
STATUTORY INSTRUMENTS

1986 No. 1888

The Social Security (Northern Ireland) Order 1986

PART VII

COMMON PROVISIONS

Administration

Legal proceedings

57^{F1}.—(1) Any person authorised by the Department^{F2}. . . in that behalf may conduct any proceedings under the benefit Acts before a magistrates' court although not a barrister or solicitor.

(2) Notwithstanding anything in any statutory provision—

(a) proceedings for an offence under the benefit Acts^{F2}. . . may be begun at any time within the period of three months from the date on which evidence, sufficient in the opinion of the Department to justify a prosecution for the offence, comes to its knowledge or within a period of twelve months from the commission of the offence, whichever period last expires;^{F2}. . .

Sub.#para. (b) rep. by 1992 c. 9

(3) For the purposes of paragraph (2)—

(a)^{F3} a certificate purporting to be signed by the Head or a secretary, under secretary or assistant secretary of the Department^{F2}. . . as to the date on which such evidence as is mentioned in sub-paragraph (a) or (b) of that paragraph came to its knowledge shall be conclusive evidence of that date;^{F2}. . .

Sub#para. (b) rep. by 1992 c. 9

Para. (3A) rep. by 1992 c. 9

Paras. (4), (5) rep. by 1989 NI 12

F1 mod. (exc. (2)(b),(3)(b)) by SR 1988/137

F2 1992 c. 9

F3 mod. by SR 1988/137

Changes to legislation:

The Social Security (Northern Ireland) Order 1986, Section 57 is up to date with all changes known to be in force on or before 23 August 2023. 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.

[View outstanding changes](#)

Changes and effects yet to be applied to the whole Order associated Parts and Chapters:

Whole provisions yet to be inserted into this Order (including any effects on those provisions):

- Sch. 9 para. 36 repealed by [S.I. 2003/435 \(N.I.\) art. 49\(2\)Sch. 5](#) (Sch. 9 of this Order is an amending Schedule which is not available on [legislation.gov.uk](#))
- art.9 amended by [S.I. 1999/671 art.3\(1\)Sch.1 para.1](#)