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STATUTORY INSTRUMENTS

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**1997 No. 1182**

**The Social Security Administration  
(Fraud) (Northern Ireland) Order 1997**

*Offences, penalties and overpayments*

**Recovery of overpaid housing benefit**

**15.** In section 73 of the Administration Act (recovery of overpayments of housing benefit), after subsection (4) add—

“(5) Where an amount paid to a person on behalf of another person is recoverable under this section, subsections (3) and (4) above authorise its recovery from the person to whom it was paid by deduction—

- (a) from prescribed benefits to which he is entitled;
- (b) from prescribed benefits paid to him to discharge (in whole or in part) an obligation owed to him by the person on whose behalf the recoverable amount was paid; or
- (c) from prescribed benefits paid to him to discharge (in whole or in part) an obligation owed to him by any other person.

(6) Where an amount is recovered as mentioned in paragraph (b) of subsection (5) above, the obligation specified in that paragraph shall in prescribed circumstances be taken to be discharged by the amount of the deduction; and where an amount is recovered as mentioned in paragraph (c) of that subsection, the obligation specified in that paragraph shall in all cases be taken to be so discharged.

(7) Where any amount recoverable under this section is to be recovered otherwise than by deduction from prescribed benefits it shall, if the county court so orders, be enforceable as if it were payable under an order of that court.”.