EXPLANATORY NOTE

(This note is not part of the Order)

These Regulations (which do not extend to Northern Ireland) amend the Fireworks (Safety) Regulations 1997, in particular by extending the prohibition of the supply of certain fireworks under regulation 4(1) of those Regulations to cover air bombs. Regulation 6 of those Regulations is also amended so as to prohibit the supply of certain fireworks to persons who are (instead of persons who appear to be) under eighteen years old. Amendments are also made to the definitions of "air bomb" and "mini-rocket" and to Schedules 2 and 3.

A Regulatory Impact Assessment has been prepared and copies can be obtained from the Consumer and Competition Policy Directorate of the Department of Trade and Industry, Room 427, 1 Victoria Street, London SW1H 0ET. Copies have also been placed in the libraries of both Houses of Parliament.

These Regulations have been notified in draft to the European Commission in accordance with Directive 98/34/EC of the European Parliament and of the Council (OJNo. L204, 21.7.98, p.37), as amended by Directive 98/48/EC of the European Parliament and of the Council (OJ No. L217, 5.8.98, p.18).