STATUTORY RULES OF NORTHERN IRELAND

2010 No. 340

SOCIAL SECURITY

The Social Security (Housing Costs) (Standard Interest Rate) (Amendment) Regulations (Northern Ireland) 2010

Made - - - - 30th September 2010

Coming into operation in accordance with regulation 1

The Department for Social Development makes the following Regulations in exercise of the powers conferred by sections 122(1)(a), 131(1) and 171(1) and (3) to (5) of the Social Security Contributions and Benefits (Northern Ireland) Act 1992(**1**), Articles 6(5) and 36(2) of the Jobseekers (Northern Ireland) Order 1995(**2**), and now vested in it(**3**), sections 2(3)(b) and 19(1) to (3) of the State Pension Credit Act (Northern Ireland) 2002(**4**) and sections 4(2)(a) and 25(2) of the Welfare Reform Act (Northern Ireland) 2007(**5**).

Citation, commencement and interpretation

1.—(1) These Regulations may be cited as the Social Security (Housing Costs) (Standard Interest Rate) (Amendment) Regulations (Northern Ireland) 2010.

(2) These Regulations shall come into operation—

(a) in any case where a relevant benefit is payable to a person in arrears in respect of a benefit week that includes 1st October 2010, on the first day of that benefit week;

(b) in any case not falling within sub-paragraph (a) where a relevant benefit is payable to a person in respect of a benefit week that includes 1st October 2010, on the first day of the first benefit week to commence for that person on or after 1st October 2010;

(c) in any other case, on 1st October 2010.

(3) In these Regulations—

"the Income Support Regulations" means the Income Support (General) Regulations (Northern Ireland) 1987(**6**);

(**1**) 1992 c. 7; section 171(1) was amended by paragraph 5 of Schedule 4 to the Tax Credits Act 2002 (c. 21)
(**2**) S.I. 1995/2705 (N.I. 15); Article 36(2) was amended by paragraph 55 of Schedule 3 to the Social Security Contributions (Transfer of Functions, etc.) (Northern Ireland) Order 1999 (S.I. 1999/671)
(**3**) *See* Article 8(b) of S.R. 1999 No. 481
(**4**) 2002 c. 14 (N.I.)
(**5**) 2007 c. 2 (N.I.)
(**6**) S.R. 1987 No. 459; relevant amending Regulations are S.R. 1988 No. 318, S.R. 2004 No. 461, S.R. 2007 No. 475 and S.R. 2008 No. 503

"the Jobseeker's Allowance Regulations" means the Jobseeker's Allowance Regulations (Northern Ireland) 1996(**7**);

"the State Pension Credit Regulations" means the State Pension Credit Regulations (Northern Ireland) 2003(**8**);

"the Employment and Support Allowance Regulations" means the Employment and Support Allowance Regulations (Northern Ireland) 2008(**9**);

"benefit week" has the same meaning as in—

(a) regulation 2(1)(**10**) (interpretation) of the Income Support Regulations, in relation to income support;

(b) regulation 1(2)(**11**) (interpretation) of the Jobseeker's Allowance Regulations, in relation to a jobseeker's allowance;

(c) regulation 1(2)(**12**) (interpretation) of the State Pension Credit Regulations, in relation to state pension credit;

(d) regulation 2(1) (interpretation) of the Employment and Support Allowance Regulations, in relation to an employment and support allowance;

"relevant benefit" means—

(a) income support;

(b) a jobseeker's allowance;

(c) state pension credit; or

(d) an employment and support allowance.

(4) The Interpretation Act (Northern Ireland) 1954(**13**) shall apply to these Regulations as it applies to an Act of the Assembly.

Amendments relating to the standard rate of interest

2.—(1) This regulation applies to the following provisions—

(a) paragraph 12(**14**) (the standard rate) of Schedule 3 (housing costs) to the Income Support Regulations;

(b) paragraph 11(**15**) (the standard rate) of Schedule 2 (housing costs) to the Jobseeker's Allowance Regulations;

(c) paragraph 9(**16**) (the standard rate) of Schedule 2 (housing costs) to the State Pension Credit Regulations;

(d) paragraph 13(**17**) (the standard rate) of Schedule 6 (housing costs) to the Employment and Support Allowance Regulations.

(**7**) S.R. 1996 No. 198; relevant amending Regulations are S.R. 2004 No. 461, S.R. 2007 No. 475, S.R. 2008 No. 503 and S.R. 2009 No. 107
(**8**) S.R. 2003 No. 28; relevant amending Regulations are S.R. 2004 No. 461, S.R. 2007 No. 475, S.R. 2008 No. 503 and S.R. 2009 No. 409
(**9**) S.R. 2008 No. 280; relevant amending Regulations are S.R. 2008 No. 503
(**10**) The definition of "benefit week" was amended by regulation 2(a) of S.R. 1988 No. 318
(**11**) The definition of "benefit week" was substituted by regulation 3 of S.R. 2009 No. 107
(**12**) The definition of "benefit week" was substituted by regulation 3(2) of S.R. 2009 No. 409
(**13**) 1954 c. 33 (N.I.)
(**14**) Paragraph 12 was substituted by regulation 2(c) of S.R. 2004 No. 461 and amended by regulation 2(3)(c) of S.R. 2007 No. 475 and regulation 2(2) of S.R. 2008 No. 503
(**15**) Paragraph 11 was substituted by regulation 3(c) of S.R. 2004 No. 461 and amended by regulation 4(c) of S.R. 2007 No. 475 and regulation 2(2) of S.R. 2008 No. 503
(**16**) Paragraph 9 was substituted by regulation 4(c) of S.R. 2004 No. 461 and amended by regulation 5 of S.R. 2007 No. 475 and regulation 2(2) of S.R. 2008 No. 503
(**17**) Paragraph 13 was substituted by regulation 2(2) of S.R. 2008 No. 503