

Changes to legislation: Welfare Reform Act (Northern Ireland) 2007, Cross Heading: Sharing of social security information is up to date with all changes known to be in force on or before 23 April 2019. 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)



2007 CHAPTER 2

PART 3

SOCIAL SECURITY ADMINISTRATION: GENERAL

Sharing of social security information

Social security information

38.—(1) In the Administration Act, after section 5A (sharing of functions as regards certain claims and information) insert—

“Use of social security information

5B.—(1) A relevant authority may use for a relevant purpose any social security information which it holds.

(2) Regulations may make provision as to the procedure to be followed by a relevant authority for the purposes of any function it has relating to the administration of a specified benefit if the authority holds social security information which—

- (a) is relevant for the purposes of anything which may or must be done by the authority in connection with a claim for or an award of the benefit, and
- (b) was used by another relevant authority in connection with a claim for or an award of a different specified benefit or was verified by that other authority in accordance with regulations under section 5A(2)(e) above.

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(3) A relevant purpose is anything which is done in relation to a claim which is made or which could be made for a specified benefit if it is done for the purpose of—

- (a) identifying persons who may be entitled to such a benefit;
- (b) encouraging or assisting a person to make such a claim;
- (c) advising a person in relation to such a claim.

(4) Social security information means—

- (a) information relating to social security, child support or war pensions;
- (b) evidence obtained in connection with a claim for or an award of a specified benefit.

(5) A specified benefit is a benefit which is specified in regulations for the purposes of this section.

(6) Expressions used in this section and in section 5A have the same meaning in this section as in that section.

(7) This section does not affect any power which exists apart from this section to use for one purpose social security information obtained in connection with another purpose.”

(2) In section 5A of that Act—

(a) in subsection (2) after paragraph (d) add—

“(e) the verification by a relevant authority of information or evidence supplied to or obtained by the authority in connection with a claim for or an award of a relevant benefit.”;

(b) in subsection (3) for “and (d)” substitute “, (d) and (e) ”.

Annotations:

Commencement Information

- II** S. 38 wholly in operation at 8.10.2007; s. 38(2) in operation at Royal Assent see s. 60(1)(2) (a); s. 38(1) in operation at 8.10.2007 by [S.R. 2007/429](#), [art. 2\(1\)\(a\)](#)

Information relating to certain benefits

F139.

Annotations:

Amendments (Textual)

- F1** S. 39 repealed (17.2.2016) by [The Welfare Reform \(Northern Ireland\) Order 2015 \(S.I. 2015/2006\)](#), [arts. 2\(2\), 123\(4\)](#) (with s. 123(5)); [S.R. 2016/46](#), [art. 3\(4\)\(h\)](#)

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Commencement Information

I2 S. 39 wholly in operation at 1.9.2008; s. 39 not in operation at Royal Assent see s. 60(1); s. 39 in operation for certain purposes at 8.8.2008 and wholly in operation at 1.9.2008 by [S.R. 2008/339, art. 2\(1\)\(2\)\(a\)](#)

Unlawful disclosure of certain information

^{F2}**40.**

Annotations:

Amendments (Textual)

F2 S. 40 repealed (17.2.2016) by [The Welfare Reform \(Northern Ireland\) Order 2015 \(S.I. 2015/2006\)](#), arts. 2(2), **123(4)** (with s. 123(5)); [S.R. 2016/46](#), art. 3(4)(h)

Changes to legislation:

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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. 1(3)(za) inserted by [S.I. 2015/2006 \(N.I.\) art. 67\(2\)](#)
- s. 1(3B) inserted by [S.I. 2015/2006 \(N.I.\) art. 67\(3\)](#)
- s. 14(5) added by [2010 c. 13 \(N.I.\) s. 25\(2\)](#)
- s. 14(5) amendment to earlier affecting provision [2010 c. 13 \(N.I.\) s. 25\(2\)](#) by [S.I. 2015/2006 \(N.I.\) art. 60\(7\)](#)
- s. 14(5) words substituted by [S.R. 2016/76 Sch. 6 para. 56\(b\)](#)
- Sch. 1 para. 6(1)(da) inserted by [2010 c. 13 \(N.I.\) s. 5\(2\)\(a\)](#)
- Sch. 1 para. 6(2A) inserted by [2010 c. 13 \(N.I.\) s. 5\(2\)\(b\)](#)
- Sch. 2 para. 4B inserted by [S.I. 2015/2006 \(N.I.\) art. 67\(4\)](#)
- Sch. 3 para. 12(4)(5) repealed by [S.I. 2015/2006 \(N.I.\) Sch. 12 Pt. 1](#)