STATUTORY RULES OF NORTHERN IRELAND

2016 No. 270

WELFARE REFORM

The Discretionary Support Regulations (Northern Ireland) 2016

Made - - - 6th July 2016 Coming into operation in accordance with regulation 1

THE DISCRETIONARY SUPPORT REGULATIONS (NORTHERN IRELAND) 2016

PART 1

General

- 1. Citation and commencement
- 2. Discretionary Support Awards
- 3. Interpretation

PART 2

Claims

- 4. Making a claim for a discretionary support award
- 5. Date of claim
- 6. Evidence and information in connection with a claim
- 7. Person unable to act
- 8. Decision to award a loan or a grant
- 9. Withdrawal of a claim

PART 3

Eligibility

- 10. Basic eligibility conditions
- 11. Loan eligibility
- 12. Grant eligibility
- 13. Persons excluded from discretionary support
- 14. Persons not eligible for discretionary support unless arising as a consequence of a disaster

PART 4

Income and earnings

- 15. Calculation of income
- 16. Capital treated as income
- 17. Notional income

PART 5

Capital

- 18. Calculation of capital
- 19. Notional capital
- 20. Capital jointly held

PART 6

Awards and Payments

- 21. Principles of determination of an award
- 22. Conditions to be satisfied before payment of an award
- 23. Payment of an award

PART 7

Recovery

24. Recovery of an award

PART 8

Reviews

25. Reviews and further reviews Signature

SCHEDULE Discretionary support loans – excluded items and services

1

- 1. Any need which occurs outside Northern Ireland.
- 2. An educational or training need including clothing, tools, school uniforms...
- 3. Work related expenses.
- 4. Expenses in connection with court or legal proceedings (including community...
- 5. Domestic assistance and respite care.
- 6. Medical items or services including surgical, optical, aural and dental....
- 7. Mobility needs.
- 8. Funeral and maternity expenses.
- 9. Any expenses which the Trusts or Local Councils have a...
- 10. Housing costs, including repairs modifications and improvements to the dwelling...
- 11. Removal or storage charges where a claimant is re-housed following...

- 12. Costs associated with home or personal security measures including locks,...
- 13. A television or radio and licence, aerial, cable, satellite or...
- 14. Costs of purchasing, renting, installing or maintaining a computer, telephone,...
- 15. Garaging, parking, taxi use, purchase and running costs of any...
- 16. Holidays.
- 17. Debts to government departments.
- 18. Investments.
- SCHEDULE Discretionary support grants excluded items and services

2

- 1. Any need which occurs outside Northern Ireland.
- 2. An educational or training need including clothing, tools, school uniforms...
- 3. Work related expenses.
- 4. Expenses in connection with court or legal proceedings (including community...
- 5. Domestic assistance and respite care.
- 6. Medical items or services including surgical, optical, aural and dental....
- 7. Mobility needs.
- 8. Funeral and maternity expenses.
- 9. Any expenses which the Trusts or Local Government have a...
- 10. Housing costs, including repairs modifications and improvements to the dwelling...
- 11. Removal or storage charges where a claimant is re-housed following...
- 12. Costs associated with home or personal security measures including locks,...
- 13. A television or radio and licence, aerial, cable, satellite or...
- 14. Costs of purchasing, renting, installing or maintaining a computer telephone,...
- 15. Garaging, parking, taxi use, purchase and running costs of any...
- 16. Holidays.
- 17. Debts to government departments.
- 18. Investments.
- 19. Costs of fuel consumption and any associated standing charges.
- 20. Travel and any associated accommodation expenses required to visit a...

SCHEDULE

- ULE Sums to be disregarded in the calculation of an annual income 3 threshold
 - 1. Any earnings of a child or young person.
 - 2. Any amount paid by way of tax, national insurance or...
 - 3. Any payment in respect of any expenses incurred by the...
 - 4. Any payments under article 15(1) or article 29(1) of the...
 - 5. Access to Work payments.
 - 6. Any reimbursements for hospital travel or prescription charges under the...
 - 7. Northern Ireland Single Assessment Tool (NISAT).
 - 8. Any payments made in respect of Fostering Allowance and other...
 - 9. Expenses paid to jurors or witnesses in court cases (excluding...
 - 10. In the case of employment as an employed earner, any...
 - 11. In the case of a payment of statutory sick pay...

- Any payment to the claimant as a holder of the... 12.
- 13. Any payment to the claimant of a War Disablement Pension...
- 14. Any payment to the claimant under the Civilian War Pension...
- 15. Except where regulation 17 applies, income in kind.
- Attendance Allowance under Section 64 Social Security 16 Contributions and Benefits...
- 17. Disability Living Allowance under Section 71 Social Security Contributions and...
- 18 Guardians Allowance under Section 77 Social Security Contributions and Benefits...
- Constant Attendance Allowance under Sections 104 and 105 Social 19. Security...
- 20. Child Benefit under Section 141 Social Security Contributions and Benefits...
- 21. A Christmas bonus paid in accordance with sections 148 to...
- 22 Discretionary Housing Payments.
- 23. Housing Benefit.
- Independent Living Fund. 24.
- 25. Payments made under the Skipton Fund, the MacFarlane Trust and ...
- 26. Housing Costs, based on the local housing allowance under the...
- 27. Charitable or voluntary payments for the claimant or their children....
- 28. Extra-statutory payments for non-payment of benefit, payments in kind.
- 29 Discharge grants paid on release from prison.
- 30. Arrears of residence order payments.
- 31. Child maintenance.
- 32 Any earnings or income derived from employment, or otherwise, which...
- 33. Where a payment, to which paragraph 32 applies, is made...
- 34. Adoption allowance, paid in respect of maintenance for a child...
- 35. Any payment arising as a result of the Welfare Supplementary...
- 36. Any payment arising as a result of the Welfare Supplementary...
- 37. Any payment arising as a result of the Welfare Supplementary...
- 38. Any payment arising as a result of the Welfare Supplementary...
- 39. Personal Independence Payments under Part 5 of the Welfare Reform...

SCHEDULE

Capital to be disregarded

- 4
- 1. Any sum— (a) paid to the claimant in consequence of...
- 2. Any capital which is by virtue of regulation 16 to...
- Where funds of a trust are derived from a payment... 3.
- 4. Any payment made by the Victims and Survivors Service.
- 5. Any payment to the claimant of a War Disablement Pension...
- 6. Any payment to the claimant under the Civilian War Pension...
- 7. Any payments under article 15(1) or article 29(1) of the...
- 8. Any social fund payment.
- 9. Any discretionary support payment.
- 10. The surrender value of any policy of life insurance.
- 11. The value of the right to receive any income under...
- 12. Any capital of a child or young person who is...
- Personal Independence Payments under Part 5 of the Welfare 13. Reform...
- 14. Any payment arising as a result of the Welfare Supplementary...

- 15. Any payment arising as a result of the Welfare Supplementary...
- 16. Any payment arising as a result of the Welfare Supplementary... Explanatory Note