
EXPLANATORY NOTE

(This note is not part of the Regulations.)

These Regulations further amend the Housing Benefit (General) Regulations (Northern Ireland) 1987, and the Housing Benefit (Supply of Information) Regulations (Northern Ireland) 1988.

The amendments are consequential on the coming into operation of the Jobseekers (Northern Ireland) Order 1995, which replaces income support for the unemployed and unemployment benefit with jobseeker's allowance. The Regulations replace references to unemployment benefit with references to a jobseeker's allowance, and add references to a jobseeker's allowance where the existing Regulations refer to income support. They also provide that, in certain circumstances, days on which entitlement to a jobseeker's allowance does not arise in accordance with paragraph 4 of Schedule 1 to the Jobseekers (Northern Ireland) Order 1995 (waiting days) or payment is not made in accordance with Article 21 of that Order, are counted as days of payment of a jobseeker's allowance.

These Regulations are made pursuant to Article 39 of the Jobseekers (Northern Ireland) Order 1995 (S.I.1995/2705 (N.I. 15)) and are made before the end of the period of 6 months beginning with the date Article 39 of the Jobseekers (Northern Ireland) Order 1995 came into operation (5th February 1996). Accordingly they are exempted by section 150(5)(b) of the Social Security Administration (Northern Ireland) Act 1992 (c. 8) from reference to the Social Security Advisory Committee and have not been so referred.