STATUTORY RULES OF NORTHERN IRELAND

1998 No. 73

HOUSING; RATES

The Housing Benefit (General) (Amendment) Regulations (Northern Ireland) 1998

Made - - - - 4th March 1998
Coming into operation in accordance with regulation 1(1)

The Department of Health and Social Services for Northern Ireland, in exercise of the powers conferred on it by sections 122(1)(*d*), 129(4), 131(1) and 171(1) and (3) of the Social Security Contributions and Benefits (Northern Ireland) Act 1992(**1**) and of all other powers enabling it in that behalf, with the consent of the Department of the Environment for Northern Ireland(**2**) in so far as its consent is required, and after agreement by the Social Security Advisory Committee that proposals in respect of these Regulations should not be referred to it(**3**), hereby makes the following Regulations:

Citation, commencement and interpretation

1.—(1) These Regulations may be cited as the Housing Benefit (General) (Amendment) Regulations (Northern Ireland) 1998 and shall come into operation as follows—

(a) regulation 1 on 1st April 1998;

(b) regulations 2 to 5 in any case to which paragraph (2) applies, on 1st April 1998 and in any other case, on 6th April 1998.

(2) This paragraph applies in any case where—

(a) rent is payable at intervals of one month or any other interval which is not a week or a multiple thereof, or

(b) payments by way of rates are not made together with payments of rent at weekly intervals or multiples thereof.

(3) To the extent that these Regulations come into operation on the same day as any provision of the Social Security (Lone Parents) (Amendment) Regulations (Northern Ireland) 1997(**4**), these Regulations shall come into operation immediately before those Regulations.

(**1**) 1992 c. 7
(**2**) *See* section 171(6A) of the Social Security Contributions and Benefits (Northern Ireland) Act 1992 as inserted by Article 3(3) of the Social Security (Amendment) (Northern Ireland) Order 1993 (S.I.1993/1579 (N.I. 8))
(**3**) *See* section 150(1)(*b*) of the Social Security Administration (Northern Ireland) Act 1992 (c. 8)
(**4**) S.R. 1997 No. 354

(4) In these Regulations "the principal Regulations" means the Housing Benefit (General) Regulations (Northern Ireland) 1987(**5**).

(5) The Interpretation Act (Northern Ireland)1954(**6**) shall apply to these Regulations as it applies to a Measure of the Northern Ireland Assembly.

Amendment of regulation 18 of the principal Regulations

2. In regulation 18(1) of the principal Regulations(**7**) (patients)—

(a) in sub-paragraphs (*a*), (*b*) and (*d*)(ii) for "£15·60" there shall be substituted "£16·20";

(b) in sub-paragraphs (*c*)(i) and (*d*)(i) for "£12·50" there shall be substituted "£12·95";

(c) in sub-paragraph (*c*)(ii) for "£31·20" there shall be substituted "£32·40".

Amendment of regulation 63 of the principal Regulations

3. In regulation 63 of the principal Regulations (non-dependant deductions)—

(a) in paragraph (1)(**8**)—

(i) in sub-paragraph (*a*)(ii) for "£4·00" there shall be substituted "£6·00";

(ii) in sub-paragraph (*b*)(ii) for "£1·50" there shall be substituted "£2·00";

(b) in paragraph (2)(**9**)—

(i) in sub-paragraph (*e*) for "£3·00" there shall be substituted "£4·00";

(ii) in sub-paragraph (*f*) for "£3·50" there shall be substituted "£5·00".

Amendment of Schedule 2 to the principal Regulations

4. In Schedule 2 to the principal Regulations (applicable amounts)—

(a) subject to paragraph (*b*) for Part I (personal allowances) there shall be substituted the Part set out in Schedule 1 to these Regulations;

(b) in paragraph 2(*d*) as it has effect by virtue of regulation 10(1) of the Income-Related Benefits and Jobseeker's Allowance (Personal Allowances for Children and Young Persons) (Amendment) Regulations (Northern Ireland) 1996(**10**) (transitional provisions) for "£38·90" there shall be substituted "£39·85";

(c) in Part II (family premium) in paragraph 3(*b*)(**11**) for "£10·80" there shall be substituted "£11·05";

(d) for Part IV(**12**) (amounts of premiums specified in Part III) there shall be substituted the Part set out in Schedule 2 to these Regulations.

(**5**) S.R. 1987 No. 461; relevant amending Rules are S.R. 1989 Nos. 125 and 260, S.R. 1990 Nos. 136 and 345, S.R. 1992 Nos. 85, 404 and 549, S.R. 1993 Nos. 145, 195 and 233, S.R. 1996 Nos. 73, 84 and 448, S.R. 1997 Nos. 3, 4, 113 and 123 and S.R. 1998 No. 59

(**6**) 1954 c. 33 (N.I.)

(**7**) Regulation 18(1) was amended by regulation 2 of S.R. 1996 No. 84, regulation 7(*c*) of S.R. 1996 No. 448, regulation 2 of S.R. 1997 No. 4 and regulation 2 of S.R. 1997 No. 123

(**8**) Regulation 63(1) was amended by regulation 8(*a*) of S.R. 1990 No. 136, regulation 7(*a*)(i) of S.R. 1992 No. 549, regulation 3 of S.R. 1996 No. 84, regulation 2(*c*) of S.R. 1997 No. 3, Article 21(*b*) of S.R. 1997 No. 113 and regulation 3(*a*) of S.R. 1997 No. 123

(**9**) Regulation 63(2) was substituted by regulation 2(*b*) of S.R. 1992 No. 85 and amended by regulation 7(*b*) of S.R. 1992 No. 549, regulation 3(*a*) of S.R. 1996 No. 84, regulation 2(*c*) of S.R. 1997 No. 3, Article 21(*b*) of S.R. 1997 No. 113 and regulation 3(*b*) of S.R. 1997 No. 123

(**10**) S.R. 1996 No. 476

(**11**) Paragraph 3 was amended by regulation 6(*a*) of S.R. 1997 No. 4, regulation 4(*c*) of S.R. 1997 No. 123 and regulation 3(4) of S.R. 1997 No. 354

(**12**) Part IV was substituted by regulation 4(*d*) of S.R. 1997 No. 123

Revocations

5. Regulations 2, 3(*a*), 4(*a*), (*c*) and (*d*) of the Housing Benefit (General) (Amendment No. 2) Regulations (Northern Ireland) 1997(**13**) and regulation 2(*a*)(ii) of the Social Security (Non-Dependant Deductions) Regulations (Northern Ireland) 1997(**14**) are hereby revoked.

Sealed with the Official Seal of the Department of Health and Social Services for Northern Ireland on

4th March 1998.

John O'Neill
Assistant Secretary

The Department of the Environment for Northern Ireland hereby consents to the foregoing Regulations.
Sealed with the Official Seal of the Department of the Environment for Northern Ireland on

5th March 1998.

John Ritchie
Assistant Secretary

(**13**) S.R. 1997 No. 123
(**14**) S.R. 1997 No. 3