



Home Office

Registration as a British citizen in special circumstances

Version 1.0

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About this guidance

This guidance tells caseworkers about registration as a British citizen in special circumstances.

Contacts

If you have any questions about the guidance and your line manager or senior caseworker cannot help you or you think that the guidance has factual errors then email Nationality policy team.

If you notice any formatting errors in this guidance (broken links, spelling mistakes and so on) or have any comments about the layout or navigability of the guidance then you can email the Guidance Rules and Forms team.

Publication

Below is information on when this version of the guidance was published:

- version **1.0**
- published for Home Office staff on **28 June 2022**

Changes from last version of this guidance

This is new guidance.

Related content

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Registration in special circumstances

Section 4L of the British Nationality Act 1981 was introduced by the Nationality and Borders Act 2022. It is a registration route for adults who would have been, or would have been able to become, a British citizen but for one or more of three specific reasons which are set out in statute.

There are already other measures within the 1981 Act which are intended to address historical unfairness, such as the routes for [children of British parents](#) in sections 4C and 4F - 4I. The 2022 Act also created registration routes (sections 17A-F) for people who did not become British overseas territories citizens and British citizens, because women or unmarried fathers connected to an overseas territory could not pass on citizenship at the time of their birth. There is also a [discretionary registration route for children](#) under section 3(1), although it should be noted that provision is broader and section 4L is not intended to mirror it. Instead, section 4L allows us to grant British citizenship in special circumstances where, in the Secretary of State's opinion, a person would have been, or would have been able to become, a British citizen but was prevented from doing so by a limited and specific set of scenarios. It is not an alternative to meeting other statutory requirements. Equally, it is not intended for situations where the law changed over time but applied equally to everyone in the same way, as was the case when the British Nationality Act 1981 itself became law.

The law

Under [section 4L](#) of the British Nationality Act 1981, a person may be registered as a British citizen if:

- they are of full age and capacity
- in the Secretary of State's opinion, they would have been, or would have been able to become, a British citizen but for at least one of:
 - [historical legislative unfairness](#)
 - [an act or omission of a public authority](#)
 - [exceptional circumstances relating to that person](#).

Section 4L(2) states that "historical legislative unfairness" includes, but is not limited to, where the person would have become, or not ceased to be, a British subject, citizen of the United Kingdom and Colonies or British citizen, if an Act of Parliament, or subordinate legislation, had:

- treated men and women equally
- treated children of unmarried couples in the same way as children of married couples
- treated children of couples where the mother was married to someone other than the natural father in the same way as children of couples where the mother was married to the natural father

In relation to an act or omission of a public authority, section 4L(3) defines a “public authority” as any public authority within the meaning of section 6 of the [Human Rights Act 1998](#), other than a court or tribunal. This means any person whose functions are of a public nature. This definition can include a government department or local authority. It does not, however, include either House of Parliament or a person exercising functions in connection with proceedings in Parliament (for example, MPs and members of the House of Lords).

In considering whether to grant an application under section 4L, the Secretary of State may take into account whether the applicant is of good character.

“Of full age” means a person who is 18 or over. Only adults can apply under this provision, although registration may be based on events when a person was a minor.

‘Of full capacity’ is defined in the [British Nationality Act 1981](#) as meaning that a person is not of unsound mind. For a detailed explanation of how this is interpreted for the purposes of the Act, and how the requirement to be of full capacity may be waived in certain circumstances see the [full capacity requirement](#) guidance.

A person who is registered under this provision will become a British citizen otherwise than by descent. This means they will be able to pass on citizenship to a child born outside of the UK and overseas territories.

Fees

Fees are payable in accordance with [The Immigration and Nationality \(Fees\) Regulations 2018](#). People applying on this route who missed out on an entitlement to register, or opportunity to naturalise, as a British citizen because of historical legislative unfairness, an act or omission of a public authority or exceptional circumstances relating to the applicant will be required to pay a British citizenship fee. No British citizenship fee will be applied to applicants who missed out on acquiring British citizenship *automatically* but for one of these three reasons

Checking the application

It is essential that the person applying shows:

- that they would have been, or would have been able to become, a British citizen – taking into account the legislation in force at the time and citing the section or sections which would have applied to them
- that at least one of the three statutory reasons led directly to them not becoming, or not being able to become, a British citizen

Checking whether the person would have been, or would have been able to become, a British citizen

You must first check whether the person would have been, or would have been able to become, a British citizen but for historical legislative unfairness, an act or omission of a public authority, or exceptional circumstances relating to the applicant.

You must consider whether the person would have otherwise:

- become a British citizen automatically – by birth, descent or adoption
- qualified for registration or naturalisation as a British citizen

To assess whether the person would have become British automatically, you must look at their date and place of birth, and their parents' status at the time, to see if they could otherwise have become a British citizen under the relevant nationality legislation. Further information on previous nationality laws can be found in the [historical background information on nationality](#).

To assess whether the person could otherwise have qualified for registration or naturalisation you must consider whether they would have been able to meet the statutory requirements at the relevant time.

You must then assess the reasons put forward why the person was not able to acquire that status, to see if they fit within the conditions set out in the legislation:

- historical legislative unfairness
- an act or omission of a public authority
- exceptional circumstances relating to that person

Historical legislative unfairness

If a person is citing historical legislative unfairness, you must check whether their inability to have been, or been able to become, a British citizen was directly related to the provisions of the historical legislation.

A piece of legislation will be considered to be “unfair” if it treated one group differently to another, particularly on the basis of a protected characteristic. The legislation states that this might include where:

- men and women were treated differently
- children of unmarried couples were not treated in the same way as children of married couples
- children of couples where the mother was married to someone other than the natural father were not treated in the same way as children of couples where the mother was married to the natural father

This gives an indication of the sorts of situations parliament intended to address, but is not exhaustive. Additional examples of legislative unfairness will generally be of a similar nature to those set out above. For example, it may additionally extend to scenarios which suggest inequality of treatment between individuals because of a protected characteristic. You must carefully consider any application where a person claims that their failure to become a British citizen was due to unfairness in the law. Cases that do not fit within the examples above should be referred to Nationality Policy Team.

You must take care not to equate situations where a person feels that their position within the law is unfair with “legislative unfairness”. For example, a person born abroad to a parent who was a British citizen by descent might think it is unfair that they do not acquire British citizenship automatically. However, it has been Parliament’s intention for many years that citizenship should normally only be passed on to one generation born overseas. The law itself is not unfair as it does not distinguish between people in the same circumstances on grounds of protected characteristics - [age](#), [disability](#), [gender reassignment](#), [marriage and civil partnership](#), [pregnancy and maternity](#), [race](#), [religion or belief](#), [sex](#), or [sexual orientation](#).

Parliament has made conscious decisions about nationality law, and so cases where a person did not become a British citizen because of a legislative change will not normally fall within this provision. For example, some people born in the UK on or after 1 January 1983 to non-settled parents might feel that it is not fair that they did not acquire British citizenship whereas if they had been born before that date they would. Following that change, however, all children born on or after that date were treated the same on that basis.

Most cases involving British mothers and unmarried fathers will be covered by section 4C and 4F-I, and the new section 4K covers those who would have benefitted through a BOTC mother, or father with a connection to an overseas territory. In terms of people with British grandparents, Parliament’s intention was that citizenship will normally only be passed on for one generation born overseas, and section 4L is not intended to change that, although you must consider each case on its merits and assess if there are exceptional circumstances.

Act or omission of a public authority

You must check whether the person’s inability to become a British citizen was directly related to an act or omission of a public authority.

“Public authority” can include a government department or local authority, but not a court or tribunal. If you are unsure whether an organisation or individual meets the definition of “public authority” you must refer the case, via your senior caseworker, to Nationality Policy Team.

The act or omission must have resulted in the person missing out on being, or being able to become, a British citizen, for example failing to make a time bound application or failing to meet statutory requirements because of official error. The person must clearly show how the claimed act or omission directly prevented them from being, or being able to become, a British citizen.

Exceptional circumstances

Section 4L also allows for registration where the person did not become, or was not able to become, a British citizen because of exceptional circumstances relating to them. This is to be used where those exceptional circumstances directly prevented the person from acquiring citizenship: it is not intended to be used to cover cases where a person does not meet the requirements for other routes. Similarly, where a

person's circumstances might be exceptional or compelling, we cannot grant citizenship under this provision unless those circumstances directly prevented them from becoming a British citizen. There needs to be a clear link between their particular and exceptional circumstances and the failure to be, or become, a British citizen.

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Considering an application

The following are scenarios where you might decide to grant an application, but this is not an exhaustive list. Each case must be considered on its own merits to see if the person would have been, or would have been able to become, a British citizen but for historical legislative unfairness, an act or omission of a public authority, or exceptional circumstances relating to that person.

Children born in the UK to foreign diplomats

Section 4 of the British Nationality Act 1948 provided that a person born in the UK and colonies between 1949 and 1983 would be a citizen of the United Kingdom and Colonies (CUKC). They would go on to become a British citizen under the British Nationality Act 1981. However, children of diplomats did not benefit from birth in the UK.

Section 7 of the Consular Relations Act 1968 created an exception to this, and sought to address the issue of children born to diplomats who had a British father. It stated that a person born in the UK would not be a CUKC if their **parent** both:

- was serving within the United Kingdom and Colonies as a member of consular post of any state
- was a national of that state

The child would, however, be a CUKC if their **father** was a citizen of the United Kingdom and Colonies.

This created an anomaly in that a person born in the UK to a dual national CUKC mother who was a foreign diplomat would be prevented from acquiring CUKC status, whereas a child born to a CUKC father in the same situation would not.

Similarly, if a person was born in the UK to a father who was a diplomat but not a CUKC, they would not have become a CUKC even if their mother was British.

Such cases are likely to be very unusual, but you should normally grant on the basis that the person would have become a British citizen but for **historical legislative unfairness**.

Evidence to be provided:

- the person's UK birth certificate
- evidence that the mother was a CUKC at the time of the birth – passport, naturalisation or registration certificate, or UK birth certificate
- evidence of the mother's employment (this may have already been established by HMPO if the person had applied for a UK passport)

Children with British grandmothers in Crown Service

Section 14(2) of the British Nationality Act 1981 provided that a British citizen born before 1 January 1983 would not hold that status “by descent” if his father was in Crown, designated or EU institution service at the time of the birth. This meant that a number of people were reclassified as British citizens “otherwise than by descent” from that date, and could pass their citizenship on.

There may be people who missed out on British citizenship because this section did not apply to women in the same way as men.

Applications based on the inability of women to pass on citizenship should normally be considered under section 4C, but if you have a case where a woman was in Crown, designated or EU institution service and her grandchild did not become a British citizen, whereas the grandchild of a man in the same position would, you should normally register on the basis of **historical legislative unfairness**.

Evidence to be provided:

- the person’s birth certificate
- the mother’s birth certificate
- evidence that the grandmother was a CUKC at the time of the birth – passport, naturalisation or registration certificate, or UK birth certificate
- evidence that at the time of the mother’s birth the grandmother was in Crown, designated or EU institution service, and was recruited in the UK/an EU country as per section 14(2) of the Act

People prevented from qualifying for citizenship because of Home Office act or omission

It may be appropriate to register a person using this provision if they had been wrongly prevented from resuming permanent residence in the UK following an absence. For example, if a mistake was made about their eligibility to enter the UK as a returning resident, a person may be unable to meet the statutory requirements for naturalisation.

Members of the Windrush generation are able to apply under the Windrush Scheme. They and others can rely on changes made by Section 9 of, and Schedule 1 to, the Nationality and Borders Act 2022, which introduced discretion over the requirement to have been in the UK on the first day of the residential qualifying period for naturalisation in exceptional circumstances. However, there may be other exceptional cases where a person cannot qualify for citizenship as a direct result of an incorrect Home Office decision. In such cases it may be right to register under section 4L on the basis of an **act or omission of a public authority**.

Evidence to be provided:

Much of the information required will be on Home Office systems, but you may need to see additional documentation to establish the circumstances.

Children in local authority care

It may be appropriate to register a person under section 4L if they would have had an age-related opportunity to register as a British citizen (for example under section 1(3) of the British Nationality Act 1981 before they were 18), but this was missed because a local authority responsible for their care did not realise that an application needed to be made.

You must consider whether action could have been taken at the time that would have allowed the child to have been, or been able to become, a British citizen. It is possible that the temporary nature of care, and changes in parental responsibility, might have meant that citizenship matters were not considered. If it is clear that the child missed out on being, or being able to become, a British citizen as a result, you must normally register under section 4L on the basis of an **act or omission of a public authority**.

Evidence to be provided:

- evidence that the child would have had an entitlement to citizenship – birth certificate, details of the parents and their status, evidence of residence in the UK, and the parent’s immigration status if appropriate
- evidence that the child was cared for by a local authority

Sensitive cases concerning children under Local Authority care, must be referred to the Citizenship Vulnerable Persons Team (CVPT). The CVPT has been established particularly to ensure that children in care, and those responsible for their care, do not overlook opportunities for British citizenship.

Young adults adopted by British citizens in the UK

Applications involving an adoption should be considered by a specialist caseworker.

During the passage of the Nationality and Borders Act 2022, Ministers stated that we would normally use section 4L in the exceptional circumstances of a person adopted by a British citizen in the UK, where the adoption order was started before, but not finalised until after, their eighteenth birthday. Some cases may fit within the “act or omission of a public body” limb of section 4L, but whilst each case will need to be considered individually, we anticipate most applicable cases are likely fall to under the exceptional circumstances limb.

Section 1(5) of the British Nationality Act 1981 provides that a child adopted by an order in a UK court will become a British citizen from the date of the order if either of the adopters is a British citizen. That section only applies to “minors” and so a child can only benefit if they are under the age of 18 on the date of adoption.

However, adoption law in some parts of the UK allows an adoption to take place after the young person’s eighteenth birthday. In England and Wales, the Adoption and Children Act 2002 allows a young person to be adopted up to the age of 19, as long as the adoption process began while they were still a minor. In Scotland, the

Adoption and Children (Scotland) Act 2007 places no upper age limit on the age of adoption if the application was made before the person's eighteenth birthday. Northern Ireland do not permit adoptions after a person's eighteenth birthday.

General information about adoption of children can be found in the [adoption guidance](#). Information about registration of children adopted outside the UK can be found in the [Registration as a British citizen: children guidance](#).

When considering a case, you must bear in mind that the court has determined that the young person is now part of the family of the British citizen parent and so deal with the application as sensitively and quickly as possible. The relationship between the young person and the adopter has already been accepted by the family court, and the courts will likely have heard directly from parties and considered evidence of the relationship that may not be available to the caseworker.

You should normally grant an application under section 4L where a child is adopted by Order in the UK and:

- the application for adoption was made before the person's eighteenth birthday.
- the adoption order is made after the young person has turned 18
- the adoptive parent is a British citizen, and the child would have become a British citizen under section 1(5) of the British Nationality Act 1981 if they had been under 18 at the time the adoption order was made
- no information has come to light to prompt concerns about the genuineness of the relationship with the adoptive parent. If you have any concerns in respect of the relationship, these must be weighed against the fact that a court has decided that adoption was appropriate, taking into account all the relevant information

You must discuss the case with your senior caseworker if you are proposing to refuse the application.

You must normally register under section 4L. This is on the basis of **exceptional circumstances relating to that person**.

Evidence to be provided:

- the adoption order
- documentation that shows when the adoption application was made - this might be a copy or acknowledgement of the adoption application made to a Family Court, official paperwork, or stated on the order itself
- any additional information about the adoption and its timing that the parents wish to provide
- evidence of the parent's British citizenship – passport, naturalisation or registration certificate, or UK birth certificate issued before 1983

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Good character

Section 4L(4) states that, in considering whether to grant an application under this section, the Secretary of State may take into account whether the applicant is of [good character](#).

If the person would have been able to acquire British citizenship through registration or naturalisation (but for historical legislative unfairness, an act or omission of a public authority, or exceptional circumstances relating to that person), under a [provision that had a good character requirement](#), you must assess whether they are of good character. Any assessment must be made based on the date of decision, rather than at the time they could have applied.

The relevant provisions are:

- naturalisation under section 6(1) or 6(2)
- registration under one of the following sections:
 - 1(3) – child born in the UK whose parent became a British citizen or became settled in the United Kingdom while the child was a minor
 - 1(3A) – child born in the UK whose parent becomes a member of the armed forces while the child is a minor
 - 1(4) - a person (of any age) who was born in the UK and lived there for the first ten years of their life
 - 3(1) - discretionary registration of a child under 18
 - 3(2) - a child born outside the UK to a British citizen by descent parent, and that parent has lived in the UK for three years before the birth
 - 3(5) - a child born outside the UK to a British citizen by descent parent, and the child and both parents have lived in the UK for three years
 - 4(2) – registration based on 5 years residence
 - 4(5) – registration based on Crown service.
 - 4A – registration of a British overseas territories citizen
 - 4D – children born outside the UK to members of the armed forces
 - 5 – British overseas territories citizens with a connection to Gibraltar
 - 10(1) or 10(2) - registration following renunciation of citizenship of UK and Colonies
 - 13(1) or 13(3) - registration following renunciation of British citizenship
- registration under section 4F, if the registration was on the basis that the person could have qualified under section 1(3), 3(2) or 3(5), had their parents been married

Where a person would have acquired citizenship automatically (but for historical legislative unfairness, an act or omission of a public authority, or exceptional circumstances relating to that person), we will not ask them to provide evidence that they are of good character as part of their application. A person who missed out on an automatic claim to citizenship will not normally be refused on character grounds. If you have a case, where the person could have become a citizen automatically, but you have serious concerns about their character, the case should be referred to a senior caseworker.

Case studies

The following are fictional examples that illustrate how we expect to consider applications under this provision. However, they are very high level: when considering a case, you should look at the full facts available to assess whether the person falls within one of the 3 limbs of section 4L and consider each case on its own merits. (The case studies are based on an application date in 2022.)

Example 1

Sara was born in the UK in 2002. Her parents were in the UK with limited leave at the time and so Sara did not become a British citizen automatically. From the age of 11 to 18 Sara was looked after by the local authority. Sara has learned that her parents were granted indefinite leave to remain (ILR) before she was taken into care. As such, an application could have been made to register her under section 1(3) before her eighteenth birthday. The local authority has said that they had not realised that she would have qualified.

As Sara could have become a British citizen but for an act or omission of a public authority, it may be appropriate to register her under section 4L.

Example 2

Tom came to live in the UK aged 3 in 2005. His mother was here on a work route and Tom was given leave to remain in line. When he was 8, his parents split up, and Tom was kidnapped by his father and taken overseas. Despite the efforts of the police and FCDO, Tom was not able to return to the UK until after the age of 18. In the meantime, his mother was granted ILR in 2012 and then naturalised as a British citizen in 2013.

Tom would have been in the UK but for the exceptional circumstances of having been kidnapped (as opposed to family decisions to live elsewhere). If he had been in the UK, he could have applied for registration under section 3(1). It may therefore be appropriate to register under section 4L. You should first consider whether he has a route to citizenship through naturalisation.

Example 3

Alfie was born in the USA in 2003. At the time his birth mother was a US citizen and her female civil partner a British citizen. From 6 April 2009, a mother's female partner is treated as the parent of the child for nationality purposes, and British women in civil partnerships can pass on nationality. Alfie claims his parents intended to apply to register him as a British citizen under section 3(1), but one of them had been seriously ill and so they did not get round to it before his eighteenth birthday. He has never lived in the UK.

Alfie could have applied for registration before his eighteenth birthday and would have met the criteria set out in guidance for when registration under section 3(1) would normally be appropriate (see the [guidance on registering children of civil partners](#)). As the law treated children of civil partners differently than those of married partners before 2009, it may be appropriate to register on the basis of historical legislative unfairness.

Example 4

Nadiya came to the UK in 2010 with a work visa. It has been established that she was a victim of modern slavery, working for a family who took her with them when they moved to the UAE in 2016. Nadiya has been back in the UK since 2019 and has been granted ILR exceptionally. Because of her absences, she will not qualify for naturalisation until 2024.

Had Nadia not been removed from the UK whilst enslaved, she may have been able to apply for naturalisation from 2015, had she been able to meet all of the requirements. Before considering registration under section 4L, you should consider whether she could now qualify for naturalisation, taking into account the changes made by the Nationality and Borders Act 2022 which allow you to exercise discretion over the requirement to have been in the UK at the start of the qualifying period in special circumstances. If she has a route to naturalisation, registration under section 4L would not normally be appropriate.

Example 5

Hannah was born in the UK in 1979. She has been issued with British passports since the age of 4. When she applied to renew her passport earlier this year, she presented her full birth certificate and it was realised that her parents had been employed as diplomatic staff at the Australian High Commission at the time. This means that Hannah did not become a CUKC and so is has never been a British citizen. Both parents left the High Commission employment when Hannah was 10 and the family have been living/working in the UK since.

Hannah's parents might have applied to register her as a British citizen whilst she was a child, had she not been issued British passports in error. However, as she was resident in the UK for the first 10 years of her life, she will still have an entitlement to [registration under section 1\(4\)](#) of the British Nationality Act 1981. You should consider that route and not section 4L.

Example 6

Ravi applied to come to the UK on a work visa in 2016 but his application was refused as the salary his prospective employer was offering was not sufficient. He then applied again in 2018 and was granted. He entered the UK in September 2018. He claims that if his earlier application had been granted he would now be able to apply for naturalisation.

Ravi does not meet one of the three limbs for section 4L: he was not prevented from becoming a British citizen by historical legislative unfairness, or an act or omission of a public authority, and his particular circumstances are not exceptional.

Example 7

Aisha was born on 2 January 1983 in the UK. Her parents were not settled in the UK at the time, and so she is not a British citizen. She claims that had she been born on her due date of 28 December 1982 she would have been a British citizen automatically, as a person born in the UK before 1 January 1983 became a British citizen irrespective of their parents' status (unless a diplomat or enemy alien).

Aisha does not meet any of the three limbs for section 4L. The change in legislation was not historical legislative unfairness: it applied to all those born after the British Nationality Act came into force. Her particular circumstances are not exceptional as many people were born on or after 1 January 1983. There are registration routes for those born in the UK after that date: Aisha may be able to apply under [section 1\(4\)](#).

Example 8

Charles would have met the requirements for naturalisation in 2015 – he had been in the UK for over 5 years and had indefinite leave to remain for more than 12 months, and had met the knowledge of language and life in the UK requirement for ILR. However, he lost his job and could not afford to apply. He found another job with an international company and has been posted to France for the last 5 years. He therefore does not meet the requirements for naturalisation. He claims that, but for the fact that he had lost his job and had to work overseas, he would have been able to naturalise in 2015.

Charles does not meet any of the three limbs for section 4L: his working overseas would not be recognised as exceptional circumstances for section 4L.

Example 9

Duncan would have been able to meet the requirements for naturalisation in 2020 – he had been living in the UK for over 5 years and had indefinite leave to remain for more than 12 months and had met the knowledge of language and life in the UK requirement for ILR. However, he had gone to visit family in Australia and was stranded there during the pandemic. Having returned to the UK, he wants to apply under section 4L on the basis that he could have become a British citizen but for exceptional circumstances.

Duncan can still make an application for naturalisation. Excess absences as a result of the pandemic will be taken into consideration – see the [naturalisation guidance](#). As such, his absence overseas are unlikely to be recognised as exceptional circumstances for registration under section 4L.

Example 10

Rachel's grandmother was born in the UK in 1945. Her mother was born in the USA in 1965 and registered as a British citizen under section 4C in 2015, on the basis that she had a UK born mother. Rachel was born in Canada in 1996. Rachel claims that, had the law been different, her mother would have become a British citizen automatically and could have come to the UK when Rachel was a child, allowing Rachel to register as a British citizen under section 3(5) of the British Nationality Act 1981.

Although historical legislative unfairness meant that Rachel's mother did not become a British citizen automatically, it did not directly prevent Rachel from becoming one. Citizenship could not normally be passed on for more than one generation born abroad, and Rachel would not have been able to become a citizen had women previously been able to pass on citizenship. Whilst she maintains that her mother might have come to the UK had she been a citizen, that relies on hypothetical assumptions. She may be able to apply for a UK Ancestry visa to come to the UK.

Example 11

Clive was born in Guyana in 1955. Both his parents and all his grandparents were born in Guyana. Clive's family moved to the UK in 1965, where they lived for 5 years. In 1966 Guyana became an independent Commonwealth country, and Clive became a citizen of Guyana. As neither Clive nor his father or grandfather was born, naturalised or registered as a citizen in a country that remained part of the UK and Colonies at that time, or a protectorate or protected state, Clive lost his citizenship of the UK and Colonies (CUKC). He claims that his parents could have registered as citizens of the UK and Colonies while they were resident in the UK, and registered him as a child.

The fact that Clive ceased to be a CUKC was as a result of the independence arrangements of Guyana. It was not historical legislative unfairness: it applied to all those connected to that territory irrespective of any protected characteristics, and was in line with independence arrangements of other countries. The fact that Clive's family did not apply to register him as a citizen would not normally be considered exceptional circumstances. Some Commonwealth citizens who are members of the Windrush generation are able to apply under the Windrush Scheme.

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