
STATUTORY INSTRUMENTS

2023 No. 532

SOCIAL SECURITY

The Social Security (Habitual Residence and Past Presence) (Amendment) Regulations 2023

<i>Made</i>	- - - -	<i>at 8.01 a.m. on 12th May 2023</i>
<i>Laid before Parliament</i>		<i>at 1.00 p.m. on 12th May 2023</i>
<i>Coming into force</i>	- -	<i>15th May 2023</i>

The Secretary of State makes the following Regulations in exercise of the powers conferred by sections 64(1), 70(4), 71(6), 123(1)(a) and (d), 137(2)(a) and 175(3) and (4) of the Social Security Contributions and Benefits Act 1992⁽¹⁾, section 36(2) of, and paragraph 11(2) of Schedule 1 to, the Jobseekers Act 1995⁽²⁾, section 1(5)(a) of the State Pension Credit Act 2002⁽³⁾, section 25(2) and (3) of, and paragraph 5 of Schedule 2 to, the Welfare Reform Act 2007⁽⁴⁾ and sections 4(5)(a), 42(2), 77(3), 92(1) and 94(2) and (3)(a) of the Welfare Reform Act 2012⁽⁵⁾.

In respect of the provisions relating to housing benefit, the Secretary of State has not consulted organisations appearing to be representative of the authorities concerned because it appears to the Secretary of State to be inexpedient to do so by reason of the urgency of the matter⁽⁶⁾.

For the same reason, it appears to the Secretary of State to be inexpedient to refer the proposals to make these Regulations to the Social Security Advisory Committee⁽⁷⁾.

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- (1) 1992 c. 4 (“the Contributions and Benefits Act”). See section 122(1) for the meaning given to “prescribe” and section 137(1) for the meaning given to “prescribed”.
- (2) 1995 c. 18. See section 35(1) for the meaning given to “regulations”.
- (3) 2002 c. 16. Section 175(3) and (4) of the Contributions and Benefits Act is applied by section 19(1). See section 17(1) for the meanings given to “prescribed” and “regulations”.
- (4) 2007 c. 5. See section 24(1) for the meaning given to “regulations”.
- (5) 2012 c. 5 (“the 2012 Act”). See sections 40 and 95 for the meaning given to “prescribed”.
- (6) See section 176(2)(a) of the Social Security Administration Act 1992 (c. 5).
- (7) See section 173(1)(a) and (2) of the Social Security Administration Act 1992.

PART 1

PRELIMINARY

Citation, commencement and extent

1.—(1) These Regulations may be cited as the Social Security (Habitual Residence and Past Presence) (Amendment) Regulations 2023 and come into force on 15th May 2023.

(2) Part 2, and this Part in so far as it relates to Part 2, extend to England and Wales and Scotland⁽⁸⁾.

(3) Part 3, and this Part in so far as it relates to Part 3, extend to England and Wales only⁽⁹⁾.

PART 2

AMENDMENTS TO BENEFIT LEGISLATION EXTENDING TO ENGLAND AND WALES AND SCOTLAND

Amendments to income-related benefit legislation

2.—(1) In the provisions specified in paragraph (2), after sub-paragraph (zzc) insert—

“(zzd) a person who was residing in Sudan before 15th April 2023, left Sudan in connection with the violence which rapidly escalated on 15th April 2023 in Khartoum and across Sudan and—

(i) has been granted leave in accordance with immigration rules made under section 3(2) of the Immigration Act 1971⁽¹⁰⁾;

(ii) has a right of abode in the United Kingdom within the meaning given in section 2 of that Act⁽¹¹⁾; or

(iii) does not require leave to enter or remain in the United Kingdom in accordance with section 3ZA of that Act⁽¹²⁾.”.

(2) Those provisions are—

(8) The provisions being amended by Part 2 extend to England and Wales and Scotland. This instrument does not reflect the presumption that amendments will have the same extent and application as the provisions amended because the Secretary of State does not have executive competence to exercise functions, as regards Scotland, in relation to the benefits regulations amended by Part 3. The function of making regulations under sections 64(1), 70(4) and 71(6) of the Contributions and Benefits Act is exercisable by the Secretary of State by virtue of section 175(1) of that Act and the function of making regulations under section 77(3) of the 2012 Act is exercisable by the Secretary of State by virtue of section 94(1) of that Act. The functions of the Secretary of State under those provisions, as regards Scotland, transferred to the Scottish Ministers on 1st April 2020.

(9) Legislative competence for disability and carer’s benefits was transferred to the Scottish Parliament by section 22(2) of the Scotland Act 2016 (c. 11). Section 22(2) inserted an exception into reservation F1 of Schedule 5 to the Scotland Act 1998 (c. 46) and was brought into force on 17th May 2017 by S.I. 2017/455, subject to transitional arrangements set out in S.I. 2017/444 which modified the operation of the Scotland Act 1998. Section 32 of the Scotland Act 2016 provides the meaning of “pre-commencement enactment” in this context. The transitional arrangements in respect of disability and carer’s benefits ended on 31st March 2020 (see regulation 4 of the Scotland Act 2016 (Transitional) Regulations 2017 (S.I. 2017/444)). Accordingly, insofar as the functions under those sections of the Contributions and Benefits Act and section 77(3) of the 2012 Act are exercisable within devolved competence, they are now exercisable by the Scottish Ministers. To ensure that the provisions introduced by these Regulations operate identically across England and Wales and Scotland, the Scottish Ministers are making parallel regulations to these Regulations, (the Social Security (Residence Requirements) (Sudan) (Scotland) Regulations 2023) to come into force on 17th May 2023.

(10) 1971 c. 77.

(11) Section 2 is substituted by section 39(2) of the British Nationality Act 1981 (c. 61) and amended by S.I. 2019/745.

(12) Section 3ZA is inserted by section 2(2) of the Immigration and Social Security Co-ordination (EU Withdrawal) Act 2020 (c. 20).

- (a) regulation 21AA(4) of the Income Support (General) Regulations 1987(13);
- (b) regulation 85A(4) of the Jobseeker’s Allowance Regulations 1996(14);
- (c) regulation 2(4) of the State Pension Credit Regulations 2002(15);
- (d) regulation 10(3B) of the Housing Benefit Regulations 2006(16);
- (e) regulation 10(4A) of the Housing Benefit (Persons who have attained the qualifying age for state pension credit) Regulations 2006(17); and
- (f) regulation 70(4) of the Employment and Support Allowance Regulations 2008(18).

Amendments to the Universal Credit Regulations 2013

3. In regulation 9(4) of the Universal Credit Regulations 2013(19), after sub-paragraph (zc) insert—

- “(zd) a person who was residing in Sudan before 15th April 2023, left Sudan in connection with the violence which rapidly escalated on 15th April 2023 in Khartoum and across Sudan and—
 - (i) has been granted leave in accordance with immigration rules made under section 3(2) of the Immigration Act 1971;
 - (ii) has a right of abode in the United Kingdom within the meaning given in section 2 of that Act; or
 - (iii) does not require leave to enter or remain in the United Kingdom in accordance with section 3ZA of that Act;”.

PART 3

AMENDMENTS TO BENEFIT LEGISLATION EXTENDING TO ENGLAND AND WALES ONLY

Amendments to disability and carer’s benefit legislation

4.—(1) In the provisions specified in paragraph (2)—

- (a) at the end of sub-paragraph (e), omit “or”;
- (b) after sub-paragraph (f) insert—
 - “; or
 - (g) leave to enter or remain in the United Kingdom granted under or outside the immigration rules, a right of abode in the United Kingdom within the meaning given in section 2 of the Immigration Act 1971 or does not require leave to enter

(13) S.I. 1987/1967. Regulation 21AA is inserted by S.I. 2006/1026. Relevant amendments are made by S.I. 2006/2528, 2009/362, 2013/2536, 2014/902, 2019/872, 2020/683 and 1309, 2021/1034 and 2022/344 and 990.

(14) S.I. 1996/207. Regulation 85A is inserted by S.I. 2006/1026. Relevant amendments are made by S.I. 2006/2528, 2009/362, 2013/2536, 2014/902, 2019/872, 2020/683 and 1309, 2021/1034 and 2022/344 and 990.

(15) S.I. 2002/1792. Regulation 2 is substituted by S.I. 2006/1026. Relevant amendments are made by S.I. 2006/2528, 2009/362, 2013/2536, 2014/902, 2019/872, 2020/683 and 1309, 2021/1034 and 2022/344 and 990.

(16) S.I. 2006/213. Relevant amendments are made by S.I. 2006/1026 and 2528, 2009/362, 2013/2536, 2014/902, 2019/872, 2020/683 and 1309, 2021/1034 and 2022/344 and 990.

(17) S.I. 2006/214. Relevant amendments are made by S.I. 2006/1026 and 2528, 2009/362, 2013/2536, 2014/902, 2019/872, 2020/683 and 1309, 2021/1034 and 2022/344 and 990.

(18) S.I. 2008/794. Relevant amendments are made by S.I. 2009/362, 2013/2536, 2014/902, 2019/872, 2020/683 and 1309, 2021/1034 and 2022/344 and 990.

(19) S.I. 2013/376. Relevant amendments are made by S.I. 2013/1508, 2020/683 and 1309, 2021/1034 and 2022/344 and 990.

or remain in the United Kingdom in accordance with section 3ZA of that Act, where the person—

- (i) was residing in Sudan before 15th April 2023; and
 - (ii) left Sudan in connection with the violence which rapidly escalated on 15th April 2023 in Khartoum and across Sudan”.
- (2) Those provisions are—
- (a) regulation 9C(1) of the Social Security (Invalid Care Allowance) Regulations 1976~~(20)~~;
 - (b) regulation 2C(1) of the Social Security (Attendance Allowance) Regulations 1991~~(21)~~; and
 - (c) regulation 2C(1) of the Social Security (Disability Living Allowance) Regulations 1991~~(22)~~.

Amendments to the Social Security (Personal Independence Payment) Regulations 2013

5. In regulation 23A(1) of the Social Security (Personal Independence Payment) Regulations 2013~~(23)~~—

- (a) at the end of sub-paragraph (e), omit “or”;
- (b) after sub-paragraph (f) insert—
 - “; or
 - (g) leave to enter or remain in the United Kingdom granted under or outside the immigration rules, a right of abode in the United Kingdom within the meaning given in section 2 of the Immigration Act 1971 or does not require leave to enter or remain in the United Kingdom in accordance with section 3ZA of that Act, where C—
 - (i) was residing in Sudan before 15th April 2023; and
 - (ii) left Sudan in connection with the violence which rapidly escalated on 15th April 2023 in Khartoum and across Sudan”.

Signed by authority of the Secretary of State for Work and Pensions

At 8.01 a.m. on 12th May 2023

Mims Davies
Parliamentary Under Secretary of State
Department for Work and Pensions

(20) *S.I. 1976/409*. Regulation 9C is inserted by *S.I. 2017/1015*. Relevant amendments are made by *S.I. 2021/1034* and *2022/344* and *990*.

(21) *S.I. 1991/2740*. Regulation 2C is inserted by *S.I. 2017/1015*. Relevant amendments are made by *S.I. 2021/1034* and *2022/344* and *990*.

(22) *S.I. 1991/2890*. Regulation 2C is inserted by *S.I. 2017/1015*. Relevant amendments are made by *S.I. 2021/1034* and *2022/344* and *990*.

(23) *S.I. 2013/377*. Regulation 23A is inserted by *S.I. 2017/1015*. Relevant amendments are made by *S.I. 2021/1034* and *2022/344* and *990*.

EXPLANATORY NOTE

(This note is not part of the Regulations)

Part 2 of these Regulations enables certain persons to access income-related benefits upon arrival in Great Britain from Sudan provided they meet the other relevant entitlement conditions.

That Part amends the Income Support (General) Regulations 1987 (S.I. 1987/1967), the Jobseeker's Allowance Regulations 1996 (S.I. 1996/207), the State Pension Credit Regulations 2002 (S.I. 2002/1792), the Housing Benefit Regulations 2006 (S.I. 2006/213), the Housing Benefit (Persons who have attained the qualifying age for state pension credit) Regulations 2006 (S.I. 2006/214), the Employment and Support Allowance Regulations 2008 (S.I. 2008/794) and the Universal Credit Regulations 2013 (S.I. 2013/376) ("the income-related benefit regulations").

The income-related benefit regulations provide that a person is ineligible for benefit where they are a "person from abroad", "a person not in Great Britain" (for the purposes of the State Pension Credit Regulations 2002) or "a person treated as not being in Great Britain" (for the purposes of the Universal Credit Regulations 2013). That is to say where the person is not habitually resident in the United Kingdom, the Channel Islands, the Isle of Man or the Republic of Ireland, subject to a list of exemptions.

Regulations 2 and 3 insert a new category into the list of persons who are exempted from having to satisfy the habitual residence test. Those persons are those who were residing in Sudan before 15th April 2023, who left Sudan in connection with the violence which rapidly escalated on 15th April 2023 in Khartoum and across Sudan and who—

- (a) have been granted leave in accordance with immigration rules made under section 3(2) of the Immigration Act 1971 (c. 77);
- (b) have a right of abode in the United Kingdom within the meaning given in section 2 of that Act; or
- (c) do not require leave to enter or remain in the United Kingdom in accordance with section 3ZA of that Act.

Part 3 of these Regulations enables certain persons to access disability and carer's benefits upon arrival in England and Wales from Sudan where they were residing in Sudan and left Sudan in accordance with the criteria above, provided they meet the other relevant entitlement conditions.

That Part amends the Social Security (Invalid Care Allowance) Regulations 1976 (S.I. 1976/409), the Social Security (Attendance Allowance) Regulations 1991 (S.I. 1991/2740), the Social Security (Disability Living Allowance) Regulations 1991 (S.I. 1991/2890) and the Social Security (Personal Independence Payment) Regulations 2013 (S.I. 2013/377) to exempt the same group of people from the past presence test. This is the test which normally has to be fulfilled in order to claim Carer's Allowance, Attendance Allowance, Disability Living Allowance and Personal Independence Payment. The past presence test normally requires that an individual has been present in Great Britain for a specified period of time to be eligible for those benefits. The amendments also have the effect of removing the habitual residence requirement for entitlement to disability and carer's benefits which would otherwise apply to these persons.

A full impact assessment has not been produced for this instrument as no, or no significant, impact on the private, voluntary or public sector is foreseen.