

SEC15D30

Title: *Proposed Amendment to Regulation 8*
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Issue

It is proposed that General Regulation 8 (3) be amended to remove the restrictions placed on students who wish to live more than 50 kilometres from the University. In its place a note will be added to indicate that students are responsible for the impact, if any, on their ability to successfully engage with their course arising from their choice of residence

Recommendation

Recipients are invited to approve a proposed amendment to Regulation 8: *External Accommodation* to read:

(3) Full-time students are responsible for the impact, if any, on their ability to successfully engage with their course arising from their choice of residence. The University would normally recommend that students reside within 50 kilometres of the University.

Current General Regulation 8 (3) reads:

External Accommodation

(3) A full-time student who is **not** living in University accommodation must live within a 50-kilometre radius of the campus in Norwich. If the course requires or approval is obtained for, a placement, fieldwork, year or semester away from the University, the residence requirement does not apply for the duration of time away from the campus. Similarly, if permission is given to intercalate (take time out from studies) the requirement does not apply. If for good reason the requirement cannot be fulfilled, an exemption must be obtained from the relevant Faculty Associate Dean for your Faculty.

Resource Implications

If the Regulation is amended to remove the restrictions placed on students to live within a 50 km radius, with an appropriate caveat, there will be less need for Associate Deans to receive and approve concessions to the Regulation. Any prospective student will be less likely to request clarification of the need for a concession, reducing the impact on ARM resources.

Risk Implications

The proposal will reduce the risk of prospective students choosing not to study at UEA if their choice is affected by the perceived need to move to Norwich.

Equality and Diversity

This amendment to Regulation 8 will have no impact on any groups with protected characteristics.

Timing of decisions

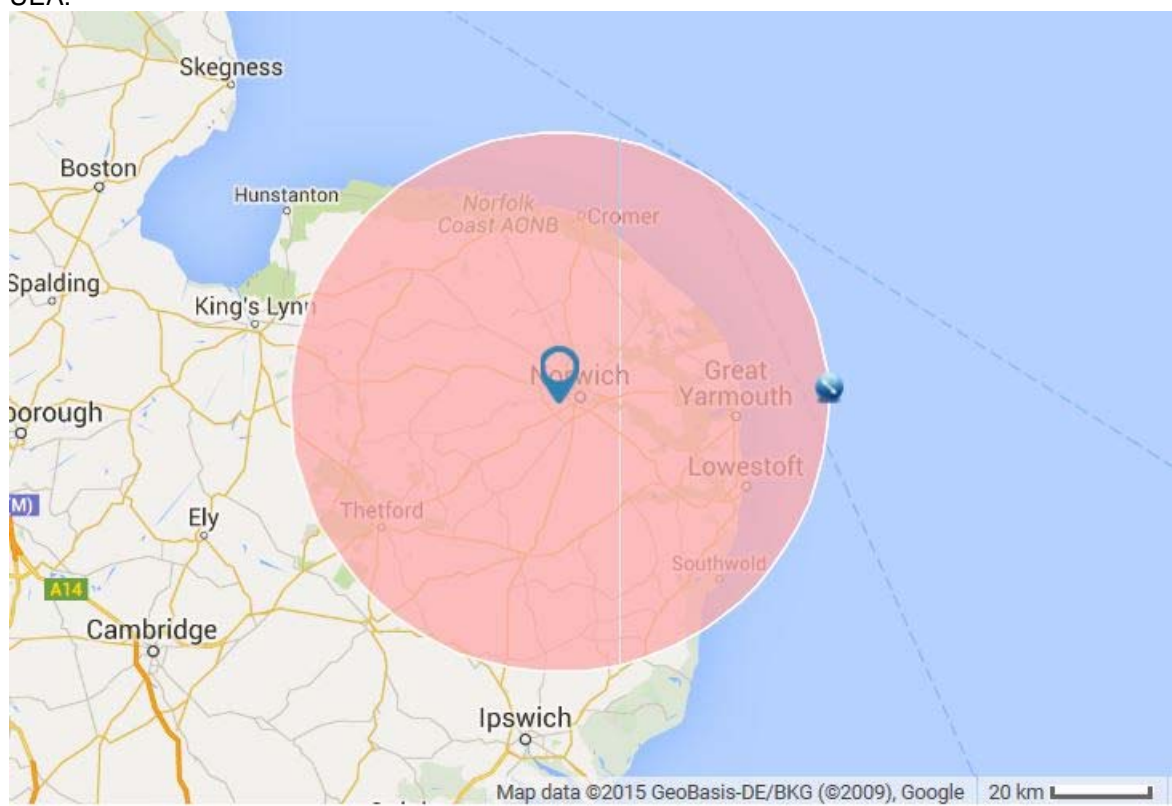
If approved by SEC the proposal would be submitted to LTC for consideration at its meeting on 11 May 2016. The revised regulation would then be in place for 2016/17.

Further Information

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Background

The map below shows the extent of the 50 kilometre perimeter centred on the Google Pin for UEA:



In 2011/12, Helena Gillespie in her role as Associate Dean (L&T) (SSF) suggested that clarification was published alongside the Regulation making it clear that distance of travel to and from the University couldn't be used as an Extenuating Circumstance or substantial reason for any request for adjustments, late submissions, or absences from teaching. This suggestion was not actioned in any formal publication but was implemented by ARM colleagues as a template response when made aware by students that they intended to remain living 50 kilometres or more from the UEA campus.

The process of requesting and granting the concession appears to serve the purpose of ensuring the student is aware of the clarification suggested by Helena Gillespie rather than any validation or consideration of the student's plans to travel to the University.

Discussion

The Human Resources Division had introduced a new rule for staff which omitted reference to a specified radius, but made the following requirement: "it is expected that all staff will be available on campus to carry out their duties during the working week in support of these goals" (viz teaching and research). The Student Accommodation Regulations currently state that: "except with the approval of the Associate Dean (Learning and Teaching) of their Faculty, full-time students not living in University residences shall live within a 50-kilometre radius of University Plain." The proposal obviates the need for students who live more than 50 kilometres from the University to apply for a concession.