

1991 No. 332

HEALTH AND PERSONAL SOCIAL SERVICES**Optical Charges and Payments (Amendment) Regulations
(Northern Ireland) 1991**

Made 26th July 1991

Coming into operation 1st August 1991.

The Department of Health and Social Services, in exercise of the powers conferred on it by Articles 98 and 106 of, and Schedule 15 to, the Health and Personal Social Services (Northern Ireland) Order 1972(a) and of all other powers enabling it in that behalf, with the approval of the Department of Finance and Personnel(b), hereby makes the following regulations:

Citation, commencement and interpretation

1.—(1) These regulations may be cited as the Optical Charges and Payments (Amendment) Regulations (Northern Ireland) 1991 and shall come into operation on 1st August 1991.

(2) In these regulations, “the principal regulations” means the Optical Charges and Payments Regulations (Northern Ireland) 1989(c).

Amendment of regulation 20 of the principal regulations

2. In regulation 20 of the principal regulations (redemption value of voucher for replacement or repair)—

(a) in paragraph (1)(b) for “£32·15” there is substituted “£32·80”; and

(b) in paragraph (3) for “£8·20” there is substituted “£8·40”.

Amendment of Schedules to the principal regulations

3.—(1) In Schedule 1 to the principal regulations (voucher letter codes and face values — supply and replacement) in column 3 (face value of voucher) for each amount specified in column 1 of the Table below (old amount) there shall be substituted the amount specified in relation to it in column 2 of that Table (new amount).

(a) S.I. 1972/1265 (N.I. 14) as amended by S.I. 1984/1158 (N.I. 8) Article 3 and paragraph 3 of Schedule 1 and S.I. 1991/194 (N.I. 1) Article 34 and Part II of Schedule 5; there are other amendments which are not relevant

(b) Formerly Department of Finance: see S.I. 1982/338 (N.I. 6) Art. 3

(c) S.R. 1989 No. 114 as amended by S.R. 1991 No. 115

TABLE

| Column 1 <i>Old amount</i> | Column 2 <i>New amount</i> |
|--|-------------------------------|
| £ 19.30 | £ 19.70 |
| £ 30.50 | £ 31.15 |
| £ 48.00 | £ 49.00 |
| £ 37.00 | £ 37.80 |
| £ 61.00 | £ 62.30 |
| £102.00 (in both places where it appears) | £104.20 |
| £ 32.15 | £ 32.80 |

(2) In Schedule 2 to the principal regulations (prisms, tints, photochromic lenses, small and special glasses and complex appliances)—

- (a) in paragraph 1(1)(a) (prism — single vision lens) for “£4.10” there is substituted “£4.20”;
- (b) in paragraph 1(1)(b) (prism — other lens) for “£5.10” there is substituted “£5.20”;
- (c) in paragraph 1(1)(c) (single vision tinted lens) for “£2.05” there is substituted “£2.10”;
- (d) in paragraph 1(1)(d) (other tinted lens) for “£2.55” there is substituted “£2.60”;
- (e) in paragraph 1(1)(e) (small glasses)—
 - (i) in sub-head (i) for “£35.20” there is substituted “£36.00”,
 - (ii) in sub-head (ii) for “£31.30” there is substituted “£32.00”, and
 - (iii) in sub-head (iii) for “£16.90” there is substituted “£17.30”;
- (f) in paragraph 1(1)(f) (photochromic lenses) for “£2.05” there is substituted “£2.10” and for “£2.55” there is substituted “£2.60”;
- (g) in paragraph 1(1)(g) (specially manufactured frames) for “£35.20” there is substituted “£36.00”;
- (h) in paragraph 2(a) (minimum complex appliance payment — single vision lenses) for “£3.60” there is substituted “£3.70”; and
- (i) in paragraph 2(b) (minimum complex appliance payment — other cases) for “£19.25” there is substituted “£19.70”.

(3) For Schedule 3 to the principal regulations (voucher values — repair) there is substituted the Schedule 3 set out in the Schedule.

Application of regulations

4. The amendments made by regulations 2 and 3 and the Schedule apply only in relation to a voucher—

- (a) accepted or used on or after 1st August 1991 pursuant to regulation 12 or regulation 18 of the principal regulations; or
- (b) sent to the Agency pursuant to regulation 14(2)(c) of the principal regulations in respect of cost incurred on or after that date.

Sealed with the Official Seal of the Department of Health and Social Services on 26th July 1991.

(L.S.)

J. Scott

Assistant Secretary

The Department of Finance and Personnel hereby approves the foregoing Regulations.

Sealed with the Official Seal of the Department of Finance and Personnel on 26th July 1991.

(L.S.)

Doreen Brown

Assistant Secretary

SCHEDULE

Regulation 3(3)

SCHEDULE 3 TO THE PRINCIPAL REGULATIONS AS SUBSTITUTED BY THESE REGULATIONS

SCHEDULE 3

Regulation 20(2) and (3)

Voucher Values — Repair

| 1 <i>Nature of repair to appliance</i> | 2 <i>Letter codes—Values</i> | | | | | |
|---|---------------------------------|-------|-------|-------|-------|---------|
| | A | B | C | D | E | F and G |
| | £ | £ | £ | £ | £ | £ |
| Repair or replacement of one lens | 5.65 | 11.40 | 20.30 | 14.70 | 26.95 | 47.90 |
| Repair or replacement of 2 lenses | 11.30 | 22.75 | 40.60 | 29.40 | 53.90 | 95.80 |
| Repair or replacement of— | | | | | | |
| the front of a frame | 7.45 | 7.45 | 7.45 | 7.45 | 7.45 | 7.45 |
| a side of a frame | 4.10 | 4.10 | 4.10 | 4.10 | 4.10 | 4.10 |
| the whole frame | 8.40 | 8.40 | 8.40 | 8.40 | 8.40 | 8.40 |

EXPLANATORY NOTE

(This note is not part of the Regulations.)

These regulations further amend the Optical Charges and Payments Regulations (Northern Ireland) 1989 (“the principal regulations”) which provide for payments to be made, by means of a voucher system, in respect of costs incurred by certain categories of persons in connection with the supply, replacement and repair of optical appliances.

The regulations increase, by an average of 2.13 per cent, the value of vouchers issued in respect of the cost of:—

- (a) the supply and replacement of glasses and contact lenses (regulation 3(1)); and
- (b) the repair or replacement of appliances (regulation 3(3) and the Schedule).

Regulation 3(2) increases the additional values for vouchers in respect of prisms, tints, photochromic lenses, and special categories of appliances.

Regulation 2 increases the redemption value of vouchers for replacement or repair in consequence of the increases effected by regulation 3. Regulation 4 prescribes the vouchers to which the regulations shall apply.