
STATUTORY RULES OF NORTHERN IRELAND

1996 No. 213

Countryside Access Regulations (Northern Ireland) 1996

Withholding and recovery of aid

10.—(1) Where any person with a view to obtaining the payment of aid under these Regulations to himself or any other person, makes any statement or furnishes any information which is false or misleading in a material particular, the Department may withhold the whole or any part of any aid payable to that person or to such other person, and may recover the whole or any part of any aid already paid to that person or to such other person.

(2) Where a beneficiary:

- (a) fails without reasonable excuse to comply with any of his obligations under these Regulations; or
- (b) fails without reasonable excuse to permit entry or inspection by an authorised person or to render all reasonable assistance to such authorised person as required by regulation 9,

the Department may withhold the whole or any part of any aid under a scheme payable to that beneficiary, and may recover the whole or any part of any such aid already paid to him.

(3) Before withholding or recovering any aid under regulation 6(5), or paragraph (1) or (2), the Department shall:

- (a) give to the beneficiary a written explanation of the reasons for the proposed withholding or recovery of aid; and
- (b) afford the beneficiary an opportunity of appearing before and being heard by a person appointed for that purpose by the Department; and
- (c) consider the report by the person so appointed and supply a copy of the report to the beneficiary.