Changes to legislation: Child Support, Pensions and Social Security Act (Northern Ireland) 2000, Cross Heading: Information is up to date with all changes known to be in force on or before 28 April 2024. There are changes that may be brought into force at a future date. Changes that have been made appear in the content and are referenced with annotations. (See end of Document for details) View outstanding changes



## 2000 CHAPTER 4

# PART I CHILD SUPPORT

#### Information

# Information required by the Department

12. In Article 16(1) of the Child Support Order (information required by the Department), after such an application, there shall be inserted " (or application treated as made), or needed for the making of any decision or in connection with the imposition of any condition or requirement under this Order,".

#### **Commencement Information**

S. 12 wholly in operation at 3.10.2008; s. 12 not in operation at Royal Assent see s. 68(2); s. 12 in operation for certain purposes at 3.3.2003 by S.R. 2003/53, art. 3, Sch.; s. 12 in operation at 3.10.2008 in so far as not already in operation by S.R. 2008/402, art. 2(a)

# **Information - offences**

13. After Article 16 of the Child Support Order there shall be inserted—

#### "Information - offences

**16A.**—(1) This Article applies to—

(a) persons who are required to comply with regulations under Article 7(4); and

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- (b) persons specified in regulations under Article 16(1)(a).
- (2) Such a person is guilty of an offence if, pursuant to a request for information under or by virtue of those regulations—
  - (a) he makes a statement or representation which he knows to be false; or
  - (b) he provides, or knowingly causes or knowingly allows to be provided, a document or other information which he knows to be false in a material particular.
- (3) Such a person is guilty of an offence if, following such a request, he fails to comply with it.
- (4) It is a defence for a person charged with an offence under paragraph (3) to prove that he had a reasonable excuse for failing to comply.
- (5) A person guilty of an offence under this Article is liable on summary conviction to a fine not exceeding level 3 on the standard scale.".

#### **Inspectors**

- **14.**—(1) Article 17 of the Child Support Order (powers of inspectors) shall be amended as follows.
  - (2) For paragraphs (1) to (4) there shall be substituted—
    - "(1) The Department may appoint, on such terms as it thinks fit, persons to act as inspectors under this Article.
    - (2) The function of inspectors shall be to acquire information which the Department needs for any of the purposes of this Order.
      - (3) Every inspector shall be given a certificate of his appointment.
    - (4) An inspector shall have power, at any reasonable time and either alone or accompanied by such other persons as he thinks fit, to enter any premises which—
      - (a) are liable to inspection under this Article; and
      - (b) are premises to which it is reasonable for him to require entry in order that he may exercise his functions under this Article,

and may there make such examination and inquiry as he considers appropriate.

- (4A) Premises liable to inspection under this Article are those which are not used wholly as a dwelling house and which the inspector has reasonable grounds for suspecting are—
  - (a) premises at which a non-resident parent is or has been employed;
  - (b) premises at which a non-resident parent carries out, or has carried out, a trade, profession, vocation or business;

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- (c) premises at which there is information held by a person (A) whom the inspector has reasonable grounds for suspecting has information about a non-resident parent acquired in the course of A's own trade, profession, vocation or business.".
- (3) In paragraph (6), for the words from any person who to the end of sub-paragraph (d) there shall be substituted "any such person".
  - (4) After paragraph (10) there shall be added—
    - "(11) In this Article, premises includes—
      - (a) moveable structures and vehicles, vessels, aircraft and hovercraft;
      - (b) installations that are offshore installations for the purposes of the Mineral Workings (Offshore Installations) Act 1971; and
      - (c) places of all other descriptions whether or not occupied as land or otherwise,

and references in this Article to the occupier of premises shall be construed, in relation to premises that are not occupied as land, as references to any person for the time being present at the place in question.".

## **Changes to legislation:**

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# Changes and effects yet to be applied to the whole Act associated Parts and Chapters:

Whole provisions yet to be inserted into this Act (including any effects on those provisions):

- Sch. 7 para. 1(2)(c) added by 2007 c. 2 (N.I.) Sch. 5 para. 6
- Sch. 7 para. 6(5A)-(5C) inserted by S.I. 2015/2006 (N.I.) Sch. 11 para.
  10(3)