STATUTORY RULES OF NORTHERN IRELAND

2007 No. 174

LEGAL AID AND ADVICE

Legal Advice and Assistance (Financial Conditions) Regulations (Northern Ireland) 2007

> Made 18th March 2007 To be laid before Parliament Coming into operation 9th April 2007

The Lord Chancellor makes the following Regulations in exercise of the powers conferred by Articles 3(2), 7(3), 22 and 27 of the Legal Aid, Advice and Assistance (Northern Ireland) Order 1981(1) and now vested in him(2):

Citation, commencement and interpretation

1.—(1) These Regulations may be cited as the Legal Advice and Assistance (Financial Conditions) Regulations (Northern Ireland) 2007 and shall come into operation on 9th April 2007.

(2) In these Regulations, "the Order" means the Legal Aid, Advice and Assistance (Northern Ireland) Order 1981.

Revocation

2. The Legal Advice and Assistance (Financial Conditions) Regulations (Northern Ireland) 2006(3) are hereby revoked.

Persons eligible for advice and assistance

3. For the weekly sum of "£208" specified in Article 3(1) of the Order(4) there shall be substituted the weekly sum of "£215".

⁽¹⁾ S.I. 1981/228 (N.I. 8); Article 27 is an interpretation provision and is recited because of the meaning assigned to the words "prescribed" and "regulations"

S.I. 1982/159 (2) (3) S.R. 2006 No. 117

⁽⁴⁾ Which figure was most recently substituted by S.R. 2006 No. 117

Contributions from persons receiving advice and assistance

4. For the weekly sum of " \pounds 88" specified in Article 7(2) of the Order(5) there shall be substituted the weekly sum of " \pounds 91".

Signed by authority of the Lord Chancellor

Dated 18th March 2007

Bridget Prentice Parliamentary Under-Secretary of State, Department for Constitutional Affairs

(5) Which figure was most recently substituted by S.R. 2006 No. 117

EXPLANATORY NOTE

(This note is not part of the Regulations)

These Regulations amend the Legal Aid, Advice and Assistance (Northern Ireland) Order 1981 so as to:

- (a) increase the upper income limit to make legal advice and assistance available to those with disposable income of not more than £215 a week (instead of £208);
- (b) increase the lower income limit below which legal advice and assistance is available without payment of a contribution to £91 a week (instead of £88).

No changes are made to the capital limits.