

i. a reasonable excuse

No person may leave the place where they live without a reasonable excuse.

Each case still needs to be considered based on the individual facts as they present themselves. Some public statements made soon after the adoption of the Regulations suggested that members of the public could only leave their homes if 'essential'.

This is not the test set out in the Regulations and there is no legal basis for a requirement in those terms to be imposed. The applicable threshold is that of 'reasonable excuse'.

No person may leave the place where they live without a reasonable excuse, but if one did not live in a place, or in any place, then to leave the place in which one lives when one does not in fact have a place in which to live would be paradoxical, though in ways not considered beneficial to the Regulations.

ii. necessities: basic food supplies

Buying several days' worth of food, including luxury items and alcohol is likely to be reasonable.

Buying a small amount of a staple item or necessity (a newspaper, pet food, a loaf of bread, a pint of milk) is likely to be reasonable.

'Obtain' includes purchasing, but could include collecting or sharing items; Collecting surplus basic food items from a friend is likely to be reasonable, provided this is genuine

There is no need for all a person's shopping to be basic food supplies; the purchase of snacks and luxuries is still permitted.

there is no need
there is no need
there is no need

Food could include hot food from takeaways

there is no need provided this is genuine

In general terms, a person has a reasonable excuse to visit shops which remain open to customers under the Regulations.

This is not the test set out in the Regulations and there is no legal basis for a requirement in those terms to be imposed.

If a person
is already out of the address with good reason,
then it would not be proportionate
to prevent the person
from buying nonessential items

there is no need for nonessential items
and there is no legal basis
and it would not be proportionate

each case still needs to be considered
based on the individual facts as they present themselves.

iii. other necessities

Buying tools
and supplies to repair
a fence panel damaged in recent bad weather
is likely to be reasonable.

Buying paint and brushes,
simply to redecorate a kitchen,
is not likely to be reasonable.

The regulations specify
maintenance and upkeep.
This does not extend to renovation
and improvements.

iv. on exercise

Exercise can come in many forms.
Exercise can come in many forms, including walks.
Including going for a run or cycle
or practicing yoga; walking
in the countryside or in cities; attending
an allotment.

Exercise
which can come in many forms, including walks
must involve some movement, but it is acceptable
for a person to stop
for a break
in exercise.

Driving to countryside and walking
(where far more time
is spent walking than driving)
is likely to be reasonable.

It is lawful
to drive for exercise.

However, a very short
period of 'exercise' to excuse
a long period of inactivity
may mean that the person
is not engaged in 'exercise'

but in fact something else: driving
for a prolonged period
with only brief exercise
is not likely to be reasonable.

Stopping
to rest
or to eat lunch
while on a long walk
is likely to be reasonable.

A short walk to a park bench,
when the person remains seated for a much longer period
is not likely to be reasonable.

v. a genuine excuse

A genuine excuse
is measured in days, not hours:

a person who can work from home should not choose
to work in a local park
for this would not be likely
to be reasonable.

a person knocking on doors, offering
to do work cash-in-hand would not
be likely to be reasonable.

A key worker or other essential worker travelling to work
where it is not reasonably possible to work from home
or a non-key worker or non-essential key worker travelling to work
where it is not reasonably possible to work from home
or a key non-worker who is not travelling to work
or a non-key non-worker who is or is not travelling to work or non-work
is likely to be reasonable. Reasons are likely to be reasonable
and reasons are unlikely be reasonable
and reasons are likely to be unreasonable, all depending:
each case still needs to be considered
based on the individual facts as they present themselves.
Anyone can travel to work
if it is not reasonably possible to work from home.
This list is not exhaustive.

vi. in fact something else

There are in fact other things
or something elses, which may include nouns or verbs
or processes or items or determinations, and these
are not considered to be likely
to be reasonable within the Regulations.

The applicable threshold should be reasonable purposes
for which things or in fact something else
are or were or may have been intended.