STATUTORY RULES OF NORTHERN IRELAND

2017 No. 145

SOCIAL SECURITY

The Universal Credit (Benefit Cap Earnings Exception) (Amendment) Regulations (Northern Ireland) 2017

Made - - - - *6th July 2017*

Laid before Parliament *10th July 2017*

Coming into operation in accordance with regulation 1

The Secretary of State makes the following Regulations in exercise of the powers conferred by Article 101(1), (4)(c) and (g) of the Welfare Reform (Northern Ireland) Order 2015(**1**).

Those powers are exercisable by the Secretary of State by virtue of Article 4(1)(a) of the Welfare Reform (Northern Ireland) Order 2015.

Citation and commencement

1. These Regulations may be cited as the Universal Credit (Benefit Cap Earnings Exception) (Amendment) Regulations (Northern Ireland) 2017 and come into operation immediately after the coming into operation of the Universal Credit Regulations (Northern Ireland) 2016(**2**).

Exception to the application of the benefit cap – earnings

2.—(1) The Universal Credit Regulations (Northern Ireland) 2016 are amended in accordance with paragraphs (2) and (3).

(2) Before regulation 7(2)(a) (rounding) insert—

"(za) regulation 82(1)(a) (exceptions – earnings);".

(3) In regulation 82 (exceptions – earnings)—

(a) in paragraph (1)(a) for "£430" substitute "the amount of earnings that a person would be paid at the hourly rate set out in regulation 4 of the National Minimum Wage Regulations 2015(**3**) for 16 hours per week, converted to a monthly amount by multiplying by 52 and dividing by 12";

(b) in paragraph (3) for "exceeded the amount mentioned in paragraph (1)(a)", substitute—

(**1**) S.I. 2015/2006 (N.I. 1); Those powers are vested in the Department for Communities by virtue of Section 1(7) of the Departments Act (Northern Ireland) 2016 c. 5 (N.I.). See Article 5 for the meaning of "regulations"

(**2**) S.R. 2016 No. 216

(**3**) S.I. 2015/621; Regulation 4 was substituted by regulation 3 of S.I. 2016/68