
STATUTORY INSTRUMENTS

2015 No. 46

The Social Security (Information-sharing in relation to Welfare Services etc.) (Amendment) Regulations 2015

Amendments to the Social Security (Information-sharing in relation to Welfare Services etc.) Regulations 2012

2.—(1) The Social Security (Information-sharing in relation to Welfare Services etc.) Regulations 2012⁽¹⁾ are amended as follows.

(2) In regulation 2 (interpretation)—

(a) for the definition of “social landlord”, substitute—

““social landlord” means—

- (a) in a case to which the Housing Benefit Regulations apply, a landlord falling within regulation 13C(5)(a)(i), (ii) or (iii) of those Regulations;
- (b) in a case to which the Housing Benefit (State Pension Credit) Regulations apply, a landlord falling within regulation 13C(5)(a)(i), (ii) or (iii) of those Regulations;
- (c) in a case to which the Universal Credit Regulations 2013 apply, a provider of social housing within the definition given in paragraph 2 of Schedule 4 (housing costs element for renters) to those Regulations;”;

(b) after the definition of “universal credit”⁽²⁾, insert—

““universal credit claimant” means a person who has made a claim for or has an award of universal credit;

“universal support initiative” means any initiative under which advice, assistance or support is provided by the Secretary of State or any qualifying persons listed in regulation 10(1)(e) to a universal credit claimant for the purposes of assisting them with—

- (a) managing their claim for or award of universal credit, including accessing and using online services, or
- (b) managing their financial affairs.”.

(3) In regulation 5 (supply of relevant information by the Secretary of State)—

(a) after paragraph (1)(f)⁽³⁾, insert—

“(g) where the qualifying person is a social landlord and the relevant information is limited to information referred to in paragraph (3A), determining whether a universal credit claimant, whose award includes or is likely to include a housing costs element in respect of accommodation provided by that social landlord, needs advice, assistance or support in relation to managing their financial affairs;

⁽¹⁾ [S.I. 2012/1483](#).

⁽²⁾ The definition of “universal credit” was inserted by [S.I. 2013/454](#).

⁽³⁾ Sub-paragraphs (e) and (f) were inserted by [S.I. 2013/454](#).

- (h) where the qualifying person is listed in regulation 10(1)(e) and the Secretary of State or any qualifying person listed in regulation 10(1)(e) determines that a universal credit claimant needs advice, assistance or support under a universal support initiative—
 - (i) providing such advice, assistance or support to that person; and
 - (ii) monitoring and evaluating the provision of such advice, assistance or support.
- (b) after paragraph (3), insert—
 - “(3A) The information referred to in paragraph (1)(g) is information confirming—
 - (a) the identity of the universal credit claimant;
 - (b) that the universal credit claimant has a tenancy with the social landlord;
 - (c) the date on which the universal credit claimant made a claim for or was awarded universal credit; or
 - (d) in a case where universal credit has been awarded to the universal credit claimant—
 - (i) the date on which the next payment of universal credit is due to be paid;
 - (ii) whether the next payment is the first payment under the award; or
 - (iii) the amount of housing costs element in the next payment under the award.”;
- (c) after paragraph (4)(d), insert—
 - “(e) “housing costs element” means an amount in respect of housing costs which is included in an award of universal credit under section 11 of the 2012 Act.”.
- (4) After regulation 6(1)(p)(4) (holding purposes), insert—
 - “(q) where the qualifying person is listed in regulation 10(1)(e)—
 - (i) providing advice, assistance or support to a universal credit claimant under a universal support initiative; and
 - (ii) monitoring and evaluating the provision of such advice, assistance or support.
- (5) After regulation 9B(5) (using purposes connected with local welfare provision), insert—

“Using purposes connected with a universal support initiative

- 9C.—**(1) This regulation applies to relevant information held by a qualifying person listed in regulation 10(1)(e) for the purposes listed in regulation 6(1)(q).
- (2) The purposes set out in paragraph (3) are prescribed—
 - (a) under section 131(3)(a) of the 2012 Act as purposes for which the information may be used by that qualifying person; and
 - (b) under section 131(3)(b) of the 2012 Act as purposes for use in relation to which the information may be supplied by that qualifying person to another qualifying person.
 - (3) The purposes are any purposes connected with—
 - (a) providing advice, assistance or support to a universal credit claimant under a universal support initiative; and
 - (b) monitoring and evaluating the provision of such advice, assistance or support.

(4) Sub-paragraph (p) was inserted by [S.I. 2013/454](#).

(5) Regulation 9B was inserted by [S.I. 2013/454](#).

- (4) This regulation permits relevant information to be supplied to another qualifying person only where that other qualifying person is listed in regulation 10(1)(e).”
- (6) In regulation 10(6) (qualifying persons)—
- (a) in paragraph (1)(a), after “regulations” insert “5(1)(g),”;
 - (b) after regulation 10(1)(d), insert—
 - “(e) for the purposes of regulations 5(1)(h), 6(1)(q), 9C, 16(d) and 17(3)(c)—
 - (i) a person listed in section 131(11)(a), (b) or (c) of the 2012 Act,
 - (ii) a member of the National Association of Citizens Advice Bureaux(7) or the Scottish Association of Citizens Advice Bureaux(8),
 - (iii) a credit union within section 1 of the Credit Unions Act 1979(9),
 - (iv) a social landlord,
 - (v) a charity entered in the register of charities maintained under Part 4 of the Charities Act 2011(10) or a body entered on the register of charities maintained under the Charities and Trustee Investment (Scotland) Act 2005(11).”
- (7) After regulation 16(c)(12) (holding purposes), insert—
- “(d) where the qualifying person is listed in regulation 10(1)(e)—
 - (i) providing advice, assistance or support to a universal credit claimant under a universal support initiative; and
 - (ii) monitoring and evaluating the provision of such advice, assistance or support.
- (8) After regulation 17(3)(b)(13) (prescribed purposes relating to a relevant social security benefit), insert—
- “(c) in relation to either of the purposes prescribed in regulation 16(d)—
 - (i) providing advice, assistance or support to a universal credit claimant under a universal support initiative; and
 - (ii) monitoring and evaluating the provision of such advice, assistance or support.

(6) Regulation 10 was substituted by [S.I. 2013/454](#).

(7) The National Association of Citizens Advice Bureaux is a company limited by guarantee, formed and registered under the Companies Act 2006 (c. 46) with the company number 1436945, and a registered charity with the number 279057.

(8) The Scottish Association of Citizens Advice Bureaux is a company limited by guarantee, formed and registered under the Companies Act 2006 (c. 46) with the company number SC089892, and a registered charity with the number SC016637.

(9) [1979 c.34](#).

(10) [2011 c.25](#).

(11) [2005 asp.10](#).

(12) Regulation 16 was inserted by [S.I. 2013/454](#).

(13) Regulation 17 was inserted by [S.I. 2013/454](#).