

---

STATUTORY INSTRUMENTS

---

**1997 No. 1182**

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

*Administration of housing benefit*

**Directions by Department**

8. After section 128C of the Administration Act (inserted by Article 5) insert—

*“Directions by Department*

**Directions.**

**128D.**—(1) This section applies where—

- (a) a copy of a report has been sent to the Housing Executive under section 128C(2) above;
- (b) a copy of a report has been sent to the Housing Executive under Article 21 of the Housing (Northern Ireland) Order 1981 and to the Department under Article 7(2) of the Social Security Administration (Fraud) (Northern Ireland) Order 1997; or
- (c) a copy of a report has been sent to the Housing Executive under Article 6(7) of the Social Security Administration (Fraud) (Northern Ireland) Order 1997.

(2) The Department may invite the Housing Executive to consider the report and to submit proposals for—

- (a) improving the Executive’s performance in relation to the prevention and detection of fraud relating to housing benefit or otherwise in relation to the administration of that benefit; and
- (b) remedying any failings identified by the report.

(3) After considering the report and any proposals made by the Housing Executive in response to it, the Department may give directions to the Executive as to —

- (a) standards which the Executive is to attain in the prevention and detection of fraud relating to housing benefit or otherwise in the administration of that benefit; and
- (b) the time within which the standards are to be attained.

(4) When giving directions to the Housing Executive under subsection (3) above, the Department may make recommendations to the Executive setting out any course of action which the Department thinks the Executive might take to attain the standards which it is directed to attain.”.