



Greater London Authority Act 1999

1999 CHAPTER 29

PART I

THE GREATER LONDON AUTHORITY

Qualifications and disqualifications

20 Qualification to be the Mayor or an Assembly member.

- (1) Subject to any disqualification by virtue of this Act or any other enactment, a person is qualified to be elected and to be the Mayor or an Assembly member if he satisfies the requirements of subsections (2) to (4) below.
- (2) The person must be—
 - (a) a [^{F1} qualifying] Commonwealth citizen;
 - (b) a citizen of the Republic of Ireland; or
 - (c) [^{F2} qualifying EU citizen or an EU citizen with retained rights].
- (3) On the relevant day, the person must have attained the age of [^{F3} 18] years.
- (4) The person must satisfy at least one of the following conditions—
 - (a) on the relevant day he is, and from that day continues to be, a local government elector for Greater London;
 - (b) he has, during the whole of the twelve months preceding that day, occupied as owner or tenant any land or other premises in Greater London;
 - (c) his principal or only place of work during that twelve months has been in Greater London;
 - (d) he has during the whole of that twelve months resided in Greater London.
- (5) This section applies in relation to being returned as a London member under section 11 above otherwise than at an election as it applies in relation to being elected.

Changes to legislation: Greater London Authority Act 1999, Section 20 is up to date with all changes known to be in force on or before 23 April 2024. There are changes that may be brought into force at a future date. Changes that have been made appear in the content and are referenced with annotations. (See end of Document for details) View outstanding changes

- (6) References in this section to election shall accordingly be construed as if a London member so returned were elected at an election on the day on which he is to be treated as returned.
- (7) In the application of this section by virtue of subsection (5) above, any reference to the day on which a person is nominated as a candidate shall be taken as a reference to the day on which notification of the person's name is given under section 11(3) above by the Greater London returning officer.
- [^{F4}(7A) For the purposes of this section, a person is a qualifying Commonwealth citizen if he is a Commonwealth citizen who either—
- (a) is not a person who requires leave under the Immigration Act 1971 to enter or remain in the United Kingdom, or
 - (b) is such a person but for the time being has (or is, by virtue of any enactment, to be treated as having) indefinite leave to remain within the meaning of that Act.
- (7B) But a person is not a qualifying Commonwealth citizen by virtue of subsection (7A)
- (a) if he does not require leave to enter or remain in the United Kingdom by virtue only of section 8 of the Immigration Act 1971 (exceptions to requirement for leave in special cases).]

(8) In this section—

^{F5} ...

the relevant day, in relation to any candidate, means—

 - (a) the day on which he is nominated as a candidate and also, if there is a poll, the day of the election; or
 - (b) if the election is not preceded by the nomination of candidates, the day of the election.

[^{F6}“qualifying EU citizen” and “EU citizen with retained rights” have the same meaning as in the Representation of the People Act 1983 (see sections 203A and 203B of that Act);]

Textual Amendments

- F1** Word in s. 20(2)(a) inserted (1.1.2007 for E.W.S., 1.7.2008 for N.I.) by [Electoral Administration Act 2006 \(c. 22\)](#), s. 77(2), [Sch. 1 para. 42\(2\)](#); S.I. 2006/3412, art. 3, [Sch. 1 para. 14\(bb\)\(i\)](#) (with [Sch. 2 para. 1](#)); S.I. 2008/1316, arts. 2(2), 4(z)(i)
- F2** Words in s. 20(2)(c) substituted (1.11.2023 for specified purposes) by [Elections Act 2022 \(c. 37\)](#), s. 67(1), [Sch. 8 para. 4\(a\)](#); S.I. 2023/1145, reg. 3(i)(iii)
- F3** Word in s. 20(3) substituted (1.1.2007 for E.W.S., 7.2.2007 for N.I.) by [Electoral Administration Act 2006 \(c. 22\)](#), [ss. 17\(5\)](#), 77(2); S.I. 2006/3412, art. 3, [Sch. 1 para. 14\(d\)](#) (with [Sch. 2 para. 1](#)); S.I. 2007/230, art. 2
- F4** S. 20(7A)(7B) inserted (1.1.2007 for E.W.S., 1.7.2008 for N.I.) by [Electoral Administration Act 2006 \(c. 22\)](#), s. 77(2), [Sch. 1 para. 42\(3\)](#); S.I. 2006/3412, art. 3, [Sch. 1 para. 14\(bb\)\(i\)](#) (with [Sch. 2 para. 1](#)); S.I. 2008/1316, arts. 2(2), 4(z)(i)
- F5** Words in s. 20(8) omitted (1.11.2023 for specified purposes) by virtue of [Elections Act 2022 \(c. 37\)](#), s. 67(1), [Sch. 8 para. 4\(b\)\(i\)](#); S.I. 2023/1145, reg. 3(i)(iii)
- F6** Words in s. 20(8) inserted (1.11.2023 for specified purposes) by [Elections Act 2022 \(c. 37\)](#), s. 67(1), [Sch. 8 para. 4\(b\)\(ii\)](#); S.I. 2023/1145, reg. 3(i)(iii)

Changes to legislation:

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Changes and effects yet to be applied to :

- s. 20 savings for the effects of the amendment by 2022 c. 37, Sch. 8 paras. 3-5 by [S.I. 2023/1406 reg. 1718](#)

Changes and effects yet to be applied to the whole Act associated Parts and Chapters:

Whole provisions yet to be inserted into this Act (including any effects on those provisions):

- s. 334(2A)-(2E) substituted for s. 334(2)-(6) by [2023 c. 55 s. 95\(2\)](#)
- s. 334(9)-(11) inserted by [2023 c. 55 s. 95\(3\)](#)
- s. 337(1A) inserted by [2023 c. 55 s. 96\(1\)\(c\)](#)
- s. 337(2)(ca) inserted by [2023 c. 55 Sch. 6 para. 15](#)
- Sch. 23 para. 1(3A) inserted by [2023 c. 55 s. 244\(2\)](#)
- Sch. 23 para. 3A3B and cross-heading inserted by [2023 c. 55 s. 244\(3\)](#)
- Sch. 23 para. 4(2A)(2B) inserted by [2023 c. 55 s. 244\(4\)](#)
- Sch. 23 para. 4A and cross-heading inserted by [2023 c. 55 s. 244\(6\)](#)