



# Social Security Administration (Fraud) Act 1997

## CHAPTER 47

### SOCIAL SECURITY ADMINISTRATION (FRAUD) ACT 1997

#### *Supply and use of information*

- 1 Information held by tax authorities.
- 2 Other government information.
- 3 Authorities administering housing benefit or council tax benefit.
- 4 Unauthorised disclosure by officials.

#### *Administration of housing benefit and council tax benefit*

- 5 Overseeing of administration by Secretary of State.
- 6 Role of Audit Commission.
- 7 Role of Accounts Commission for Scotland.
- 8 Directions by Secretary of State.
- 9 Enforcement of directions.
- 10 Adjustment of subsidy.

#### *Investigations relating to housing benefit and council tax benefit*

- 11 Information from landlords and agents.
- 12 Inspectors appointed by authorities.

#### *Offences, penalties and overpayments*

- 13 Offence of dishonest representation for obtaining benefit.
- 14 Extension of offence of false representation for obtaining benefit.
- 15 Penalty as alternative to prosecution.
- 16 Recovery of overpaid housing benefit.

*Changes to legislation: Social Security Administration (Fraud) Act 1997 is up to date with all changes known to be in force on or before 24 January 2024. There are changes that may be brought into force at a future date. Changes that have been made appear in the content and are referenced with annotations. (See end of Document for details) View outstanding changes*

*Reviews and medical examinations*

- 17 Reviews initiated by Secretary of State.
- 18 Medical examinations of persons awarded certain benefits.

*National insurance numbers*

- 19 Requirement to state national insurance number.

*Redirection of post*

- 20 Return of social security post.
- 21 Information about redirection of post.

*Supplementary*

- 22 Minor and consequential amendments and repeals.
- 23 Northern Ireland.
- 24 Financial provision.
- 25 Commencement.
- 26 Short title.

SCHEDULES

SCHEDULE 1 — Minor and consequential amendments

*The Local Government Finance Act 1982 (c.32)*

- 1 .....

*The Social Security Administration Act 1992 (c.5)*

- 2 .....
- 3 In section 75(1) of that Act (recovery of overpayments of...
- 4 (1) Section 112 of that Act (offence of making false...
- 5 In section 116 of that Act (legal proceedings), after subsection...
- 6 In section 123(2)(b) and (9)(d) of that Act (offence of...
- 7 (1) Section 140B of that Act (calculation of amount of...
- 8 In section 164 of that Act (destination of repayments etc.),...
- 9 After section 182B of that Act (inserted by section 21(1))...
- 10 In section 189(7) of that Act (power for orders and...
- 11 In section 190(1)(b) of that Act (regulations required to be...
- 12 (1) Section 191 of that Act (interpretation) is amended as...

*The Social Security Administration (Northern Ireland) Act 1992 (c.8)*

- 13 In section 166(2)(a) of the Social Security Administration (Northern Ireland)...
- 14 (1) Section 167(1) of that Act (interpretation) is amended as...

SCHEDULE 2 — Repeals

**Changes to legislation:**

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**Changes and effects yet to be applied to :**

- s. 11 repealed by [2012 c. 5 Sch. 14 Pt. 10](#)
- s. 16 repealed by [2012 c. 5 Sch. 14 Pt. 1](#)