

**AGE-RELATED PAYMENTS  
(NORTHERN IRELAND) ORDER 2004**

**S.I. 2004 No. 1987 (N.I. 11)**

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**EXPLANATORY MEMORANDUM**

**COMMENTARY ON ARTICLES**

***Article 9: Power to provide for payments***

Paragraph (1) enables the Department to make regulations to make payments to persons aged 60 or over. Paragraph (2)(a) allows for payments to be made to any subset of the specified group and (b) allows payments to be made in specified circumstances.

Paragraph (3)(a) provides that regulations made under paragraph (1) may make provision for future payments to be made once, or for a specified period, or at specified times, (b) make provision for exceptions, and (c) make provision for different treatment in defined circumstances. Paragraph (4) specifies that regulations made under this power will be subject to the approval of the Northern Ireland Assembly before the expiration of six months from the date they come into operation.

Paragraph (5) amends section 149(5) of the Social Security Administration (Northern Ireland) Act 1992 and section 170(5) of the Social Security Administration Act 1992 to include regulations under this power within the remit of the Social Security Advisory Committee.