
STATUTORY INSTRUMENTS

2001 No. 1167

The Discretionary Financial Assistance Regulations 2001

Discretionary housing payments

2.—(1) Subject to paragraphs (2) and (3) and the following regulations, a relevant authority may make payments by way of financial assistance (“discretionary housing payments”) to persons who—

- (a) are entitled to housing benefit or council tax benefit or to both; and
- (b) appear to such an authority to require some further financial assistance (in addition to the benefit or benefits to which they are entitled) in order to meet housing costs.

(2) Subject to paragraph (3) and regulations 4 and 5, a relevant authority has a discretion—

- (a) as to whether or not to make discretionary housing payments in a particular case; and
- (b) as to the amount of the payments and the period for, or in respect of which, they are made.

(3) Paragraphs (1) and (2) shall not apply in respect of housing costs incurred in any period before 2nd July 2001—

- (a) in the case of a person entitled to council tax benefit who requires further financial assistance in order to meet his liability to pay council tax;
- (b) in the case of a person entitled to housing benefit who requires further financial assistance in order to meet housing costs (other than costs in respect of council tax) arising from his liability to make periodical payments in respect of the dwelling which he occupies as his home.