EXPLANATORY NOTE

(This note is not part of the Regulations.)

These Regulations, which are consequential upon the coming into operation of the Jobseekers (Northern Ireland) Order 1995 ("the Jobseekers Order") which, *inter alia*, replaces unemployment benefit and income support for the unemployed with a new benefit called jobseeker's allowance, make amendments to the Social Security (Claims and Payments) Regulations (Northern Ireland) 1987.

The Regulations are made before the end of the period of 6 months beginning with the commencement of the Jobseekers Order and accordingly, by virtue of section 150(5) of the Social Security Administration (Northern Ireland) Act 1992 (c. 8), are not subject to the requirement of section 149(2) of that Act for prior reference to the Social Security Advisory Committee.

Article 28 of the Jobseekers Order is an enabling provision under which these Regulations are made. It was brought into operation, for the purpose only of authorising the making of regulations, on 5th February 1996 by virtue of Article 2(b) of the Jobseekers (1995 Order) (Commencement No. 1) Order (Northern Ireland) 1996 (S.R. 1996 No. 26 (C. 3)).