

SCHEDULE 1

CONTRIBUTIONS TOWARDS MAINTENANCE OF LOOKED AFTER CHILDREN

Liability to contribute

- 1 (1) Where a local authority is looking after a child (other than in the cases mentioned in sub-paragraph (8)) it must consider whether it should recover contributions towards the child's maintenance from any person liable to contribute ("a contributor").
- (2) An authority may only recover contributions from a contributor if it considers it reasonable to do so.
- (3) A person is liable to contribute if he or she is an adult with parental responsibility for the child.
- (4) A person is not liable to contribute during any period when the person is in receipt of a benefit which falls within a category specified in regulations.
- (5) In sub-paragraph (4) "benefit" includes any allowance, payment, credit or loan.
- (6) A person is not liable to contribute towards the maintenance of a child in the care of a local authority in respect of any period during which the child is living with a parent of the child under arrangements made by the authority in accordance with section 81.
- (7) A contributor is not obliged to make any contribution towards a child's maintenance except as agreed or determined in accordance with this Schedule.
- (8) The cases are those in which the child is looked after by a local authority under—
 - (a) section 76;
 - (b) an interim care order under the Children Act 1989;
 - (c) section 92 of the Powers of Criminal Courts (Sentencing) Act 2000.