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STATUTORY INSTRUMENTS

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**2017 No. 111 (C. 12)**

**SOCIAL SECURITY**

The Pensions Act 2014 (Commencement No. 9) and the Welfare Reform and Work Act 2016 (Commencement No. 4) Regulations 2017

Made - - - - 7th February 2017

The Secretary of State makes the following Regulations in exercise of the powers conferred by section 56(1) and (7) of the Pensions Act 2014<sup>(1)</sup> and section 36(6) of the Welfare Reform and Work Act 2016<sup>(2)</sup>.

**Citation**

1. These Regulations may be cited as the Pensions Act 2014 (Commencement No. 9) and the Welfare Reform and Work Act 2016 (Commencement No. 4) Regulations 2017.

**Provisions of the Welfare Reform and Work Act 2016 coming into force on the day after the day on which these Regulations are made**

2. The following provisions of the Welfare Reform and Work Act 2016 come into force on the day after the day on which these Regulations are made—

- (a) section 14(6) to (8) (regulation-making powers);
- (b) section 15(4) to (7) (regulation-making powers).

**Provisions of the Welfare Reform and Work Act 2016 coming into force on 3rd April 2017**

3. The following provisions of the Welfare Reform and Work Act 2016 come into force on 3rd April 2017—

- (a) section 15(1) to (3) (employment and support allowance: work-related activity component);
- (b) section 16 (universal credit: limited capability for work element);
- (c) section 17 (universal credit: work-related requirements);
- (d) section 18 (loans for mortgage interest etc);

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(1) 2014 c. 19.  
(2) 2016 c. 7.

- (e) section 19 (further provision);
- (f) section 21 (transitional provision).

**Provisions of the Welfare Reform and Work Act 2016 coming into force on 6th April 2017**

4. Section 14(1) to (5) (changes to child element of universal credit) of the Welfare Reform and Work Act 2016 comes into force on 6th April 2017.

**Provisions of the Pensions Act 2014 coming into force on the day after the day on which these Regulations are made**

5. The following provisions of the Pensions Act 2014 come into force on the day after the day on which these Regulations are made—

- (a) section 31(5) (bereavement support payment: contribution condition and amendments) so far as it relates to paragraphs 20 and 33 of Schedule 16 (bereavement support payment: amendments);
- (b) paragraph 20 of Schedule 16 so far as it relates to paragraph 33 of Schedule 16;
- (c) paragraph 33 of Schedule 16.

Signed by authority of the Secretary of State for Work and Pensions

7th February 2017

*Damian Hinds*  
Minister of State,  
Department for Work and Pensions

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## EXPLANATORY NOTE

*(This note is not part of the Regulations)*

These Regulations bring into force provisions in the Welfare Reform and Work Act 2016 (c. 7) relating to employment and support allowance, universal credit and loans for mortgage interest. These Regulations also bring into force provisions in the Pensions Act 2014 (c. 19) relating to bereavement support payment.

Regulation 2 brings section 14(6) to (8) and section 15(4) to (7) (which contain regulation-making powers in relation to the child element of universal credit and the work-related activity component of employment and support allowance respectively) of the Welfare Reform and Work Act 2016 into force on the day after the day on which the Regulations are made.

Regulation 3 brings sections 15(1) to (3) (employment and support allowance: work-related activity component), 16 (universal credit: limited capability for work element), 17 (universal credit: work-related requirements), 18 (loans for mortgage interest etc), 19 (further provision) and 21 (transitional provision) of the Welfare Reform and Work Act 2016 into force on 3rd April 2017. Section 15(1) to (3) removes provision for the work-related activity component to be paid to employment and support allowance claimants with limited capability for work. Section 16 makes similar provision for universal credit claimants as section 15 for employment and support allowance claimants. It amends section 12 of the Welfare Reform Act 2012 (c. 5), which provides for an award of universal credit to include an amount in respect of such particular needs or circumstances as may be prescribed in regulations, so that the fact that a claimant has limited capability for work is no longer a need or circumstance that may be prescribed. Section 17 of the Welfare Reform and Work Act 2016 changes conditionality for responsible carers so that those with a child aged 3 or 4 should be subject to all work-related requirements and those with a child aged 2 should be subject to work-focused interview requirements and work preparation requirements. Section 18 of the Welfare Reform and Work Act 2016 makes provision for help with mortgage interest to be in the form of a loan rather than a benefit. Section 19 enables the Secretary of State to set out further detail about the loans scheme in the regulations made under section 18 and section 21 makes provision about the transition from the current provision of support for mortgage interest to the new loans scheme.

Regulation 4 brings section 14(1) to (5) (changes to child element of universal credit) of the Welfare Reform and Work Act 2016 into force on 6th April 2017. Section 14(1) to (5) limits the child element of universal credit to include amounts in respect of a maximum of two children or qualifying young persons for whom the claimant is responsible and removes the distinction between the first and subsequent children in the rate of the child element.

Regulation 5 brings section 31(5) (bereavement support payment: contribution condition and amendments) of the Pensions Act 2014, so far as it relates to paragraphs 20 and 33 of Schedule 16 (bereavement support payment: amendments) to that Act, paragraph 20 of Schedule 16 to that Act, so far as it relates to paragraph 33 of that Schedule, and paragraph 33 of Schedule 16 to that Act, into force on the day after the day on which the Regulations are made. These provisions amend the power in section 179 (reciprocal agreements with countries outside the United Kingdom) of the Social Security Administration Act 1992 (c. 5) so that it applies to bereavement support payment. The power in section 179 allows Her Majesty by Order in Council to give effect to social security reciprocal agreements with countries outside the United Kingdom by making provision modifying or adapting domestic legislation as it applies in cases affected by such agreements.

*Status: This is the original version (as it was originally made). This item of legislation is currently only available in its original format.*

## NOTE AS TO EARLIER COMMENCEMENT REGULATIONS AND COMMENCEMENT ORDERS

*(This note is not part of the Regulations)*

The following provisions of the Welfare Reform and Work Act 2016 (c. 7) were brought into force by Statutory Instrument before these Regulations were made.

<i>Provision</i>	<i>Date of Commencement</i>	<i>S.I. No.</i>
Section 3	16th May 2016	2016/394
Section 8, so far as not already in force	7th November 2016	2016/910
Section 9(1) to (5), so far as not already in force	7th November 2016	2016/910
Section 10	9th June 2016	2016/610
Section 22	30th May 2016	2016/394
Section 23 (subsection (1), (2) and (5) to (9)), so far as not already in force	1st April 2016	2016/394
Section 24, so far as not already in force	1st April 2016	2016/394
Sections 26 to 32, so far as not already in force	1st April 2016	2016/394
Section 33(1), (2), (3)(a) and (4) to (9), so far as not already in force	1st April 2016	2016/394
Schedule 2 paragraph 8(1), so far as not already in force	18th March 2016	2016/394
Schedule 2, so far as not already in force	1st April 2016	2016/394

The following provisions of the Pensions Act 2014 (c. 19) were brought into force by Statutory Instrument before these Regulations were made.

<i>Provision</i>	<i>Date of Commencement</i>	<i>S.I. No.</i>
Section 2(3) (partially)	5th February 2015	2015/134
Section 3(1) (partially)	23rd February 2016	2016/203
Section 4(2) (partially)	5th February 2015	2015/134
Section 8(3), (7) and (8) (partially)	5th February 2015	2015/134
Section 10 (partially)	23rd February 2016	2016/203
Section 13(2) (partially)	5th February 2015	2015/134
Section 14(2) (partially)	5th February 2015	2015/134
Section 15 (partially)	5th February 2015	2015/134
Section 16(1) and (6) (partially)	5th February 2015	2015/134
Section 17(4) and (5) (partially)	5th February 2015	2015/134
Section 18(1) (partially)	5th February 2015	2015/134
Section 18(2) to (4) (partially)	23rd February 2016	2016/203

<i>Provision</i>	<i>Date of Commencement</i>	<i>S.I. No.</i>
Section 19(1) and (3) (partially)	5th February 2015	2015/134
Section 20 (partially)	23rd February 2016	2016/203
Section 22(1) (partially)	5th February 2015	2015/134
Section 23 (partially)	1st October 2014	2014/2377
Section 23 (partially)	7th July 2015	2015/1475
Section 23 (partially)	15th January 2016	2015/2058
Section 24(1) (partially)	7th July 2015	2015/1475
Section 24(2) to (9)	23rd February 2015	2015/134
Section 25 (partially)	1st October 2014	2014/2377
Section 25 (partially)	12th October 2015	2015/1475
Section 25 (partially)	12th October 2015	2015/1670
Section 28(1) and (2)	6th April 2016	2015/1475
Section 28(3)	7th July 2015	2015/1475
Section 33 (partially)	11th September 2014	2014/2377
Section 36	1st October 2015	2015/134
Sections 37 and 38	11th September 2014	2014/2377
Section 39	12th September 2014	2014/2377
Section 40	11th September 2014	2014/2377
Sections 42 and 43	11th September 2014	2014/2377
Sections 45 and 46	11th September 2014	2014/2377
Section 49	11th September 2014	2014/2377
Section 52	23rd July 2014	2014/1965
Paragraph 4 of Schedule 8 (partially)	5th February 2015	2015/134
Paragraph 4 of Schedule 10 (partially)	5th February 2015	2015/134
Paragraph 11 of Schedule 11 (partially)	5th February 2015	2015/134
Paragraphs 2 and 6(1) and (3) of Schedule 12 (partially)	15th January 2016	2015/2058
Paragraphs 8 and 88 of Schedule 12 (partially)	7th July 2015	2015/1475
Paragraphs 25 and 90 of Schedule 12	7th July 2015	2015/1475
Paragraphs 96 and 97(b) of Schedule 12	1st October 2014	2014/2377
Paragraphs 1, 24 and 25 of Schedule 13 (partially)	7th July 2015	2015/1475
Schedule 14	23rd February 2015	2015/134
Paragraphs 1 to 10 and 12 to 14 of Schedule 15	12th October 2015	2015/1475

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<i>Provision</i>	<i>Date of Commencement</i>	<i>S.I. No.</i>
Paragraphs 3, 7 and 17 of Schedule 15 (partially)	1st October 2014	<a href="#">2014/2377</a>
Paragraphs 11 and 20 of Schedule 15	13th October 2014	<a href="#">2014/2727</a>
Paragraphs 15 to 19, 21 and 22 of Schedule 15	12th October 2015	<a href="#">2015/1670</a>
Paragraph 15(1) of Schedule 17 (partially)	11th September 2014	<a href="#">2014/2377</a>
Schedules 18 and 19	11th September 2014	<a href="#">2014/2377</a>