

1992 No. 284

HOUSING; RATES; SOCIAL SECURITY**The Income-Related Benefits (Amendment No. 2)
Regulations (Northern Ireland) 1992***Made 23rd June 1992**Coming into operation in accordance with regulation 1(1)*

The Department of Health and Social Services, in exercise of the powers conferred on it by Articles 21(1)(a) and (c), 23(1) and 84(1A) of the Social Security (Northern Ireland) Order 1986(a) and of all other powers enabling it in that behalf, and with the consent of the Department of the Environment(b) so far as relates to matters with regard to which such consent is required, and after agreement by the Social Security Advisory Committee that proposals to make these regulations in so far as they are required to be referred to it should not be so referred(c), hereby makes the following regulations:

Citation, commencement and interpretation

1.—(1) These regulations may be cited as the Income-Related Benefits (Amendment No. 2) Regulations (Northern Ireland) 1992 and shall come into operation as follows—

- (a) regulations 1 and 2 on 5th October 1992;
- (b) regulations 3 and 4 in relation to a particular claimant, at the beginning of the first benefit week to commence for that claimant on or after 5th October 1992.

(2) In paragraph (1)(b) the expressions “benefit week” and “claimant” have the same meaning as in the Income Support Regulations.

(3) In these regulations—

“the Housing Benefit Regulations” means the Housing Benefit (General) Regulations (Northern Ireland) 1987(d);

“the Income Support Regulations” means the Income Support (General) Regulations (Northern Ireland) 1987(e);

“the Income Support Transitional Regulations” means the Income Support (Transitional) Regulations (Northern Ireland) 1987(f).

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- (a) S.I. 1986/1888 (N.I. 18); Article 84(1A) was inserted by paragraph 9(2) of Schedule 8 to the Social Security (Northern Ireland) Order 1989 (S.I. 1989/1342 (N.I. 13))
 - (b) See Article 81(5) of the Social Security (Northern Ireland) Order 1986
 - (c) See Article 62(1)(b) of the Social Security (Northern Ireland) Order 1986
 - (d) S.R. 1987 No. 461; the relevant amending regulations are S.R. 1989 No. 125, S.R. 1990 No. 72 and S.R. 1992 No. 35
 - (e) S.R. 1987 No. 459; the relevant amending rules are S.R. 1988 No. 318, S.R. 1989 No. 139, S.R. 1990 No. 131, S.R. 1991 No. 338 and S.R. 1992 No. 18
 - (f) S.R. 1987 No. 460; the relevant amending regulations are S.R. 1988 No. 132, S.R. 1989 No. 371 and S.R. 1991 No. 341

Amendment of the Housing Benefit Regulations

2.—(1) The Housing Benefit Regulations shall be amended in accordance with paragraph (2).

(2) In Schedule 2 (applicable amounts) in paragraph 15 (amounts of premiums specified in Part III)—

- (a) in sub-paragraph (2) (pensioner premium) for “£14.70” and “£22.35” there shall be substituted “£16.70” and “£25.35” respectively;
- (b) in sub-paragraph (3) (pensioner premium for persons aged 75 and over) for “£16.65” and “£25.00” there shall be substituted “£18.65” and “£28.00” respectively;
- (c) in sub-paragraph (4) (higher pensioner premium) for “£20.75” and “£29.55” there shall be substituted “£22.75” and “£32.55” respectively.

Amendment of the Income Support Regulations

3.—(1) The Income Support Regulations shall be amended in accordance with paragraphs (2) to (4).

(2) In Schedule 2 (applicable amounts) in paragraph 15 (weekly amounts of premiums specified in Part III)—

- (a) in sub-paragraph (2) (pensioner premium) for “£14.70” and “£22.35” there shall be substituted “£16.70” and “£25.35” respectively;
- (b) in sub-paragraph (2A) (pensioner premium for persons aged 75 and over) for “£16.65” and “£25.00” there shall be substituted “£18.65” and “£28.00” respectively;
- (c) in sub-paragraph (3) (higher pensioner premium) for “£20.75” and “£29.55” there shall be substituted “£22.75” and “£32.55” respectively.

(3) In Schedule 3A (protected sum) in paragraph 5 (reduction of protected sum)—

- (a) in sub-paragraph (1) for “sub-paragraphs (2) to (5)” there shall be substituted “sub-paragraphs (2) to (6)”;
- (b) after sub-paragraph (5) there shall be added the following sub-paragraph—

“(6) Where by virtue of the coming into operation of regulation 3(1) and (2) of the Income-Related Benefits (Amendment No. 2) Regulations (Northern Ireland) 1992(a) a claimant’s applicable amount increases in his benefit week beginning on a day during the period of 7 days commencing on 5th October 1992, no account shall be taken of that increase.”

(4) In Schedule 3B (protected sum) in paragraph 4 (reduction of protected sum)—

(a) See regulation 3(1) and (2) of these regulations

- (a) in sub-paragraph (1) for “sub-paragraphs (2) to (4)” there shall be substituted “sub-paragraphs (2) to (5)”;
- (b) after sub-paragraph (4) there shall be added the following sub-paragraph—

“(5) Where by virtue of the coming into operation of regulation 3(1) and (2) of the Income-Related Benefits (Amendment No. 2) Regulations (Northern Ireland) 1992 a claimant’s applicable amount increases in his benefit week beginning on a day during the period of 7 days commencing on 5th October 1992, no account shall be taken of that increase.”.

Amendment of the Income Support (Transitional) Regulations

4. In regulation 14 of the Income Support (Transitional) Regulations (reduction and termination of transitional and personal expenses addition) after paragraph (1DA) there shall be inserted the following paragraph—

“(1DZA) Notwithstanding paragraph (1)(a) or (d), the amount of a claimant’s transitional addition shall not be reduced if, and to the extent that, the increase in his applicable amount is attributable to the amendments made by regulation 3(1) and (2) of the Income-Related Benefits (Amendment No. 2) Regulations (Northern Ireland) 1992 and that increase in his applicable amount takes effect in his benefit week beginning on a day during the period of 7 days commencing on 5th October 1992.”.

Sealed with the Official Seal of the Department of Health and Social Services on 23rd June 1992.

(L.S.)

A. N. Burns

Assistant Secretary

The Department of the Environment hereby consents to regulation 2 of the foregoing Regulations.

Sealed with the Official Seal of the Department of the Environment on 23rd June 1992.

(L.S.)

W. N. Campbell

Assistant Secretary

EXPLANATORY NOTE

(This note is not part of the Regulations.)

These regulations further amend the Housing Benefit (General) Regulations (Northern Ireland) 1987 and the Income Support (General) Regulations (Northern Ireland) 1987 so as to up-rate the amounts of the pensioner premiums and higher pensioner premium with effect from 5th October 1992. They further provide for the amount of the increase to be disregarded in determining the amount of the claimant's transitional addition under the Income Support (Transitional) Regulations (Northern Ireland) 1987.

In so far as proposals in respect of these regulations are required, for the purposes of regulation 2, to be referred to the Social Security Advisory Committee under section 10(1) of the Social Security Act 1980 (c. 30) ("the 1980 Act"), after agreement by the Social Security Advisory Committee they have not been so referred by virtue of Article 62(1)(b) of the Social Security (Northern Ireland) Order 1986. Otherwise the regulations made in relation to Northern Ireland only provision corresponding to provision contained in regulations made by the Secretary of State for Social Security in relation to Great Britain and accordingly, by virtue of section 10(2) of, and paragraph 21 of Schedule 3 to, the 1980 Act, are not subject to the requirement of section 10(1) of that Act for prior reference to the Social Security Advisory Committee.