

1983 No. 215

## SOCIAL SECURITY

The Supplementary Benefit (Requirements, Resources and Single Payments)  
(Amendment) Regulations (Northern Ireland) 1983

Made

5th August 1983

Coming into operation

Except for regulations

15th August 1983

2(2)(a), (4)(a), (b) and (c),  
(6), (7), (10), (12)(a) and  
(14)(b), 3(2)(b) and (4) in so  
far as it adds a sub-paragraph  
(j), 4 and 5

Regulations 2(2)(a) (4)(a),  
(b) and (c), (6), (7), (10),  
(12)(a) and (14)(b), 3(2)(b)  
and (4) in so far as it adds  
a sub-paragraph (j), 4 and 5

21st November 1983

The Department of Health and Social Services, in exercise of the powers conferred on it by Article 5(1) of, and paragraphs 1(2) and 2(1), (3) and (4) of Schedule 1 to, the Supplementary Benefits (Northern Ireland) Order 1977(a) and of all other powers enabling it in that behalf, and with the consent of the Department of Finance and Personnel(b) hereby makes the following regulations which correspond to provision contained in regulations made by the Secretary of State for Social Services in relation to Great Britain and which accordingly, by virtue of section 10(2) of, and paragraph 21 of Schedule 3 to, the Social Security Act 1980(c) are not subject to the requirement of section 10(1) of that Act for prior reference to the Social Security Advisory Committee:

*Citation and commencement*

1. These regulations may be cited as the Supplementary Benefit (Requirements, Resources and Single Payments) (Amendment) Regulations (Northern Ireland) 1983 and shall come into operation on 15th August 1983 except for regulations 2(2)(a), (4)(a), (b) and (c), (6), (7), (10), (12)(a) and (14)(b), 3(2)(b) and (4) in so far as it adds a sub-paragraph (j), 4 and 5, which shall come into operation on 21st November 1983.

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- (a) S.I. 1977/2156 (N.I. 27), (other than Articles 1, 42 and Schedules 4 to 7) with certain amendments is set out in Part II of Schedule 2 to the Social Security (Northern Ireland) Order 1980 (S.I. 1980/870 (N.I. 8)); the Order is further amended by Article 6(5) of the Social Security (No. 2) (Northern Ireland) Order 1980 (S.I. 1980/1087 (N.I. 13)), Articles 4 and 5 of, and paragraphs 5 to 9 of the Schedule to, the Social Security (Northern Ireland) Order 1981 (S.I. 1981/1118 (N.I. 25)) and Articles 31 and 38 of, and paragraphs 14 to 16 in Part I of Schedule 4 to, the Social Security (Northern Ireland) Order 1982 (S.I. 1982/1084 (N.I. 16)).
- (b) Formerly the Department of Finance: see S.I. 1982/338 (N.I. 6), Article 3. See also Article 41(1) of the Supplementary Benefits (Northern Ireland) Order 1977, as amended by the Social Security (Northern Ireland) Order 1980
- (c) 1980 c. 30

*Amendment of the Supplementary Benefit (Requirements) Regulations (Northern Ireland) 1983*

2.—(1) Subject to regulation 5 the Supplementary Benefit (Requirements) Regulations (Northern Ireland) 1983(a) shall be amended in accordance with the following provisions.

(2) In regulation 2(1) (interpretation) there shall be inserted—

(a) after the definition of “prisoner” the following definition—

““qualifying benefit” means any of the following, namely invalidity benefit or non-contributory invalidity pension under Part II of the Act, unemployability supplement (increase of industrial injuries disablement pension) under section 58 of the Act or an allowance in respect of unemployability under Article 18 of the Naval, Military and Air Forces Etc. (Disablement and Death) Service Pensions Order 1983(b);” and

(b) after the definition of “single claimant” the following definition—

““student” means a person under pensionable age who has ceased relevant education and who during a course of full-time education is either attending that course or is on vacation for any period constituting a normal vacation from it;”.

(3) In regulation 5(5) (meaning of householder) for sub-paragraph (c) there shall be substituted the following sub-paragraph—

“(c) is either not absent from the home or if absent is absent only—

(i) otherwise than as a student on normal vacation, and

(ii) for a period which has not yet continued for more than 13 weeks.”.

(4) In regulation 7 (conditions for long-term rates of normal requirements)—

(a) in paragraph (1)(a) after “condition of availability” there shall be inserted “or is eligible for an allowance while the partner of a person aged not less than 60”.

(b) in paragraph (1)(b) for “if he is a person aged less than 60” there shall be substituted “unless he is a person aged not less than 60 or is the partner of such a person”.

(c) for sub-paragraph (a) of paragraph (2) there shall be substituted the following sub-paragraph—

“(a) any period in respect of which he was in receipt of a qualifying benefit;”, and

(d) for sub-paragraph (d) of paragraph (2) there shall be substituted the following sub-paragraph—

“(d) any other period of 8 weeks or less (or of 13 weeks or less in the case of a period ending before 15th August 1983) in respect of which he was not in receipt of an allowance not subject to the condition of availability and which fell immediately between periods—

(i) in respect of which he was in receipt of an allowance not subject to the condition of availability, or

(ii) to which sub-paragraph (a) or (c) applies.”.

(5) In regulation 8(3) (modification of normal requirements in certain cases of unemployment benefit disqualification) for sub-paragraph (b) there shall be substituted the following sub-paragraph—

“(b) any member of the assessment unit is either pregnant or seriously ill;”.

(a) S.R. 1983 No. 61; the relevant amending regulations are S.R. 1983 No. 115

(b) S.I. 1983/883

(6) In regulation 9(1)(a) (boarders) for the words from "except where" to "paragraph (6)" there shall be substituted "subject to paragraph (7) shall not exceed the maximum amount in respect of the assessment unit as a whole referred to in paragraph (6)".

(7) For paragraphs (6) and (7) of regulation 9 there shall be substituted the following paragraphs—

"(6) Subject to paragraph (6A) the maximum amount in respect of the assessment unit as a whole referred to in paragraph (1)(a) shall be—

(a) in respect of any dependant aged less than 11, 1½ times the amount referred to in paragraph (5)(c), and

(b) in respect of any member of the assessment unit other than a dependant to whom sub-paragraph (a) applies, the amount estimated by a benefit officer as representing the reasonable weekly charge for the relevant area for full board and lodging (inclusive of all meals) which is available in that area or, if the level of charges there is unusually high, in an adjoining area, and which is of a standard suitable for claimants resident in the type of accommodation which is provided either—

(i) in a nursing home as defined in section 10(1) of the Nursing Homes and Nursing Agencies Act (Northern Ireland) 1971(a) or a private hospital within the meaning of Part IV of the Mental Health Act (Northern Ireland) 1961(b), or

(ii) in a home registered in accordance with Schedule 5 to the Health and Personal Social Services (Northern Ireland) Order 1972(c) (registration of homes for persons in need), or

(iii) in any other type of accommodation,

whichever may be appropriate to the accommodation provided in respect of the claimant in that assessment unit save that, in respect of persons referred to in paragraph (6A) (c) (v) or (vi), the amount shall be the amount in respect of accommodation specified under head (iii) hereof.

(6A) The maximum amount specified in paragraph (6) shall be increased by any excess of the actual charge over that maximum up to £15.35, or if the increase is payable under sub-paragraph (a) or (c) of this paragraph and the claimant is a relevant person up to £30.70, in the case of—

(a) a claimant who has attained pensionable age or a relevant person or his partner either of whom is aged 65 or over, or

(b) a claimant or any other member of the assessment unit who is infirm by reason of physical or mental disability, or

(c) a claimant in respect of whom or of whose accommodation one or more of the following conditions are satisfied namely that—

(i) he is a person in respect of whom the Department has power to make arrangements pursuant to Article 36(1)(a) of the Health and Personal Social Services (Northern Ireland) Order 1972 (provision of accommodation in premises registered in accordance with Schedule 5 to that Order) but has declined to exercise that power,

(ii) the accommodation is provided in a nursing home as defined in section 10(1) of the Nursing Homes and Nursing Agencies Act (Northern Ireland) 1971 or a private hospital within the meaning of Part IV of the Mental Health Act (Northern Ireland) 1961 where the Department has

(a) 1971 c. 32 (N.I.)

(b) 1961 c. 15 (N.I.)

(c) S.I. 1972/1265 (N.I. 14)

power pursuant to Article 71(1) of the Health and Personal Social Services (Northern Ireland) Order 1972 (arrangements with and assistance to voluntary organisations) to make contractual arrangements for the provision of accommodation but has declined to exercise that power,

- (iii) he is a person in respect of whom the Department has power to provide residential accommodation pursuant to Article 8 of the Health and Personal Social Services (Northern Ireland) Order 1972 (care of mothers and young children) but has declined to exercise that power,
- (iv) he is a person—
  - (aa) in respect of whom the Department has power to provide residential accommodation pursuant to Article 7 of the Health and Personal Social Services (Northern Ireland) Order 1972 (prevention of illness, care and after-care) but has declined to exercise that power, and
  - (bb) whose accommodation is in premises registered in accordance with Schedule 5 to the Health and Personal Social Services (Northern Ireland) Order 1972 (registration of homes for persons in need),
- (v) he is a person suffering from a mental disorder within the meaning of the Mental Health Act (Northern Ireland) 1961 in respect of whom the Department has, pursuant to Article 7 or 36(1)(b) or (c) of the Health and Personal Social Services (Northern Ireland) Order 1972 (prevention of illness, care and after-care), made arrangements for the provision of residential accommodation in a private household or premises which are not required to be registered in accordance with Schedule 5 to that Order,
- (vi) he is a person who is resident in premises which are used for the rehabilitation of alcoholics or drug addicts,

so, however, that only one increase shall be applicable under this paragraph in respect of any member of the assessment unit and the amount payable by virtue of this paragraph in respect of a claimant and his partner shall not exceed £30.70 and, if any member of the assessment unit who is a boarder is receiving attendance allowance under section 35 of the Act, an increase of disablement pension under section 61 of the Act, constant attendance allowance by virtue of Article 14 of the Naval, Military and Air Forces Etc. (Disablement and Death) Service Pensions Order 1983, or constant attendance allowance by virtue of Article 14 of the Personal Injuries (Civilians) Scheme 1983(a), an increase shall only be payable to the extent that the excess of the actual charge over the maximum amount is more than the amount of whichever of the aforementioned allowances on increase of pension is in payment up to a maximum of the higher rate of attendance allowance specified in Schedule 4 to the Act.

(6B) The maximum amount applicable in respect of a dependant aged less than 11 calculated in the manner referred to in paragraph (6)(a) shall be rounded to the nearest multiple of 5p by treating an odd amount of 2.5p or more as 5p and by disregarding an odd amount of less than 2.5p.

(7) This paragraph shall apply for a period not exceeding 13 weeks to a claimant who has lived in the same accommodation for more than 12 months and who could afford the charges in respect of that accommodation when he took up residence, if, having regard to the availability of and level of charges for board

and lodging accommodation and to the circumstances mentioned in regulation 21(5)(b), this is reasonable to allow him time to find alternative accommodation, and in such a case paragraph (6) shall not apply except to the extent that he is able to meet the balance of the actual charge over the maximum amount out of income which is disregarded for the purposes of the Resources Regulations.”.

(8) In regulation 9(10) there shall be inserted at the beginning “Subject to paragraph (11),” and there shall be deleted the words from “but excluding” to the end of the paragraph.

(9) In regulation 9 there shall be added after paragraph (10) the following paragraphs—

“(11) There shall be excluded from the definition of “boarder” in paragraph (10) any person—

(a) whose accommodation and meals (if any) are provided by a close relative or other than on a commercial basis, or

(b) who is in the opinion of the benefit officer on holiday and during a period which has not yet continued for more than 13 weeks is absent from the home or from a hospital or similar institution in which he is normally a patient, or

(c) who is aged under 19 but not less than 16 who is in the care of the Department under the provisions of a relevant enactment, except such a person who is personally liable to pay the cost of his accommodation and maintenance direct to someone other than the Department.

(12) In this regulation “a relevant enactment” means the Children and Young Persons Act (Northern Ireland) 1968(a), the Matrimonial Causes (Northern Ireland) Order 1978(b) or the Domestic Proceedings (Northern Ireland) Order 1980(c).”.

(10) In regulation 10(5) (modification of normal requirements in special cases) in sub-paragraph (a) after “the Health and Personal Social Services (Northern Ireland) Order 1972” and in sub-paragraph (b) after “(registration of homes for persons in need)” there shall be inserted “other than in premises which are used for the rehabilitation of alcoholics or drug addicts”, and in sub-paragraph (b) for the reference to regulation 9(6)(d) there shall be substituted a reference to regulation 9(6A)(c).

(11) In regulation 13(6) (additional requirements for items other than heating) for “and 17” there shall be substituted “, 17 and 17A”.

(12) In regulation 14 (housing requirements)—

(a) in paragraph (3)(b) the words from “but” to the end shall be omitted, and

(b) in paragraph (4) “, as defined in the Resources Regulations,” shall be deleted and before “vacation” there shall be inserted “normal”.

(13) In regulation 20 (special cases) in paragraph (6) (a) before “the home” there shall be inserted “the landlord is the Northern Ireland Housing Executive or”.

(14) In Schedule 2 (modification of normal requirements in special cases)—

(a) in column (3) of paragraph 2 for “the long-term rate for householders” where it first appears there shall be substituted “the higher of the two sums for the time being specified in Article 8(1)(a) of the Social Security Pensions

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(a) 1968 c. 34 (N.I.)

(b) S.I. 1978/1045 (N.I. 15)

(c) S.I. 1980/563 (N.I. 5)

(Northern Ireland) Order 1975(a) (hereafter in this paragraph referred to as “the relevant sum specified in Article 8(1)(a)”) and wherever it otherwise appears there shall be substituted “the relevant sum specified in Article 8(1)(a)”, and

(b) for column (3) of paragraph 4 there shall be substituted the following—

“4. A weekly amount equal to 7 times the combined total of the rates for the time being specified in regulation 9(4)(b)(i), (ii) and (iii) (daily rates for breakfast and mid-day and evening meals).”

(15) In Schedule 3, Part II (additional requirements for items other than heating)—

(a) in sub-paragraph (1) of paragraph 14, column (2) the words “provided this does not exceed twice the ordinary rate for non-householders” shall be enclosed in brackets and immediately there shall be inserted “, and, where applicable, an amount equal to the amount, calculated on a weekly basis, of any secondary Class 1 contribution payable under the Act arising from employment consisting of the rendering of that assistance”, and

(b) after paragraph 17 there shall be inserted the following paragraph—

“*Special clothing or footwear*

17A. Where the cost of an item of necessary clothing or footwear for any person, other than an item available under the Health and Personal Social Services (Northern Ireland) Order 1972, significantly exceeds the cost of such an item in standard sizes or fittings by reason of his stature or size or of any physical disability of his.

17A. The estimated extra cost, calculated on a weekly basis, of the item above that of such an item in standard sizes of fittings.”

*Amendment of the Supplementary Benefit (Resources) Regulations (Northern Ireland) 1981*

3.—(1) The Supplementary Benefit (Resources) Regulations (Northern Ireland) 1981(b) shall be amended in accordance with the following provisions.

(2) In regulation 2(1) (interpretation)—

(a) in the definition of “liable relative” immediately after “deceased liable relative” there shall be inserted “or to a payment resulting from a disposition of property, whether voluntary or by order of the court as the case may be, made in or in connection with an agreement to separate or proceedings for a decree of divorce or judicial separation or for a decree or declarator of nullity”; and

(b) there shall be inserted after the definition of “liable relative” the following definition—

““life policy” means any instrument by which the payment of money is assured on death (except death by accident only) or the happening of any contingency dependent on human life, or any instrument evidencing a contract which is subject to payment of premiums for a term dependent on human life;”

(3) In regulation 3(2) (calculation of resources)—

(a) in sub-paragraph (b) for “sum” there shall be substituted “payment”, and

(b) after sub-paragraph (e) there shall be added the following sub-paragraph—

(a) S.I. 1975/1503 (N.I. 15); see Article 25, and also section 120 of the Social Security (Northern Ireland) Act 1975 (c. 15)

(b) S.R. 1981 No. 370; the relevant amending regulations are S.R. 1982 Nos. 239, 242 and 295

“(f) any payment by way of an annual bounty to a member of any territorial or reserve force mentioned in Part I of Schedule 3 to the Social Security (Contributions) Regulations 1979(a) shall be treated as a capital resource.”.

(4) In regulation 6(1) (disregarded capital resources) there shall be added after sub-paragraph (h) the following sub-paragraphs—

“(i) any sum attributable to savings made out of income for the purpose of meeting any periodically recurring liability in respect of such personal living expenses and expenses of the home as are reasonable in the opinion of the benefit officer, including in particular charges for—

- (i) rent
- (ii) rates
- (iii) fuel
- (iv) telephone rental or calls

for such a period and up to such an amount as are reasonable in the opinion of the benefit officer, having regard respectively to the time when the liability falls to be met and its expected amount;

(j) the first £1,500 of the surrender value of any life policy or, in any case where there are two or more such policies, of their combined surrender value;

(k) a sum representing the market value of the equitable interest of a member of the assessment unit in trust funds—

(i) which are derived from a payment, whether in pursuance of a court order or otherwise, in consequence of a personal or criminal injury to him, and

(ii) to which as sole beneficiary under the trust he is entitled absolutely, so however that where that member is the claimant or his partner that sum shall only be disregarded for such a period, not normally exceeding 12 months from the date on which the payment would, but for this sub-paragraph, fall to be taken into account for the purposes of a claim for pension or allowance or a review of a determination pursuant to regulation 4 of the Determination of Questions Regulations, as is reasonable in the circumstances in the opinion of the benefit officer.”.

(5) In regulation 9(2) (calculation of income resources)—

(a) in sub-paragraph (b) there shall be added after head (ii)—

“so however that in either case where the payment in question is the last of two or more consecutive payments of any benefit to which regulation 15 of the Social Security (Claims and Payments) Regulations (Northern Ireland) 1977(b) applies (unemployment, sickness and certain other benefits under the Act) it shall be treated as paid on the date immediately following the last day of the period to which the payment immediately preceding it is attributable in accordance with the provisions of this paragraph;”, and

(b) there shall be inserted after sub-paragraph (c) the following sub-paragraph—

“(cc) where any payment of income from a particular source, whether payable weekly or attributable at a weekly rate in accordance with sub-paragraph (c), is paid regularly, the amount of that income attributable to any one benefit week shall not exceed the amount of or, as the case may be, the weekly rate of one such payment;”.

(a) S.I. 1979/591; Part I of Schedule 3 substituted by S.I. 1981/1975

(b) S.R. 1977 No. 351; the relevant amending regulations are S.R. 1983 No. 36

- (6) In regulation 10 (calculation of earnings)—
- (a) in paragraph (1) after “Subject to” there shall be inserted “regulation 3(2)(f) and”,
  - (b) in paragraph (3)—
    - (i) in head (iv) of sub-paragraph (d) there shall be deleted “for periods of less than 8 hours a week”, and
    - (ii) after sub-paragraph (d) there shall be inserted the following sub-paragraph—
      - “(e) any payment of bonus or commission which under paragraph (1)(b) of regulation 9 of the Supplementary Benefit (Conditions of Entitlement) Regulations (Northern Ireland) 1981(a) has been taken into account for the purposes of that regulation (claimants treated as engaged in remunerative full-time work for the purposes of Article 9(1) of the Order) as a claimant’s earnings for a period subsequent to the termination of his employment or during which he was a person affected by a trade dispute;”, and
  - (c) in head (ii) of paragraph (4)(b) for “that period”, where it first occurs, there shall be substituted “the period to which his earnings from that employment relate”.
- (7) In regulation 11 (calculation of other income)—
- (a) in sub-paragraph (2)(a) between “as” and “the” there shall be inserted “regulation 3(2)(a) and”,
  - (b) at the end of paragraph (2) there shall be added the following sub-paragraph—
    - “(g) any payment of pension or allowance under the Order.”, and
  - (c) in sub-paragraph (1) of paragraph (4) for “or (e)” there shall be substituted “(e), (g) or (i)”.

*Amendment of the Supplementary Benefit (Single Payments) Regulations (Northern Ireland) 1981*

4. In sub-paragraph (b) of regulation 17(1) of the Supplementary Benefit (Single Payments) Regulations (Northern Ireland) 1981(b) (essential repairs and maintenance of the home) for “£225” there shall be substituted “£325”.

*Transitional provision*

- 5.—(1) Subject to paragraphs (2) and (3)—
- (a) in respect of any persons to whom the provisions of paragraph (7) of regulation 9 of the Supplementary Benefit (Requirements) Regulations (Northern Ireland) 1983 (hereafter in this regulation referred to as “the Requirements Regulations”) applied immediately prior to the date of the coming into operation of this regulation by virtue of sub-paragraph (a) of that paragraph those provisions shall continue to apply for 12 months from that date so long as the claimant remains in the same accommodation or is temporarily absent for a period not exceeding 8 weeks;
  - (b) in respect of any person to whom the provisions of paragraph (7) of regulation 9 of the Requirements Regulations applied immediately prior to the coming into operation of this regulation by virtue of sub-paragraph (b) of that paragraph, those provisions shall apply for the period for which they would otherwise have applied.

(a) S.R. 1981 No. 371; the relevant amending regulations are S.R. 1982 No. 240

(b) S.R. 1981 No. 369; the relevant amending regulations are S.R. 1982 No. 240

(2) Subject to paragraph (3), a claimant who was entitled to an increase by virtue of regulation 9(6)(a) of the Requirements Regulations immediately prior to the date of the coming into operation of these regulations shall continue to be entitled to such an increase up to a maximum of, if he is a relevant person, £12.60, or, in any other case, £6.30, for 12 months from that date so long as he remains in the same accommodation or is temporarily absent for a period not exceeding 8 weeks.

(3) Paragraphs (1) and (2) shall not apply in respect of any person who is resident in premises which are used for the rehabilitation of alcoholics or drug addicts and paragraph (2) shall not apply to a claimant who is entitled to an increase by virtue of regulation 9(6A) of the Requirements Regulations.

Sealed with the Official Seal of the Department of Health and Social Services for Northern Ireland on 5th August 1983.

(L.S.)

*A. N. Burns*

Assistant Secretary

The Department of Finance and Personnel for Northern Ireland hereby consents to the foregoing regulations.

Sealed with the Official Seal of the Department of Finance and Personnel for Northern Ireland on 5th August 1983.

(L.S.)

*N. R. Cowling*

Assistant Secretary

## EXPLANATORY NOTE

*(This note is not part of the Regulations.)*

These regulations further amend the Supplementary Benefit (Requirements) Regulations (Northern Ireland) 1983 ("the Requirements Regulations"), the Supplementary Benefit (Resources) Regulations (Northern Ireland) 1981 ("the Resources Regulations") and the Supplementary Benefit (Single Payments) Regulations (Northern Ireland) 1981 ("the Single Payments Regulations").

Various provisions of the Requirements Regulations are amended by regulation 2, as set out in this paragraph. In regulation 2 two new definitions, of "qualifying benefit" and "student", are inserted to clarify amendments made elsewhere in the regulations. In regulation 5(5) the condition relating to permitted absences from where they normally reside of persons qualifying as householders under the table in Schedule 1 to the Supplementary Benefits (Northern Ireland) Order 1977 is amended so as to exclude absences of students on normal vacations. Regulation 7 is amended to enable persons in receipt of certain long-term incapacity benefits, and because of the level of those benefits ineligible for the ordinary (lower) rate of supplementary benefit, to count periods in receipt of those incapacity benefits towards the qualifying period for the long-term (higher) rate of supplementary benefit. Regulation 7 is also amended to reduce the length of the gap permitted between periods in receipt of supplementary benefit in reckoning the 52 week qualifying period for benefit at the long-term rate. Regulation 8(3) is amended to restrict the special circumstances in which a smaller reduction is made in benefit payable to persons actually or notionally disqualified from receiving unemployment benefit. Regulation 9 is amended so as to alter the basis on which the rates for board and lodging allowance is calculated and the circumstances in which amounts above the normal maximum limit can be paid and to ensure that the general rates apply to persons in accommodation for the treatment of alcoholism and drug addiction. The exclusion from the definition of "boarder" in paragraph (10) is also expanded to cover certain persons in holiday accommodation or in the care of the Department. Regulation 14(3)(b) is amended so as to make joint householders eligible only for their actual housing requirement, and not, as previously, for a housing requirement equal to the amount of the non-householder contribution in cases where the actual requirement fell below the amount of that contribution. Regulation 20(6)(a) is amended so that it shall apply where the landlord is the Northern Ireland Housing Executive. Schedule 2 is amended so as to ensure that the supplementary benefit rate for hospital in-patients remains as the same proportion of the weekly rate of the basic component of a Category A retirement pension by linking it directly to that rate instead of to the long-term supplementary benefit rate for householders which is no longer the same as that retirement pension rate. That Schedule is also amended to give single homeless claimants a different higher rate of benefit to meet the cost of meals. Schedule 3 Part II is amended so as to extend additional requirements to include in the cost of residential domestic assistance payable in special cases of disability etc., the cost of any secondary Class 1 contributions payable by the employer under the Social Security (Northern Ireland) Act 1975 and to add to the list of additional requirements a new item, the cost of special clothing and footwear for persons unable to wear standard sizes.

Various provisions of the Resources Regulations are amended by regulation 3, as set out in this paragraph. In regulation 2, the definition of "payments made by or derived from a liable relative" (appended to the definition of "liable relative") is amended to exclude payments resulting from certain dispositions of property in the matrimonial field and a definition of "life policy" is added to clarify an amendment elsewhere in the regulations. Regulation 3(2) is amended so as to include among capital resources certain annual bounties for members of territorial and reserve forces

and the Ulster Defence Regiment. Regulation 6(1) is amended to add three new items to capital resources disregarded, namely amounts saved to meet certain regularly recurring liabilities, the first £1,500 of the surrender value of life insurance policies and the market value of a sole beneficiary's right to trust funds in certain circumstances where that right is an actual resource. Regulation 9(2) is amended to ensure that certain income resources are not indirectly taken into account twice over. Regulation 10 is amended so as to relax the disregard of earnings from service in the territorial and reserve forces and the Ulster Defence Regiment and to prevent certain payments of bonus and commission being taken account of twice over in different ways. Regulation 11 is amended to add supplementary pension or allowance to the categories of income taken into account in full and to provide for the disregard of income from two additional categories of capital disregarded under regulation 6(1).

Regulation 4 amends regulation 17(1) (b) of the Single Payments Regulations so as to increase the maximum cost of repairs to and redecoration of the home for which a single payment will be made. Regulation 5 makes certain transitional provisions in connection with the amendments to regulation 9 of the Requirements Regulations affecting board and lodging rates made by regulation 2 of these regulations.