1977 No. 246

SOCIAL SECURITY

The Social Security Benefits Up-rating Order (Northern Ireland) 1977

Made . . . . . *9th August* 1977

Coming into operation . . *14th November* 1977

The Department of Health and Social Services for Northern Ireland, in conjunction with the Department of Finance for Northern Ireland(**a**), in exercise of the powers conferred on it by section 120 of the Social Security (Northern Ireland) Act 1975(**b**), as extended by Article 25 of the Social Security Pensions (Northern Ireland) Order 1975(**c**), and of all other powers enabling it in that behalf, hereby makes the following order: which order corresponds to the order(**d**), made by the Secretary of State for Social Services under section 124 of the Social Security Act 1975(**e**):

Citation, commencement and interpretation

1.—(1) This order may be cited as the Social Security Benefits Up-rating Order (Northern Ireland) 1977 and shall, subject to Articles 2 and 3 below, come into operation on 14th November 1977.

(2) In this order, unless the context otherwise requires, "the Act" means the Social Security (Northern Ireland) Act 1975 and other expressions have the same meanings as in the Act.

(3) The rules for the construction of Acts of Parliament contained in the Interpretation Act 1889(**f**) shall apply in relation to this order and in relation to the revocation effected by it as if this order and the order so revoked were Acts of Parliament and as if the revocation were a repeal.

Increase in rates or amounts of certain benefits under the Act and the Industrial Injuries and Diseases (Northern Ireland Old Cases) Act

2.—(1) In Schedule 4 to the Act as amended by Article 23(1) and (2) of, and Schedules 4 and 5 to, the Child Benefit (Northern Ireland) Order 1975(**g**) and by the Social Security Benefits Up-rating Order (Northern Ireland) 1976(**h**) the sums, reduced where appropriate by the Child Benefit and Social Security (Fixing and Adjustment of Rates) Regulations (Northern Ireland) 1976(**i**) and, subject to such reduction, as specified in Parts I (contributory periodical benefits), III (non-contributory periodical benefits), IV (increase for dependants) and V (rate or amount of industrial injuries benefit), except the sum specified in the said Part III for age addition, shall be further increased from

(**a**) *See* section 155(5) of the Social Security (Northern Ireland) Act 1975
(**b**) 1975 c. 15
(**c**) S.I. 1975/1503 (N.I. 15)
(**d**) S.I. 1977/1325
(**e**) 1975 c. 14
(**f**) 1889 c. 63
(**g**) S.I. 1975/1504 (N.I. 16)
(**h**) S.R. 1976 No. 214
(**i**) S.R. 1976 No. 223

and including the respective dates specified in Article 3 below; and the said Schedule 4 shall accordingly have effect as set out in the Schedule to this order.

(2) With effect from and including 16th November 1977, for "£9·20" there shall be substituted "£10·50" in section 2(6)(*c*) of the Industrial Injuries and Diseases (Northern Ireland Old Cases) Act 1975(j) (maximum weekly rate of lesser incapacity allowance supplementing workmen's compensation), as amended by the Social Security Benefits Up-rating Order (Northern Ireland) 1976.

Dates on which benefits under the Act are increased by this order

3. The increases of benefit under the Act effected by this order shall take effect in the case of—

(*a*) maternity allowance, widow's and widowed mother's allowance, widow's pension, Category A, B, C and D retirement pension, child's special allowance, attendance allowance, invalid care allowance (except in a case where the Department has made arrangements for it to be paid on a Wednesday), guardian's allowance and industrial death benefit by way of widow's and widower's pension and allowance in respect of children (including where appropriate increases for dependants), on 14th November 1977;

(*b*) invalid care allowance (in a case where the Department has made arrangements for it to be paid on a Wednesday), mobility allowance, disablement benefit (including increases of disablement pension), maximum disablement gratuity under section 57(5) of the Act, increase of unemployability supplement under section 59 of the Act and maximum under section 91(1) of the Act of aggregate of weekly benefit payable for successive accidents, on 16th November 1977; and

(*c*) unemployment and sickness benefit, invalidity pension and allowance, non-contributory invalidity pension and injury benefit (including where appropriate increases for dependants), on 17th November 1977.

Increase of amount specified in sections 30(1), 45(3) *and* 66(4) *of the Act*

4. The amount specified in sections 30(1), 45(3) and 66(4) of the Act, excluding paragraphs (*a*) and (*b*) of those provisions (amount of weekly earnings which must be exceeded before certain benefits are reduced by reference to earnings) shall be increased to £40.

Increase of rate specified in Article 8(1)(*a*) *of the Social Security Pensions (Northern Ireland) Order*

5. With effect from 16th November 1977 for "£15·30" there shall be substituted "£17·50" in Article 8(1)(*a*) of the Social Security Pensions (Northern Ireland) Order 1975 (weekly rate of basic component of Category A retirement pension).

Revocation

6. The Social Security Benefits Up-rating Order (Northern Ireland) 1976 is hereby revoked.

(j) 1975 c. 17

Sealed with the Official Seal of the Department of Health and Social Services for Northern Ireland on 9th August 1977.

(L.S.) *C. G. Oakes*
Senior Assistant Secretary

Sealed with the Official Seal of the Department of Finance for Northern Ireland on 9th August 1977.

(L.S.) *J. Murray*
Assistant Secretary

SCHEDULE Article 2(1)

Schedule 4 to the Act as amended by this Order

SCHEDULE 4

Rates of benefits, grants and increases for dependants

PART I

CONTRIBUTORY PERIODICAL BENEFITS (ss. 14-31)

Description of benefit	*Weekly rate*
1. Unemployment or sickness benefit (section 14).	(*a*) higher rate . . . . £14.70 (*b*) lower rate . . . . £10.50 (the appropriate rate being determined in accordance with section 14(4)).
2. Invalidity pension (section 15).	£17.50
3. Invalidity allowance (section 16).	(*a*) higher rate . . . . £3.70 (*b*) middle rate . . . . £2.30 (*c*) lower rate . . . . £1.15 (the appropriate rate being determined in accordance with section 16(2)).
4. Maternity allowance (section 22).	£14.70
5. Widow's allowance (section 24).	£24.50
6. Widowed mother's allowance (section 25).	£17.50
7. Widow's pension (section 26).	£17.50
8. Category A retirement pension (section 28).	£17.50
9. Category B retirement pension (section 29).	(*a*) lower rate . . . . £10.50 (*b*) higher rate . . . . £17.50 (the appropriate rate being determined in accordance with section 29(7)).
10. Child's special allowance (section 31).	£7.40

PART II

MATERNITY GRANT AND DEATH GRANT

Description of grant	*Amount*
	£
1. Maternity grant (section 21)	25.00
2. Death grant (section 32), where the deceased was at his death—	
(*a*) under the age of 3	9.00
(*b*) between the ages of 3 and 6	15.00
(*c*) between the ages of 6 and 18	22.50
(*d*) over the age of 18—	
(i) if on 5th July 1948 that person had attained the age of 55 in the case of a man or 50 in the case of a woman . .	15.00
(ii) in any other case	30.00