

---

**Changes to legislation:** Equality Act 2010, Paragraph 26 is up to date with all changes known to be in force on or before 12 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

---

## SCHEDULES

### SCHEDULE 3

#### SERVICES AND PUBLIC FUNCTIONS: EXCEPTIONS

#### PART 7

#### [<sup>F1</sup> SEPARATE, SINGLE AND CONCESSIONARY SERVICES, ETC]

---

##### Textual Amendments

- F1** Sch. 3 Pt. 7 heading substituted (1.10.2012) by virtue of [The Equality Act 2010 \(Age Exceptions\) Order 2012 \(S.I. 2012/2466\)](#), [art. 4](#)

#### *Separate services for the sexes*

- 26 (1) A person does not contravene section 29, so far as relating to sex discrimination, by providing separate services for persons of each sex if—
- (a) a joint service for persons of both sexes would be less effective, and
  - (b) the limited provision is a proportionate means of achieving a legitimate aim.
- (2) A person does not contravene section 29, so far as relating to sex discrimination, by providing separate services differently for persons of each sex if—
- (a) a joint service for persons of both sexes would be less effective,
  - (b) the extent to which the service is required by one sex makes it not reasonably practicable to provide the service otherwise than as a separate service provided differently for each sex, and
  - (c) the limited provision is a proportionate means of achieving a legitimate aim.
- (3) This paragraph applies to a person exercising a public function in relation to the provision of a service as it applies to the person providing the service.

---

##### Commencement Information

- II** Sch. 3 wholly in force at 1.10.2012; Sch. 3 not in force at Royal assent see s. 216; Sch. 3 in force at 1.10.2010 for certain purposes by [S.I. 2010/2317](#), [art. 2\(3\)](#); Sch. 3 in force so far as not already in force at 1.10.2012 by [S.I. 2012/1569](#), [art. 2\(d\)](#)

**Changes to legislation:**

Equality Act 2010, Paragraph 26 is up to date with all changes known to be in force on or before 12 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.

[View outstanding changes](#)

**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. 40A inserted by [2023 c. 51 s. 1](#)
- s. 120(9) inserted by [2023 c. 51 s. 2\(b\)](#)
- s. 124A inserted by [2023 c. 51 s. 3](#)