



2016 CHAPTER 16

Co-operative and Community Benefit Societies

Registration of societies as co-operative or community benefit societies etc.

8.—(1) In the 1969 Act for section 1 (societies which may be registered) substitute—

“1 Societies that may be registered

(1) A society for carrying on any industry, business or trade (including dealings of any kind with land) that meets the conditions in subsection (2) may be registered under this Act as—

- (a) a co-operative society, or
- (b) a community benefit society.

(2) The conditions are—

- (a) that it is shown to the satisfaction of the registrar—
 - (i) in the case of registration as a co-operative society, that the society is a bona fide co-operative society, or
 - (ii) in the case of registration as a community benefit society, that the business of the society is being, or is intended to be, conducted for the benefit of the community,
- (b) that the society’s rules contain provision in respect of the matters mentioned in Part 1 of Schedule 1, and
- (c) that the place that under those rules is to be the society’s registered office is in Northern Ireland.

(3) Subsection (1) is subject to—

- (a) section 2 (minimum number of members of a society);
- (b) section 7(1) (society with withdrawable share capital not to be registered with the object of carrying on the business of banking).

(4) For the purposes of subsection (2)(a)(i) “co-operative society” does not include a society that carries on, or intends to carry on, business with the object of making profits mainly for the payment of interest, dividends or bonuses on money invested or deposited with, or lent to, the society or any other person.

1A Meaning of “registered society”

(1) In this Act “registered society” means—

- (a) a society registered under this Act as a co-operative or community benefit society, or
- (b) a society that was registered or treated as registered under this Act (otherwise than as a credit union) immediately before section 8 of the Credit Unions and Co-operative and Community Benefit Societies Act (Northern Ireland) 2016 came into operation.

(2) Nothing in that section affects the status of a society within subsection (1)(b) (a “pre-2016 Act society”) as registered or treated as registered under this Act.”.

(2) Accordingly, the legislation mentioned below may be cited by the new short title or title indicated.

<i>Existing short title or title</i>	<i>New short title or title</i>
Industrial and Provident Societies Act (Northern Ireland) 1969	Co-operative and Community Benefit Societies Act (Northern Ireland) 1969
Industrial and Provident Societies (Amendment) (Northern Ireland) Order 1976	Co-operative and Community Benefit Societies (Northern Ireland) Order 1976
Industrial and Provident Societies (Northern Ireland) Order 2006	Co-operative and Community Benefit Societies (Northern Ireland) Order 2006