge, or
 - (c) in any other circumstances which are circumstances of a description specified for the purposes of this section in regulations made by the appropriate national authority.
- (3) In subsection (2)(b) “refuge” means a building or part of a building managed by a voluntary organisation and used wholly or mainly for the temporary accommodation of persons who have left their homes as a result of—
 - (a) physical violence or mental abuse, or
 - (b) threats of such violence or abuse,from persons to whom they are or were married or with whom they are or were co-habiting.