

1992 No. 341

FAMILY LAW

CHILD SUPPORT

The Child Support (Maintenance Assessments and Special Cases) Regulations (Northern Ireland) 1992

Made 30th July 1992

Coming into operation 5th April 1993

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The Department of Health and Social Services, in exercise of the powers conferred on it by Articles 39, 40 and 47 of, and paragraphs 1, 2 and 4 to 9 of Schedule 1 to, the Child Support (Northern Ireland) Order 1991(a) and of all other powers enabling it in that behalf, hereby makes the following regulations:

PART I

GENERAL

Citation, commencement and interpretation

1.—(1) These regulations may be cited as the Child Support (Maintenance Assessments and Special Cases) Regulations (Northern Ireland) 1992 and shall come into operation on 5th April 1993.

(2) In these regulations—

“the Order” means the Child Support (Northern Ireland) Order 1991;

“the 1972 Order” means the Health and Personal Social Services (Northern Ireland) Order 1972(b);

(a) S.I. 1991/2628 (N.I. 23)

(b) S.I. 1972/1265 (N.I. 14)

“claimant” means a claimant for income support;

“Contributions and Benefits Act” means the Social Security Contributions and Benefits (Northern Ireland) Act 1992(a);

“course of advanced education” means—

(a) a full-time course leading to a postgraduate degree or comparable qualification, a first degree or comparable qualification, a Diploma of Higher Education, a higher national diploma, a higher national diploma or higher national certificate of the Business and Technician Education Council or the Scottish Vocational Education Council or a teaching qualification; or

(b) any other full-time course which is a course of a standard above that of an ordinary national diploma, a national diploma or national certificate of the Business and Technician Education Council or the Scottish Vocational Education Council, the advanced level of the General Certificate of Education, a Scottish certificate of education (higher level) or a Scottish certificate of sixth year studies;

“covenant income” means the gross income payable to a student under a Deed of Covenant by a parent;

“day” includes any part of a day;

“day to day care” means care of not less than 2 nights per week on average during—

(a) the 12 month period ending with the relevant week; or

(b) such other period, ending with the relevant week, as in the opinion of the child support officer is more representative of the current arrangements for the care of the child in question,

and for the purposes of this definition, where a child is a boarder at a boarding school or is an in-patient in a hospital, the person who, but for those circumstances, would otherwise provide day to day care of the child, shall be treated as providing day to day care during the periods in question;

“disability working allowance” has the same meaning as in section 128 of the Contributions and Benefits Act;

“earnings” has the meaning assigned to it by paragraph 1 or 3, as the case may be, of Schedule 1;

“effective date” means the date on which a maintenance assessment takes effect for the purposes of the Order;

“eligible housing costs” shall be construed in accordance with Schedule 3;

“employed earner” has the same meaning as in section 2(1)(a) of the Contributions and Benefits Act;

“family” means—

- (a) a married or unmarried couple (including the members of a polygamous marriage) and any child or children living with them for whom at least one member of that couple has day to day care;
- (b) where a person who is not a member of a married or unmarried couple has day to day care of a child, that person and any such child or children,

and for the purposes of this definition a person shall not be treated as having day to day care of a child who is a member of that person’s household where the child in question is in the care of a Health and Social Services Board, is boarded-out or placed by that Board in accordance with the provisions of section 114 of the Children and Young Persons Act (Northern Ireland) 1968(a);

“grant” means any kind of educational grant or award and includes any scholarship, exhibition, allowance or bursary but does not include a payment made under Article 50 (provision of awards by Boards) or 51 (provision of awards by Department) of the Education and Libraries (Northern Ireland) Order 1986(b);

“grant contribution” means any amount which an education authority treats as properly payable by another person when assessing the amount of a student’s grant and by which that amount is, as a consequence, reduced;

“Health and Social Services Board” means a Health and Social Services Board established under Article 16 of the 1972 Order;

“home” means—

- (a) the dwelling in which a person and any family of his normally live; or
- (b) if he or they normally live in more than one home, the principal home of that person and any family of his,

and for the purpose of determining the principal home in which a person normally lives no regard shall be had to residence in a home for persons in need or a nursing home during a period which does not exceed 52 weeks or, where it appears to the child support officer that the person will return to his principal home after that period has expired, such longer period as that officer considers reasonable to allow for the return of that person to that home;

“home for persons in need” has the same meaning as in regulation 19(2) of the Income Support Regulations;

“housing benefit” has the same meaning as in section 129 of the Contributions and Benefits Act;

(a) 1968 c. 34 (N.I.); section 114 was amended by Part II of Schedule 5 to the Health and Personal Social Services (Northern Ireland) Order 1991 (S.I. 1991/194 (N.I. 1))

(b) S.I. 1986/594 (N.I. 3)

“Housing Benefit Regulations” means the Housing Benefit (General) Regulations (Northern Ireland) 1987(a);

“Income Support Regulations” means the Income Support (General) Regulations (Northern Ireland) 1987(b);

“the Independent Living Fund” means the charitable trust of that name established out of funds provided by the Secretary of State for the purpose of providing financial assistance to those persons incapacitated by or otherwise suffering from very severe disablement who are in need of such assistance to enable them to live independently;

“Maintenance Assessment Procedure Regulations” means the Child Support (Maintenance Assessment Procedure) Regulations (Northern Ireland) 1992(c);

“married couple” means a man and a woman who are married to each other and are members of the same household;

“non-dependant” means a person who is a non-dependant for the purposes of either—

(a) regulation 3 of the Income Support Regulations; or

(b) regulation 3 of the Housing Benefit Regulations which shall be read, for the purpose of this definition, as if the reference to “claimant” means a claimant to, rent rebate or rent allowance under regulation 10 of those regulations,

or who would be a non-dependant for those purposes if another member of the household in which he is living were entitled to, as the case may be, income support or housing benefit where it is payable in the form of such rebate or allowance;

“nursing home” has the same meaning as in regulation 19(2) of the Income Support Regulations;

“occupational pension scheme” has the same meaning as in Article 2(1) of the Social Security Pensions (Northern Ireland) Order 1975(d);

“ordinary clothing or footwear” means clothing or footwear for normal daily use, but does not include school uniforms, or clothing or footwear used solely for sporting activities;

“parent with care” means a person who, in respect of the same child or children, is both a parent and a person with care;

“partner” means—

(a) in relation to a member of a married or unmarried couple who are living together, the other member of that couple;

(a) S.R. 1987 No. 461; relevant amending rules are S.R. 1988 No. 424, S.R. 1989 No. 125, S.R. 1990 Nos. 136, 297, 345 and 442, S.R. 1991 No. 47 and S.R. 1992 Nos. 18 and 85

(b) S.R. 1987 No. 459; relevant amending rules are S.R. 1988 Nos. 146, 274, 318 and 431, S.R. 1989 Nos. 139, 326 and 395, S.R. 1990 Nos. 131, 213, 346 and 387, S.R. 1991 Nos. 338, 204 and 474 and S.R. 1992 Nos. 6, 18 and 147

(c) S.R. 1992 No. 340

(d) S.I. 1975/1503 (N.I. 15)

(b) in relation to a member of a polygamous marriage, any other member of that marriage with whom he lives;

“patient” means a person (other than a person who is serving a sentence imposed by a court in a prison, young offenders centre or a training school) who is regarded as receiving free in-patient treatment within the meaning of the Social Security (Hospital In-Patients) Regulations (Northern Ireland) 1975(a);

“person” does not include a Health and Social Services Board;

“personal pension scheme” has the same meaning as in Article 2(2) of the Social Security (Northern Ireland) Order 1986(b) and, in the case of a self-employed earner, includes a scheme approved by the Inland Revenue under Chapter IV of Part XIV of the Income and Corporation Taxes Act 1988(c);

“polygamous marriage” means any marriage during the subsistence of which a party to it is married to more than one person and in respect of which any ceremony of marriage took place under the law of a country which at the time of that ceremony permitted polygamy;

“prisoner” means a person who is detained in custody pending trial or sentence upon conviction or under a sentence imposed by a court other than a person whose detention is under the Mental Health (Northern Ireland) Order 1986(d);

“relevant child” means a child of an absent parent or a parent with care who is a member of the same family as that parent;

“relevant Schedule” means Schedule 2 to the Income Support Regulations (income support applicable amounts);

“relevant week” means—

(a) in relation to an application for child support maintenance—

(i) in the case of the person making the application, the period of 7 days immediately preceding the date on which the appropriate maintenance assessment application form is submitted to the Department;

(ii) in the case of a person to whom a maintenance assessment enquiry form is given or sent as a result of such application, the period of 7 days immediately preceding the date on which that form is to be treated as given or sent under regulation 1(6)(b) of the Maintenance Assessment Procedure Regulations;

(b) in relation to a review of a maintenance assessment under Article 18 or 19 of the Order, the period of 7 days immediately preceding the date on which a maintenance assessment review enquiry form given or sent to the person in question is to be treated as having been given or sent under regulation 1(6)(b) of the Maintenance Assessment Procedure Regulations;

(a) S.R. 1975 No. 109; relevant amending regulations are S.R. 1987 No. 391

(b) S.I. 1986/1888 (N.I. 18)

(c) 1988 c. 1

(d) S.I. 1986/595 (N.I. 4)

“retirement annuity contract” means an annuity contract for the time being approved by the Board of Inland Revenue as having for its main object the provision of a life annuity in old age or the provision of an annuity for a partner or dependant and in respect of which relief from income tax may be given on any premium;

“self-employed earner” has the same meaning as in section 2(1)(b) of the Contributions and Benefits Act;

“student” means a person, other than a person in receipt of a training allowance, who is aged less than 19 and attending a full-time course of advanced education or who is aged 19 or over and attending a full-time course of study at an educational establishment; and for the purposes of this definition—

(a) a person who has started on such a course shall be treated as attending it throughout any period of term or vacation within it, until the last day of the course or such earlier date as he abandons it or is dismissed from it;

(b) a person on a sandwich course (within the meaning of regulation 3 of the Students Awards Regulations (Northern Ireland) 1991(a)) shall be treated as attending a full-time course of advanced education or, as the case may be, of study;

“student loan” means a loan which is made to a student pursuant to arrangements made under Article 3 of the Education (Student Loans) (Northern Ireland) Order 1990(b);

“training allowance” has the same meaning as in regulation 2(1) of the Income Support Regulations;

“unmarried couple” means a man and woman who are not married to each other but are living together as husband and wife;

“weekly rates” means the annual amount of the rates in question payable in respect of the year in which the effective date falls, divided by 52;

“year” means a period of 52 weeks;

“youth training” means—

(a) provision or arrangements under sections 2 and 3 of the Disabled Persons (Employment) Act (Northern Ireland) 1945(c) or section 1 of the Employment and Training Act (Northern Ireland) 1950(d) (general functions of Department of Economic Development as to employment and training for employment);

(b) arrangements made by the Secretary of State for persons enlisted in Her Majesty’s forces for any special term of service specified in regulations made under section 2 of the Armed Forces Act 1966(e)

(a) S.R. 1991 No. 508

(b) S.I. 1990/1506 (N.I. 11)

(c) 1945 c. 6; sections 2 and 3 were amended by section 1 of the Disabled Persons (Employment) Act (Northern Ireland) 1960 (c. 4 (N.I.)) and Schedule 18 to the Education and Libraries (Northern Ireland) Order 1986 (S.I. 1986/594 (N.I. 3))

(d) 1950 c. 29 (N.I.); section 1 was amended by Article 3 of the Employment and Training (Amendment) (Northern Ireland) Order 1988 (S.I. 1988/1087 (N.I. 10)) and by Article 5 of the Industrial Training (Northern Ireland) Order 1990 (S.I. 1990/1200 (N.I. 8))

(e) 1966 c. 45

(power of Defence Council to make regulations as to engagement of persons in regular forces),

for purposes which include the training of persons who, at the beginning of their training, are under the age of 18.

(3) The regulations in Part II and the provisions of the Schedules to these regulations are subject to the regulations relating to special cases in Part III.

PART II

CALCULATION OR ESTIMATION OF CHILD SUPPORT MAINTENANCE

Calculation or estimation of amounts

2.—(1) Where any amount falls to be taken into account for the purposes of these regulations, it shall be calculated or estimated as a weekly amount and, except where the context otherwise requires, any reference to such an amount shall be construed accordingly.

(2) Subject to regulation 13(2), where any calculation made under these regulations results in a fraction of a penny that fraction shall be treated as a penny if it is either one half or exceeds one half, otherwise it shall be disregarded.

(3) A child support officer shall calculate the amounts to be taken into account for the purposes of these regulations by reference, as the case may be, to the dates, weeks, months or other periods specified herein provided that if he becomes aware of a material change of circumstances occurring after such date, week, month or other period but before the effective date, he shall take that change of circumstances into account.

Calculation of AG

3.—(1) The amounts to be taken into account for the purposes of calculating AG in the formula set out in paragraph 1(2) of Schedule 1 to the Order are—

- (a) with respect to each qualifying child, an amount equal to the amount specified in column (2) of paragraph 2 of the relevant Schedule for a person of the same age (income support personal allowance for child or young person);
- (b) with respect to a person with care of a qualifying child aged less than 16, an amount equal to the amount specified in column (2) of paragraph 1(1)(e) of the relevant Schedule (income support personal allowance for a single claimant aged not less than 25);
- (c) an amount equal to the amount specified in paragraph 3 of the relevant Schedule (income support family premium);
- (d) where the person with care of the qualifying child or children has no partner, an amount equal to the amount specified in paragraph 15(1) of the relevant Schedule (income support lone parent premium).

(2) The amounts referred to in paragraph (1) shall be the amounts applicable at the effective date.

Basic rate of child benefit

4. For the purposes of paragraph 1(4) of Schedule 1 to the Order "basic rate" means the rate of child benefit which is specified in regulation 2(1) of the Child Benefit and Social Security (Fixing and Adjustment of Rates) Regulations (Northern Ireland) 1976(a) (weekly rates of child benefit) applicable to the child in question at the effective date.

The general rule

5. For the purposes of paragraph 2(1) of Schedule 1 to the Order—
- (a) the value of C, otherwise than in a case where the other parent is the person with care, is nil; and
 - (b) the value of P is 0.5.

The additional element

- 6.—(1) For the purposes of the formula in paragraph 4(1) of Schedule 1 to the Order, the value of R is 0.25.
- (2) For the purposes of the alternative formula in paragraph 4(3) of Schedule 1 to the Order—
- (a) the value of Z is 3;
 - (b) the amount for the purposes of paragraph (b) of the definition of Q is the same as the amount specified in regulation 3(1)(c) (income support family premium) in respect of each qualifying child.

Net income: calculation or estimation of N

- 7.—(1) Subject to the following provisions of this regulation, for the purposes of the formula in paragraph 5(1) of Schedule 1 to the Order, the amount of N (net income of absent parent) shall be the aggregate of the following amounts—
- (a) the amount, determined in accordance with Part I of Schedule 1, of any earnings of the absent parent;
 - (b) the amount, determined in accordance with Part II of Schedule 1, of any benefit payments under the Contributions and Benefits Act paid to or in respect of the absent parent;
 - (c) the amount, determined in accordance with Part III of Schedule 1, of any other income of the absent parent;
 - (d) the amount, determined in accordance with Part IV of Schedule 1, of any income of a relevant child which is treated as the income of the absent parent;
 - (e) any amount, determined in accordance with Part V of Schedule 1, which is treated as the income of the absent parent.
- (2) Any amounts referred to in Schedule 2 shall be disregarded.
- (3) Where an absent parent's income consists—
- (a) only of a youth training allowance;

(a) S.R. 1976 No. 223; relevant amending regulations are S.R. 1977 No. 248 and S.R. 1991 Nos. 82, 83 and 309

(b) in the case of a student, only of a grant, an amount paid in respect of grant contribution or student loan or any combination thereof; or

(c) only of prisoner's pay,

then for the purposes of determining N such income shall be disregarded.

(4) Where a parent and any other person are beneficially entitled to any income but the shares of their respective entitlements are not ascertainable the child support officer shall estimate their respective entitlements having regard to such information as is available but where sufficient information on which to base an estimate is not available the parent and that other person shall be treated as entitled to that income in equal shares.

(5) Where any income normally received at regular intervals has not been received it shall, if it is due to be paid and there are reasonable grounds for believing it will be received, be treated as if it had been received.

Net income: calculation or estimation of M

8. For the purposes of paragraph 5(2) of Schedule 1 to the Order, the amount of M (net income of parent with care) shall be calculated in the same way as N is calculated under regulation 7 but as if references to the absent parent were references to the parent with care.

Exempt income: calculation or estimation of E

9.—(1) For the purposes of paragraph 5(1) of Schedule 1 to the Order, the amount of E (exempt income of absent parent) shall, subject to paragraphs (3) and (4), be the aggregate of the following amounts—

(a) an amount equal to the amount specified in column (2) of paragraph 1(1)(e) of the relevant Schedule (income support personal allowance for a single claimant aged not less than 25);

(b) an amount in respect of housing costs determined in accordance with regulations 14 to 18;

(c) where—

(i) the absent parent is the parent of a relevant child, and

(ii) if he were a claimant, the condition in paragraph 8 of the relevant Schedule (income support lone parent premium) would be satisfied but the conditions referred to in paragraph (1)(d) would not be satisfied,

an amount equal to the amount specified in column (2) of paragraph 15(1) of the relevant Schedule (income support lone parent premium);

(d) where, if the parent were a claimant aged less than 60, the conditions in paragraph 11 of the relevant Schedule (income support disability premium) would be satisfied in respect of him, an amount equal to the amount specified in column (2) of paragraph 15(4)(a) of the relevant Schedule (income support disability premium);

(e) where—

(i) if the parent were a claimant, the conditions in paragraph 13 of the relevant Schedule (income support severe disability premium) would be satisfied, an amount equal to the amount specified in

column (2) of paragraph 15(5)(a) of the relevant Schedule (except that no such amount shall be taken into account in the case of an absent parent in respect of whom an invalid care allowance under section 70 of the Contributions and Benefits Act is payable to some other person);

- (ii) if the parent were a claimant, the conditions in paragraph 14ZA of the relevant Schedule (income support carer premium) would be satisfied in respect of him, an amount equal to the amount specified in column (2) of paragraph 15(7) of the relevant Schedule;
- (f) where, if the parent were a claimant, the conditions in paragraph 3 of the relevant Schedule (income support family premium) would be satisfied in respect of a relevant child of that parent, the amount specified in that paragraph or, where those conditions would be satisfied only by virtue of the case being one to which paragraph (2) applies, half that amount;
- (g) in respect of each relevant child—
 - (i) an amount equal to the amount of the personal allowance for that child, specified in column (2) of paragraph 2 of the relevant Schedule (income support personal allowance) or, where paragraph (2) applies, half that amount;
 - (ii) if the conditions set out in paragraph 14(b) and (c) of the relevant Schedule (income support disabled child premium) are satisfied in respect of that child, an amount equal to the amount specified in column (2) of paragraph 15(6) of the relevant Schedule or, where paragraph (2) applies, half that amount;
- (h) where the absent parent in question or his partner is living in—
 - (i) accommodation provided under Article 15 or 36 of the 1972 Order (general social welfare and accommodation for persons in need in premises maintained by certain persons), or
 - (ii) a nursing home or home for persons in need,
 the amount of the fees paid in respect of the occupation of that accommodation or, as the case may be, that home.
- (2) This paragraph applies where—
 - (a) the absent parent has a partner;
 - (b) the absent parent and the partner are parents of the same relevant child; and
 - (c) the income of the partner, calculated under regulation 7(1) as if that partner were an absent parent to whom that regulation applied, exceeds the aggregate of—
 - (i) the amount specified in column (2) of paragraph 1(1)(e) of the relevant Schedule (income support personal allowance for a single claimant aged not less than 25);
 - (ii) half the amount of the personal allowance for that child specified in column (2) of paragraph 2 of the relevant Schedule (income support personal allowance);

- (iii) half the amount of any income support disabled child premium specified in column (2) of paragraph 15(6) of the relevant Schedule in respect of that child;
- (iv) half the amount of any income support family premium specified in paragraph 3 of the relevant Schedule except where such premium is payable irrespective of that child, and
- (v) the amount by which the housing costs of the absent parent, calculated in accordance with these regulations, have been reduced by an apportionment under regulation 17.

(3) Where an absent parent does not have day to day care of any relevant child for 7 nights each week but does have day to day care of one or more such children for fewer than 7 nights each week, any amounts to be taken into account under sub-paragraphs (c) and (f) of paragraph (1) shall be reduced so that they bear the same proportion to the amounts referred to in those sub-paragraphs as the average number of nights each week in respect of which such care is provided has to 7.

(4) Where an absent parent has day to day care of a relevant child for fewer than 7 nights each week, any amounts to be taken into account under sub-paragraph (g) of paragraph (1) in respect of such a child shall be reduced so that they bear the same proportion to the amounts referred to in that sub-paragraph as the average number of nights each week in respect of which such care is provided has to 7.

(5) The amounts referred to in paragraph (1) are the amounts applicable at the effective date.

Exempt income: calculation or estimation of F

10. For the purposes of paragraph 5(2) of Schedule 1 to the Order, the amount of F (exempt income of parent with care) shall be calculated in the same way as E is calculated under regulation 9 but as if references to the absent parent were references to the parent with care.

Protected income

11.—(1) For the purposes of paragraph 6 of Schedule 1 to the Order the protected income level of an absent parent shall, subject to paragraphs (3) and (4), be the aggregate of the following amounts—

(a) where—

- (i) the absent parent does not have a partner, an amount equal to the amount specified in column (2) of paragraph 1(1)(e) of the relevant Schedule (income support personal allowance for a single claimant aged not less than 25 years);
- (ii) the absent parent has a partner, an amount equal to the amount specified in column (2) of paragraph 1(3)(c) of the relevant Schedule (income support personal allowance for a couple where both members are aged not less than 18 years);
- (iii) the absent parent is a member of a polygamous marriage, an amount in respect of himself and one of his partners, equal to the

- amount specified in head (ii) and, in respect of each of his other partners, an amount equal to the difference between the amounts specified in head (ii) and head (i);
- (b) an amount in respect of housing costs determined in accordance with regulations 14, 15, 16 and 18, or, in a case where the absent parent is a non-dependant member of a household who is treated as having no housing costs by regulation 15(10)(a), the non-dependant amount which would be calculated in respect of him under regulation 15(5);
 - (c) where, if the absent parent were a claimant, the condition in paragraph 8 of the relevant Schedule (income support lone parent premium) would be satisfied but the condition set out in paragraph 11 of the relevant Schedule (income support disability premium) would not be satisfied, an amount equal to the amount specified in column (2) of paragraph 15(1) of the relevant Schedule (income support lone parent premium);
 - (d) where, if the parent were a claimant, the conditions in paragraph 11 of the relevant Schedule (income support disability premium) would be satisfied, an amount equal to the amount specified in column (2) of paragraph 15(4) of the relevant Schedule (income support disability premium);
 - (e) where, if the parent were a claimant, the conditions in paragraph 13 or 14ZA of the relevant Schedule (income support severe disability and carer premiums) would be satisfied in respect of either or both premiums, an amount equal to the amount or amounts specified in column (2) of paragraph 15(5) or, as the case may be, (7) of the relevant Schedule in respect of that or those premiums (income support premiums);
 - (f) where, if the parent were a claimant, the conditions in paragraph 3 of the relevant Schedule (income support family premium) would be satisfied; the amount specified in that paragraph;
 - (g) in respect of each child who is a member of the family of the absent parent—
 - (i) an amount equal to the amount of the personal allowance for that child, specified in column (2) of paragraph 2 of the relevant Schedule (income support personal allowance);
 - (ii) if the conditions set out in paragraphs 14(b) and (c) of the relevant Schedule (income support disabled child premium) are satisfied in respect of that child, an amount equal to the amount specified in column (2) of paragraph 15(6) of the relevant Schedule;
 - (h) where, if the parent were a claimant, the conditions specified in Part III of the relevant Schedule would be satisfied by the absent parent in question or any member of his family in relation to any premium not otherwise included in this regulation, an amount equal to the amount specified in Part IV of the relevant Schedule (income support premiums) in respect of that premium;
 - (i) where the absent parent in question or his partner is living in—

- (i) accommodation provided under Article 15 or 36 of the 1972 Order (general social welfare and accommodation for persons in need in premises maintained by certain persons), or
 - (ii) a nursing home or home for persons in need, the amount of the fees paid in respect of the occupation of that accommodation or, as the case may be, that home;
 - (j) the amount of rates which the absent parent in question or his partner is liable to pay in respect of the home for which housing costs are included under sub-paragraph (b) less any rate rebate;
 - (k) an amount of £8·00;
 - (l) where the income of—
 - (i) the absent parent in question;
 - (ii) any partner of his, and
 - (iii) any child or children for whom an amount is included under sub-paragraph (g)(i), exceeds the sum of the amounts to which reference is made in sub-paragraphs (a) to (k), 10 per centum of the excess.
- (2) For the purposes of paragraph (1)(l) “income” shall be calculated—
- (a) in respect of the absent parent in question or any partner of his, in the same manner as N (net income of absent parent) is calculated under regulation 7 except—
 - (i) there shall be taken into account the basic rate of any child benefit and any maintenance which in either case is in payment in respect of any member of the family of the absent parent;
 - (ii) there shall be deducted the amount of any maintenance under a maintenance order which the absent parent or his partner is paying in respect of a child in circumstances where an application for a maintenance assessment could not be made in accordance with the Order in respect of that child; and
 - (b) in respect of any child in that family, as being the total of that child’s income but only to the extent that such income does not exceed the amount included under paragraph (1)(g) (income support personal allowance for a child and income support disabled child premium) reduced, as the case may be, under paragraph (4).
- (3) Where an absent parent does not have day to day care of any child (whether or not a relevant child) for 7 nights each week but does have day to day care of one or more such children for fewer than 7 nights each week, any amounts to be taken into account under sub-paragraphs (c) and (f) of paragraph (1) (income support lone parent premium and income support family premium) shall be reduced so that they bear the same proportion to the amounts referred to in those sub-paragraphs as the average number of nights each week in respect of which such care is provided has to 7.
- (4) Where an absent parent has day to day care of a child (whether or not a relevant child) for fewer than 7 nights each week any amounts in relation to that child to be taken into account under sub-paragraph (g) of paragraph (1)

(income support personal allowance for child and income support disabled child premium) shall be reduced so that they bear the same proportion to the amounts referred to in that sub-paragraph as the average number of nights in respect of which such care is provided has to 7.

(5) The amounts referred to in paragraph (1) shall be the amounts applicable at the effective date.

(6) In this regulation "rate rebate" means housing benefit payable in the form of a rate rebate under regulation 9 of the Housing Benefit Regulations.

Disposable income

12.—(1) For the purposes of paragraph 6(4) of Schedule 1 to the Order (protected income), the disposable income of an absent parent shall be the aggregate of his income and any income of any member of his family calculated in like manner as under regulation 11(2).

(2) Subject to paragraph (3), where a maintenance assessment has been made with respect to the absent parent and payment of the amount of that assessment would reduce his disposable income below his protected income level, the amount of the assessment shall be reduced by the minimum amount necessary to prevent his disposable income being reduced below his protected income level.

(3) Where the prescribed minimum amount fixed by regulations under paragraph 7 of Schedule 1 to the Order is applicable (such amount being specified in regulation 13) the amount payable under the assessment shall not be reduced to less than the prescribed minimum amount.

The minimum amount

13.—(1) Subject to regulation 26, for the purposes of paragraph 7(1) of Schedule 1 to the Order the minimum amount shall be 5 per centum of the amount specified in column (2) of paragraph 1(1)(e) of the relevant Schedule (income support personal allowance for a single claimant aged not less than 25).

(2) Where an amount calculated under paragraph (1) results in a sum other than a multiple of 5 pence, it shall be treated as the sum which is the next higher multiple of 5 pence.

Eligible housing costs

14. Schedule 3 shall have effect for the purpose of determining the costs which are eligible to be taken into account as housing costs for the purposes of these regulations.

Amount of housing costs

15.—(1) Subject to the provisions of this regulation and regulations 16 to 18, a parent's housing costs shall be the aggregate of the eligible housing costs payable in respect of his home.

(2) Where the Northern Ireland Housing Executive has determined that a parent is entitled to housing benefit, the amount of his housing costs shall, subject to paragraphs (4) to (9), be the weekly amount treated as rent under

regulations 10 and 69 of the Housing Benefit Regulations (rent and calculation of weekly amounts) less the amount of housing benefit.

(3) Where a parent has eligible housing costs and another person who is not a member of his family is also liable to make payments in respect of the home, the amount of the parent's housing costs shall be his share of those costs.

(4) Where one or more non-dependants are members of the parent's household, there shall be deducted from the amount of any housing costs determined under the preceding paragraphs of this regulation any non-dependant amount or amounts determined in accordance with the provisions of paragraphs (5) to (9).

(5) The non-dependant amount shall be an amount equal to the amount which would be calculated under regulation 63 of the Housing Benefit Regulations (non-dependant deductions) for the non-dependant in question if he were a non-dependant in respect of whom a calculation were to be made under that regulation.

(6) For the purposes of paragraph (5) in the case of a couple or, as the case may be, the members of a polygamous marriage—

(a) regard shall be had to their joint weekly income; and

(b) only one deduction shall be made at whichever is the higher rate.

(7) Where a person is a non-dependant in respect of more than one joint occupier of a dwelling (except where the joint occupiers are a couple or members of a polygamous marriage), the deduction in respect of that non-dependant shall be apportioned between the joint occupiers having regard to the number of joint occupiers and the proportion of the housing costs in respect of the home payable by each of them.

(8) No deduction shall be made in respect of any non-dependants occupying the home of the parent, if the parent or any partner of his is—

(a) blind or treated as blind by virtue of paragraph 12 of the relevant Schedule (income support additional condition for the higher pensioner and disability premiums); or

(b) receiving in respect of himself either—

(i) attendance allowance under section 64 of the Contributions and Benefits Act, or

(ii) the care component of disability living allowance.

(9) No deduction shall be made in respect of a non-dependant—

(a) if, although he resides with the parent, it appears to the child support officer that his home is normally elsewhere;

(b) if he is in receipt of a training allowance paid in connection with a Youth Training Programme established under sections 2 and 3 of the Disabled Persons (Employment) Act (Northern Ireland) 1945 or section 1 of the Employment and Training Act (Northern Ireland) 1950 (general functions of Department of Economic Development as to employment and training for employment);

(c) if he is a student;

- (d) if he is aged under 25 and in receipt of income support; or
 (e) if he is not residing with the parent because he is a prisoner or because he has been a patient for a period, or two or more periods separated by not more than 28 days, exceeding 6 weeks.

(10) A parent shall be treated as having no housing costs where—

- (a) he is a non-dependant member of a household and is not responsible for meeting housing costs except to another member, or other members, of that household; or
 (b) but for this paragraph, his housing costs would be less than nil.

(11) In this regulation “housing benefit” means only that benefit where it is payable in the form of a rent rebate or rent allowance under regulation 10 of the Housing Benefit Regulations.

Weekly amount of housing costs

16. Where a parent pays housing costs—

- (a) on a weekly basis, the amount of such housing costs shall be the weekly rate payable at the effective date;
 (b) on a monthly basis, the amount of such housing costs shall be the monthly rate payable at the effective date, multiplied by 12 and divided by 52;
 (c) on any other basis, the amount of such housing costs shall be the rate payable at the effective date, multiplied by the number of payment periods, or the nearest whole number of payment periods (any fraction of one half being rounded up), falling within a period of 365 days and divided by 52.

Apportionment of housing costs: exempt income

17. For the purposes of calculating or estimating exempt income the amount of the housing costs of a parent shall be—

- (a) where the parent does not have a partner, the whole amount of the housing costs;
 (b) where the parent has a partner, the proportion of the amount of the housing costs calculated by multiplying those costs by—

$$\frac{0.75 + (A \times 0.2)}{1.00 + (B \times 0.2)}$$

where—

A is the number of relevant children (if any);

B is the number of children in that parent’s family (if any);

- (c) where the parent is a member of a polygamous marriage the proportion of the amount of the housing costs calculated by multiplying those costs by—

$$\frac{0.75 + (A \times 0.2)}{1.00 + (X \times 0.25) + (B \times 0.2)}$$

where—

A and B have the same meanings as in paragraph (b); and

X is the number which is one less than the number of partners.

Excessive housing costs

18.—(1) Subject to paragraph (2), the amount of the housing costs of an absent parent which are to be taken into account—

(a) under regulation 9(1)(b) shall not exceed the greater of £80·00 or half the amount of N as calculated or estimated under regulation 7;

(b) under regulation 11(1)(b) shall not exceed the greater of £80·00 or half of the amount calculated in accordance with regulation 11(2).

(2) The restriction imposed by paragraph (1) shall not apply where—

(a) the absent parent in question—

(i) has been awarded housing benefit (or is awaiting the outcome of a claim to that benefit);

(ii) has the day to day care of any child, or

(iii) is a person to whom a disability premium under paragraph 11 of the relevant Schedule applies in respect of himself or his partner or would so apply if he were entitled to income support and were aged less than 60;

(b) the absent parent in question, following a divorce from, or the breakdown of his relationship with, his former partner, remains in the home he occupied with his former partner;

(c) the absent parent in question has paid the housing costs under the mortgage, charge or agreement in question for a period in excess of 52 weeks before the date of the first application for child support maintenance in relation to a qualifying child of his and there has been no increase in those costs other than an increase in the interest payable under the mortgage or charge or, as the case may be, in the amount payable under the agreement under which the home is held;

(d) the housing costs in respect of the home in question would not exceed the amount set out in paragraph (1) but for an increase in the interest payable under a mortgage or charge secured on that home or, as the case may be, in the amount payable under any agreement under which it is held; or

(e) the absent parent is responsible for making payments in respect of housing costs which are higher than they would be otherwise by virtue of the unavailability of his share of the equity of the property formerly occupied with his partner and which remains occupied by that former partner.

(3) In this regulation “housing benefit” means only that benefit where it is payable in the form of a rent rebate or rent allowance under regulation 10 of the Housing Benefit Regulations.

PART III

SPECIAL CASES

Both parents are absent

19.—(1) Subject to regulation 27, where the circumstances of a case are that each parent of a qualifying child is an absent parent in relation to that child (neither being a person who is treated as an absent parent by regulation 20(2)) that case shall be treated as a special case for the purposes of the Order.

(2) For the purposes of this case—

- (a) where the application is made in relation to both absent parents, separate assessments shall be made under Schedule 1 to the Order in respect of each so as to determine the amount of child support maintenance payable by each absent parent;
- (b) subject to paragraph (3), where the application is made in relation to both absent parents, the value of C in each case shall be the assessable income of the other absent parent and where the application is made in relation to only one the value of C in the case of the other shall be nil;
- (c) where the person with care is a body of persons corporate or unincorporate, the value of AG shall not include any amount mentioned in regulation 3(1)(d) (income support lone parent premium).

(3) Where, for the purposes of paragraph (2)(b), information regarding the income of the other absent parent has not been submitted to the Department or to a child support officer within the period specified in regulation 6(1) of the Maintenance Assessment Procedure Regulations then until such information is acquired the value of C shall be nil.

(4) When the information referred to in paragraph (3) is acquired the child support officer shall make a fresh assessment which shall have effect from the effective date in relation to that other absent parent.

Persons treated as absent parents

20.—(1) Where the circumstances of a case are that—

- (a) two or more persons who do not live in the same household each provide day to day care for the same qualifying child; and
- (b) at least one of those persons is a parent of that child,

that case shall be treated as a special case for the purposes of the Order.

(2) For the purposes of this case a parent who provides day to day care for a child of his in the following circumstances is to be treated as an absent parent for the purposes of the Order and these regulations—

- (a) a parent who provides such care to a lesser extent than the other parent, person or persons who provide such care for the child in question;
- (b) where the persons mentioned in paragraph (1)(a) include both parents and the circumstances are such that care is provided to the same extent by both but each provides care to a greater or equal extent than any other person who provides such care for that child—

- (i) the parent who is not in receipt of child benefit for the child in question, or
- (ii) if neither parent is in receipt of child benefit for that child, the parent who, in the opinion of the child support officer, will not be the principal provider of day to day care for that child.

(3) Subject to paragraphs (5) and (6), where a parent is treated as an absent parent under paragraph (2) child support maintenance shall be payable by that parent in respect of the child in question and the amount of the child support maintenance so payable shall be calculated in accordance with the formula set out in paragraph (4).

(4) The formula for the purposes of paragraph (3) is—

$$T = X - \left\{ (X + Y) \times \frac{J}{7 \times L} \right\}$$

where—

T is the amount of child support maintenance payable;

X is the amount of child support maintenance which would be payable by the parent who is treated as an absent parent, assessed under Schedule 1 to the Order as if paragraphs 6 and 7 of that Schedule did not apply, and, where the other parent is an absent parent, as if the value of C was the assessable income of the other parent;

Y is—

- (i) the amount of child support maintenance assessed under Schedule 1 to the Order payable by the other parent if he is an absent parent or which would be payable if he were an absent parent, and for the purposes of such calculation the value of C shall be the assessable income of the parent treated as an absent parent under paragraph (2); or
- (ii) if there is no such other parent, shall be nil;

J is the total of the weekly average number of nights for which day to day care is provided by the person who is treated as the absent parent in respect of each child included in the maintenance assessment and shall be calculated to 2 decimal places;

L is the number of children who are included in the maintenance assessment in question.

(5) Where the value of T calculated under the provisions of paragraph (4) is less than zero, no child support maintenance shall be payable.

(6) The liability to pay any amount calculated under paragraph (4) shall be subject to the provision made for protected income and minimum payments under paragraphs 6 and 7 of Schedule 1 to the Order.

One parent is absent and the other is treated as absent

21.—(1) Where the circumstances of a case are that one parent is an absent parent and the other parent is treated as an absent parent by regulation 20(2), that case shall be treated as a special case for the purposes of the Order.

(2) For the purpose of assessing the child support maintenance payable by an absent parent where this case applies, each reference in Schedule 1 to the Order to a parent who is a person with care shall be treated as a reference to a person who is treated as an absent parent by regulation 20(2).

Multiple applications relating to an absent parent

22.—(1) Where the circumstances of a case are that—

(a) two or more applications for a maintenance assessment have been made which relate to the same absent parent (or to a person who is treated as an absent parent by regulation 20(2)); and

(b) those applications relate to different children,

that case shall be treated as a special case for the purposes of the Order.

(2) For the purposes of assessing the amount of child support maintenance payable in respect of each application where paragraph (1) applies, for references to the assessable income of an absent parent in the Order and in these regulations there shall be substituted references to the amount calculated by the formula—

$$A \times \frac{B}{D}$$

where—

A is the assessable income of the absent parent;

B is the maintenance requirement calculated in respect of the application in question;

D is the sum of the maintenance requirements as calculated for the purposes of each application relating to the absent parent in question.

(3) Where more than one maintenance assessment has been made with respect to the absent parent and payment by him of the aggregate of the amounts of those assessments would reduce his disposable income below his protected income level, the aggregate amount of those assessments shall be reduced (each being reduced by reference to the same proportion as those assessments bear to each other) by the minimum amount necessary to prevent his disposable income being reduced below his protected income level provided that the aggregate amount payable under those assessments shall not be reduced to less than the minimum amount prescribed in regulation 13(1).

(4) Where the aggregate of the child support maintenance payable by the absent parent is less than the minimum amount prescribed in regulation 13(1), the child support maintenance payable shall be that prescribed minimum amount apportioned between the two or more applications in the same ratio as the maintenance requirements in question bear to each other.

(5) Payment of each of the maintenance assessments calculated under this regulation shall satisfy the liability of the absent parent (or a person treated as such) to pay child support maintenance.

Person caring for children of more than one absent parent

23.—(1) Where the circumstances of a case are that—

- (a) a person is a person with care in relation to two or more qualifying children; and
- (b) in relation to at least two of those children there are different persons who are absent parents or persons treated as absent parents by regulation 20(2),

that case shall be treated as a special case for the purposes of the Order.

(2) In calculating the maintenance requirements for the purposes of this case, for any amount which (but for this paragraph) would have been included under regulation 3(1)(b), (c) or (d) (amounts included in the calculation of AG) there shall be substituted an amount calculated by dividing the amount which would have been so included by the relevant number.

(3) In paragraph (2) “the relevant number” means the number equal to the total number of persons who, in relation to those children, are either absent parents or persons treated as absent parents by regulation 20(2) except that where in respect of the same child both parents are persons who are either absent parents or persons who are treated as absent parents under that regulation, they shall count as one person.

(4) Where the circumstances of a case fall within this regulation and the person with care is the parent of any of the children, for C in paragraph 2(1) of Schedule 1 to the Order (the assessable income of that person) there shall be substituted the amount which would be calculated under regulation 22(2) if the references therein to an absent parent were references to a parent with care.

Persons with part-time care — not including a person treated as an absent parent

24.—(1) Where the circumstances of a case are that—

- (a) two or more persons who do not live in the same household each provide day to day care for the same qualifying child; and
- (b) those persons do not include any parent who is treated as an absent parent of that child by regulation 20(2),

that case shall be treated as a special case for the purposes of the Order.

(2) For the purposes of this case—

- (a) the person whose application for a maintenance assessment is being proceeded with shall, subject to sub-paragraph (b), be entitled to receive all of the child support maintenance payable under the Order in respect of the child in question;
- (b) on request being made to the Department by—
 - (i) that person, or
 - (ii) any other person who is providing day to day care for that child and who intends to continue to provide that care,

the Department may make arrangements for the payment of any child support maintenance payable under the Order to the persons who

provide such care in the same ratio as that in which it appears to the Department, that each is to provide such care for the child in question;

- (c) before making an arrangement under sub-paragraph (b), the Department shall consider all of the circumstances of the case and in particular the interests of the child, the present arrangements for the day to day care of the child in question and any representations or proposals made by the persons who provide such care for that child.

Care provided in part by a Health and Social Services Board

25.—(1) Where the circumstances of a case are that a Health and Social Services Board and a person each provide day to day care for the same qualifying child, that case shall be treated as a special case for the purposes of the Order.

(2) In a case where this regulation applies—

- (a) child support maintenance shall be calculated in respect of that child as if this regulation did not apply;
- (b) the amount so calculated shall be divided by 7 so as to produce a daily amount;
- (c) in respect of each night for which day to day care for that child is provided by a person other than a Health and Social Services Board, the daily amount relating to that period shall be payable by the absent parent (or, as the case may be, by the person treated as an absent parent under regulation 20(2));
- (d) child support maintenance shall not be payable in respect of any night for which a Health and Social Services Board provides day to day care for that qualifying child.

Cases where child support maintenance is not to be payable

26.—(1) Where the circumstances of a case are that—

- (a) but for this regulation the minimum amount prescribed in regulation 13(1) would apply; and
- (b) any of the following conditions are satisfied—
- (i) the income of the absent parent includes one or more of the payments or awards specified in Schedule 4 or would include such a payment but for a provision preventing the receipt of that payment by reason of it overlapping with some other benefit payment or would, in the case of the payments referred to in paragraph (a)(i) or (iv) of that Schedule, include such a payment if the relevant contribution conditions for entitlement had been satisfied;
- (ii) an amount to which regulation 11(1)(f) (protected income: income support family premium) applies is taken into account in calculating or estimating the protected income of the absent parent;
- (iii) the absent parent is a child within the meaning of Article 3 of the Order;
- (iv) the absent parent is a prisoner, or

- (v) the absent parent is a person in respect of whom N (as calculated or estimated under regulation 7(1)) is less than the minimum amount prescribed by regulation 13(1),

the case shall be treated as a special case for the purposes of the Order.

(2) For the purposes of this case—

- (a) the requirement in paragraph 7(2) of Schedule 1 to the Order (minimum amount of child support maintenance fixed by an assessment to be the prescribed minimum amount) shall not apply;
- (b) the amount of the child support maintenance to be fixed by the assessment shall be nil.

Child who is a boarder or an in-patient

27.—(1) Where the circumstances of a case are that—

- (a) a qualifying child is a boarder at a boarding school or is an in-patient in a hospital; and
- (b) by reason of those circumstances, the person who would otherwise provide day to day care is not doing so,

that case shall be treated as a special case for the purposes of the Order.

(2) For the purposes of this case, Article 4(3)(b) of the Order shall be modified so for the reference to the person who usually provides day to day care for the child there shall be substituted a reference to the person who would usually be providing such care for that child but for the circumstances specified in paragraph (1).

Amount payable where absent parent is in receipt of income support or other prescribed benefit

28.—(1) Where the condition specified in Article 40(1)(a) of the Order is satisfied in relation to an absent parent (assessable income to be nil where income support or other prescribed benefit is paid), the prescribed conditions for the purposes of Article 40(1)(b) of the Order are that—

- (a) the absent parent is aged 18 or over;
- (b) he does not satisfy the conditions in paragraph 3 of the relevant Schedule (income support family premium); and
- (c) he does not satisfy the conditions for entitlement to one or more of the payments or awards specified in Schedule 4 (other than by reason of a provision preventing receipt of overlapping benefits or by reason of a failure to satisfy the relevant contribution conditions).

(2) For the purposes of Article 40(2)(a) of the Order, the prescribed amount shall be equal to the minimum amount prescribed in regulation 13(1) for the purposes of paragraph 7(1) of Schedule 1 to the Order.

Sealed with the Official Seal of the Department of Health and Social Services on 30th July 1992.

(L.S.)

C. Davie

Assistant Secretary

Calculation of N and M

PART I

EARNINGS

CHAPTER 1

Earnings of an employed earner

1.—(1) Subject to sub-paragraphs (2) and (3), “earnings” means in the case of employment as an employed earner, any remuneration or profit derived from that employment and includes—

- (a) any bonus, commission, royalty or fee;
- (b) any holiday pay except any payable more than 4 weeks after termination of the employment;
- (c) any payment by way of a retainer;
- (d) any payment made by the parent’s employer in respect of any expenses not wholly, exclusively and necessarily incurred in the performance of the duties of the employment;
- (e) any award of compensation made under Article 32(2)(a) or (5) of the Industrial Relations (Northern Ireland) Order 1976(a) (enforcement of Article 31 order and compensation);
- (f) any such sum as is referred to in section 112 of the Contributions and Benefits Act (certain sums to be earnings for social security purposes);
- (g) any statutory sick pay under Part II of the Social Security (Northern Ireland) Order 1982(b) or statutory maternity pay under Part VI of the Social Security (Northern Ireland) Order 1986(c);
- (h) any payment in lieu of notice and any compensation in respect of the absence or inadequacy of any such notice but only insofar as such payment or compensation represents loss of income;
- (i) any payment relating to a period of less than a year which is made in respect of the performance of duties as—
 - (i) an auxiliary coastguard in respect of coast rescue activities;
 - (ii) a part-time fireman in a fire brigade maintained in pursuance of the Fire Services (Northern Ireland) Order 1984(d);
 - (iii) a person engaged part-time in the manning or launching of a lifeboat;
 - (iv) a member of any territorial or reserve force prescribed in Part I of Schedule 3 to the Social Security (Contributions) Regulations 1979(e);
 - (v) a person in the army whose service is restricted to part-time service in Northern Ireland pursuant to section 1 of the Army Act 1992(f), regulations made under section 2 of the Armed Forces Act 1966(g), or the terms of his commission;

(a) S.I. 1976/1043 (N.I. 16): Article 32(2)(a) and (5) was amended by paragraph 4(5) of Schedule 3 to the Industrial Relations (Northern Ireland) Order 1987 (S.I. 1987/936 (N.I. 9))

(b) S.I. 1982/1084 (N.I. 16)

(c) S.I. 1986/1888 (N.I. 18)

(d) S.I. 1984/1821 (N.I. 11)

(e) S.I. 1979/591: relevant amending instrument is S.I. 1980/1975

(f) 1992 c. 39

(g) 1966 c. 45

- (vi) a part-time member of the Royal Ulster Constabulary Reserve appointed under section 9(1) of the Police Act (Northern Ireland) 1970(a);
 - (j) any payment made by a district council to a member of that council in respect of the performance of his duties as a member, other than any expenses wholly, exclusively and necessarily incurred in the performance of those duties;
 - (k) any payment made under the legislation of, or under any scheme operating in, the Republic of Ireland which is analogous to income to which this sub-paragraph relates.
- (2) Earnings shall not include—
- (a) any payment in respect of expenses wholly, exclusively and necessarily incurred in the performance of the duties of the employment;
 - (b) any occupational pension;
 - (c) any payment where—
 - (i) the employment in respect of which it was made has ceased, and
 - (ii) a period of the same length as the period by reference to which it was calculated has expired since that cessation but prior to the effective date;
 - (d) any advance of earnings or any loan made by an employer to an employee;
 - (e) any amount received from an employer during a period when the employee has withdrawn his services by reason of a trade dispute;
 - (f) any payment in kind;
 - (g) where, in any week or other period which falls within the period by reference to which earnings are calculated, earnings are received both in respect of a previous employment and in respect of a subsequent employment, the earnings in respect of the previous employment.
- (3) The earnings to be taken into account for the purposes of calculating N and M shall be gross earnings less—
- (a) any amount deducted from those earnings by way of—
 - (i) income tax;
 - (ii) primary Class 1 contributions under the Contributions and Benefits Act; and
 - (b) one half of any sums paid by the parent towards an occupational or personal pension scheme.
- 2.—(1) Subject to sub-paragraphs (2) to (4)—
- (a) where a person is paid weekly, the amount of those earnings shall be determined by aggregating the amounts received in the 5 weeks ending with the relevant week and dividing by 5;
 - (b) where a person is paid monthly, the amount of those earnings shall be determined by aggregating the amounts received in the 2 months ending with the relevant week, multiplying the aggregate by 6 and dividing by 52;
 - (c) where a person is paid by reference to some other period, the amount of those earnings shall be determined by aggregating the amounts received in the 3 months ending with the relevant week, multiplying the aggregate by 4 and dividing by 52.

(2) Where a person's earnings include a bonus or commission which is paid during the period of 52 weeks ending with the relevant week and is paid separately from, or, in relation to a longer period than, the other earnings with which it is paid, the amount of that bonus or commission shall be determined by aggregating such payments received in the 52 weeks ending with the relevant week and dividing by 52.

(3) Subject to sub-paragraph (4), the amount of any earnings of a student shall be determined by aggregating the amount received in the year ending with the relevant week and dividing by 52 or, where the person in question has been a student for less than a year, by aggregating the amount received in the period starting with his becoming a student and ending with the relevant week and dividing by the number of complete weeks in that period.

(4) Where a calculation would, but for this sub-paragraph, produce an amount which, in the opinion of the child support officer, does not accurately reflect the normal amount of the earnings of the person in question, such earnings, or any part of them, shall be calculated by reference to such other period as may, in the particular case, enable the normal weekly earnings of that person to be determined more accurately and for this purpose the child support officer shall have regard to—

- (a) the earnings received, or due to be received, from any employment in which the person in question is engaged, has been engaged or is due to be engaged;
- (b) the duration and pattern, or the expected duration and pattern, of any employment of that person.

CHAPTER 2

Earnings of a self-employed earner

3.—(1) Subject to sub-paragraphs (2) and (3) and to paragraph 4, “earnings” in the case of employment as a self-employed earner means the gross receipts of the employment including, where an allowance in the form of periodic payments is paid pursuant to provision or arrangements under sections 2 and 3 of the Disabled Persons (Employment) Act (Northern Ireland) 1945(a) or section 1(1) of the Employment and Training Act (Northern Ireland) 1950(b) or any equivalent allowance payable under the Republic of Ireland legislation in respect of the relevant week for the purpose of assisting him in carrying on his business, the total of those payments made during the period by reference to which his earnings are determined under paragraph 5.

(2) Earnings shall not include—

- (a) any allowance paid under section 1(1) of the Employment and Training Act (Northern Ireland) 1950 in respect of any part of the period by reference to which his earnings are determined under paragraph 5 if no part of that allowance is paid in respect of the relevant week;
- (b) any income consisting of payments received for the provision of board and lodging accommodation unless such payments form the largest element of the recipient's income.

(3) There shall be deducted from the gross receipts referred to in sub-paragraph (1)—

(a) 1945 c. 6 (N.I.); sections 2 and 3 were amended by section 1 of the Disabled Persons (Employment) Act (Northern Ireland) 1960 (c. 4 (N.I.)) and Schedule 18 to the Education and Libraries (Northern Ireland) Order 1986 (S.I. 1986/594 (N.I. 3))

(b) 1950 c. 29 (N.I.); section 1 was amended by Article 3 of the Employment and Training (Amendment) (Northern Ireland) Order 1988 (S.I. 1988/1087 (N.I. 10)) and by Article 5 of the Industrial Training (Northern Ireland) Order 1990 (S.I. 1990/1200 (N.I. 8))

- (a) any expenses which are reasonably incurred and are wholly and exclusively defrayed for the purposes of the earner's business in the period by reference to which his earnings are determined under paragraph 5(1) or, where paragraph 5(2) applies, any such expenses relevant to the period there mentioned (whether or not defrayed in that period);
- (b) any value added tax paid in the period by reference to which earnings are determined in excess of value added tax received in that period;
- (c) any amount in respect of income tax determined in accordance with sub-paragraph (5);
- (d) any amount in respect of National Insurance contributions determined in accordance with sub-paragraph (6);
- (e) one half of any premium paid in respect of a retirement annuity contract or a personal pension scheme.

(4) For the purposes of sub-paragraph (3)(a)—

(a) such expenses include—

- (i) repayment of capital on any loan used for the replacement, in the course of business, of equipment or machinery, or the repair of an existing business asset except to the extent that any sum is payable under an insurance policy for its repair;
- (ii) any income expended in the repair of an existing business asset except to the extent that any sum is payable under an insurance policy for its repair;
- (iii) any payment of interest on a loan taken out for the purposes of the business;

(b) such expenses do not include—

- (i) repayment of capital on any other loan taken out for the purposes of the business;
- (ii) any capital expenditure;
- (iii) the depreciation of any capital asset;
- (iv) any sum employed, or intended to be employed, in the setting up or expansion of the business;
- (v) any loss incurred before the beginning of the period by reference to which earnings are determined;
- (vi) any expenses incurred in providing business entertainment;
- (vii) any loss incurred in any other employment in which he is engaged as a self-employed earner.

(5) For the purposes of sub-paragraph (3)(c), the amount of income tax to be allowed against earnings shall be calculated as if those earnings, less any personal allowance applicable to the earner under Chapter 1 of Part VII of the Income and Corporation Taxes Act 1988(a) (personal reliefs) (or where the earnings are determined over a period of less than a year, a proportionate part of such relief), were assessable to income tax at the rates of tax applicable at the effective date.

(6) For the purposes of sub-paragraph (3)(d), the amount to be deducted in respect of National Insurance contributions shall be the total of—

- (a) the amount of Class 2 contributions (if any) payable under section 11(1) or, as the case may be, (4) of the Contributions and Benefits Act; and

- (b) the amount of Class 4 contributions (if any) payable under section 15(2) of that Act,

at the rates applicable at the effective date.

4. In a case where a person is self-employed as a childminder the amount of earnings referable to that employment shall be one-third of the gross receipts.

5.—(1) Subject to sub-paragraphs (2) and (3)—

(a) where a person has been a self-employed earner for 52 weeks or more including the relevant week, the amount of his earnings shall be determined by reference to the average of the earnings which he has received in the 52 weeks ending with the relevant week;

(b) where the person has been a self-employed earner for a period of less than 52 weeks including the relevant week, the amount of his earnings shall be determined by reference to the average of the earnings which he has received during that period.

(2) Where a person who is a self-employed earner provides in respect of the employment a profit and loss account and, where appropriate, a trading account or a balance sheet or both, and the profit and loss account is in respect of a period at least 6 months but not exceeding 15 months and that period terminates within the 12 months immediately preceding the effective date, the amount of his earnings shall be determined by reference to the average of the earnings over the period to which the profit and loss account relates and such earnings shall include receipts relevant to that period (whether or not received in that period).

(3) Where a calculation would, but for this sub-paragraph, produce an amount which, in the opinion of the child support officer, does not accurately reflect the normal amount of the earnings of the person in question, such earnings, or any part of them, shall be calculated by reference to such other period as may, in the particular case, enable the normal weekly earnings of that person to be determined more accurately and for this purpose the child support officer shall have regard to—

(a) the earnings received, or due to be received, from any employment in which the person in question is engaged, or has been engaged or is due to be engaged;

(b) the duration and pattern, or the expected duration and pattern, of any employment of that person.

(4) In sub-paragraph (2)—

(a) “balance sheet” means a statement of the financial position of the employment disclosing its assets, liabilities and capital at the end of the period in question;

(b) “profit and loss account” means a financial statement showing net profit or loss of the employment for the period in question; and

(c) “trading account” means a financial statement showing the revenue from sales, the cost of those sales and the gross profit arising during the period in question.

PART II

BENEFIT PAYMENTS

6.—(1) The benefit payments to be taken into account in calculating or estimating N and M shall be determined in accordance with this Part.

(2) “Benefit payments” means any benefit payments under the Contributions and Benefits Act except amounts to be disregarded by virtue of Schedule 2.

(3) The amount of any benefit payment to be taken into account shall be determined by reference to the rate of that benefit applicable at the effective date.

7.—(1) Where a benefit payment under the Contributions and Benefits Act includes an adult or child dependency increase—

- (a) if that benefit is payable to a parent, the income of that parent shall be calculated or estimated as if it did not include that amount;
- (b) if that benefit is payable to some other person but includes an amount in respect of the parent, the income of the parent shall be calculated or estimated as if it included that amount.

(2) Subject to sub-paragraph (3), payments to a person by way of family credit shall be treated as the income of the parent who has qualified for them by his engagement in, and normal engagement in, remunerative work.

(3) Subject to sub-paragraphs (4) and (5), where family credit is payable and the amount which is payable has been calculated by reference either to the weekly earnings of the absent parent and another person or the parent with care and another person—

- (a) if during the period which is used to calculate his earnings under paragraph 2 or, as the case may be, paragraph 5, the weekly earnings of that parent exceed those of the other person, the amount payable by way of family credit shall be treated as the income of that parent;
- (b) if during that period the normal weekly earnings of that parent equal those of the other person, half of the amount payable by way of family credit shall be treated as the income of that parent; and
- (c) if during that period the normal weekly earnings of that parent are less than those of that other person, the amount payable by way of family credit shall not be treated as the income of that parent.

(4) Where—

- (a) family credit (calculated, as the case may be, by reference to the weekly earnings of the absent parent and another person or the parent with care and another person) is in payment; and
- (b) not later than the effective date either or both the persons by reference to whose engagement and normal engagement in remunerative work that payment has been calculated has ceased to be so employed,

half of the amount payable by way of family credit shall be treated as the income of the parent in question.

(5) Where—

- (a) family credit is in payment; and
- (b) not later than the effective date the person or, if more than one, each of the persons by reference to whose engagement, and normal engagement, in remunerative work that payment has been calculated is no longer the partner of the person to whom that payment is made,

the payment in question shall only be treated as the income of the parent in question where he is in receipt of it.

PART III

OTHER INCOME

8. The amount of the other income to be taken into account in calculating or estimating N and M shall be the aggregate of the following amounts determined in accordance with this Part.

9. Any periodic payment of pension or other benefit under an occupational or personal pension scheme or a retirement annuity contract or other such scheme for the provision of income on retirement.

10. Any payment received on account of the provision of board and lodging which does not come within Part I of this Schedule.

11. Subject to regulation 7(3)(b) and paragraph 12, any payment to a student of—

- (a) a grant;
- (b) an amount in respect of grant contribution;
- (c) covenant income except to the extent that it has been taken into account under sub-paragraph (b);
- (d) a student loan.

12. The income of a student shall not include any payment—

- (a) intended to meet tuition fees or examination fees;
- (b) intended to meet additional expenditure incurred by a disabled student in respect of his attendance on a course;
- (c) intended to meet additional expenditure connected with term time residential study away from the student's educational establishment;
- (d) on account of the student maintaining a home at a place other than that at which he resides during his course;
- (e) intended to meet the cost of books, and equipment (other than special equipment) or, if not so intended, an amount equal to the amount allowed under regulation 38(2)(f) of the Family Credit (General) Regulations (Northern Ireland) 1987(a) towards such costs;
- (f) intended to meet travel expenses incurred as a result of his attendance on the course.

13. Any interest, dividend or other income derived from capital.

14. Any maintenance payments in respect of a parent.

15. Any other payments or other amounts received on a periodical basis which are not otherwise taken into account under Parts I, II, IV or V of this Schedule.

16.—(1) Subject to sub-paragraphs (2) to (6) the amount of any income to which this Part applies shall be calculated or estimated—

- (a) where it has been received in respect of the whole of the period of 26 weeks which ends at the end of the relevant week, by dividing such income received in that period by 26;
 - (b) where it has been received in respect of part of the period of 26 weeks which ends at the end of the relevant week, by dividing such income received in that period by the number of complete weeks in respect of which such income is received and for this purpose income shall be treated as received in respect of a week if it is received in respect of any day in the week in question.
- (2) The amount of maintenance payments made in respect of a parent—
- (a) where they are payable weekly and have been paid at the same amount in respect of each week in the period of 13 weeks which ends at the end of the relevant week, shall be the amount equal to one of those payments; and

(a) S.R. 1987 No. 463; relevant amending regulations are S.R. 1991 No. 326

- (b) in any other case, shall be the amount calculated by aggregating the total amount of those payments received in the period of 13 weeks which ends at the end of the relevant week and dividing by the number of weeks in that period in respect of which maintenance was due.
- (3) In the case of a student—
- (a) the amount of any grant and any amount paid in respect of grant contribution shall be calculated by apportioning it equally between the weeks in respect of which it is payable;
- (b) the amount of any covenant income shall be calculated by dividing the amount payable in respect of a year by 52 (or, where such amount is payable in respect of a lesser period, by the number of complete weeks in that period) and, subject to sub-paragraph (4), deducting £5·00;
- (c) the amount of any student loan shall be calculated by apportioning the loan equally between the weeks in respect of which it is payable and, subject to sub-paragraph (4), deducting £10·00.
- (4) For the purposes of sub-paragraph (3)—
- (a) not more than £5·00 shall be deducted under sub-paragraph (3)(b);
- (b) not more than £10·00 in total shall be deducted under sub-paragraph (3)(b) and (c).

(5) Where in respect of the period of 52 weeks which ends at the end of the relevant week a person is in receipt of interest, dividend or other income which has been produced by his capital, the amount of that income shall be calculated by dividing the aggregate of the income so received by 52.

(6) Where a calculation would, but for this sub-paragraph, produce an amount which, in the opinion of the child support officer, does not accurately reflect the normal amount of the other income of the person in question, such income, or any part of it, shall be calculated by reference to such other period as may, in the particular case, enable the other income of that person to be determined more accurately and for this purpose the child support officer shall have regard to the nature and pattern of receipt of such income.

PART IV

INCOME OF CHILD TREATED AS INCOME OF PARENT

17. The amount of any income of a child which is to be treated as the income of the parent in calculating or estimating N and M shall be the aggregate of the amounts determined in accordance with this Part.

18. Where a child has income which falls within the following paragraphs of this Part and that child is a member of the family of his parent (whether that child is a qualifying child in relation to that parent or not), the relevant income of that child shall be treated as that of his parent.

19. Where child support maintenance is being assessed for the support of only one qualifying child, the relevant income of that child shall be treated as that of the parent with care.

20. Where child support maintenance is being assessed to support more than one qualifying child, the relevant income of each of those children shall be treated as that of the parent with care to the extent that it does not exceed the aggregate of—

- (a) the amount determined under—
- (i) regulation 3(1)(a) (calculation of AG) in relation to the child in question, and

(ii) the total of any other amounts determined under regulation 3(1)(b) to (d) which are applicable in the case in question divided by the number of children for whom child support maintenance is being calculated, less the basic rate of child benefit (within the meaning of regulation 4) for the child in question; and

(b) three times the total of the amounts calculated under regulation 3(1)(a) (income support personal allowance for child or young person) in respect of that child and regulation 3(1)(c) (income support family premium).

21. Where child support maintenance is not being assessed for the support of the child whose income is being calculated or estimated, the relevant income of that child shall be treated as that of his parent to the extent that it does not exceed the amount determined under regulation 9(1)(g).

22. Where a benefit under the Contributions and Benefits Act includes an adult or child dependency increase in respect of a relevant child, the relevant income of that child shall be calculated or estimated as if it included that amount.

23. For the purposes of this Part, "the relevant income of a child" does not include—

(a) any earnings of the child in question;

(b) payments by an absent parent in respect of the child for whom maintenance is being assessed;

(c) where the class of persons who are capable of benefiting from a discretionary trust include the child in question, payments from that trust except in so far as they are made to provide for food, ordinary clothing and footwear, gas, electricity or fuel charges or housing costs; or

(d) any interest payable on arrears of child support maintenance for that child.

24. The amount of the income of a child which is treated as the income of the parent shall be determined in the same way as if such income were the income of the parent.

PART V

AMOUNTS TREATED AS THE INCOME OF A PARENT

25. The amounts which fall to be treated as income of the parent in calculating or estimating N and M shall include amounts to be determined in accordance with this Part.

26. Where a child support officer is satisfied—

(a) that a person has performed a service either—

(i) without receiving any remuneration in respect of it, or

(ii) for remuneration which is less than that normally paid for that service;

(b) that the service in question was for the benefit of—

(i) another person who is not a member of the same family as the person in question, or

(ii) a body which is neither a charity nor a voluntary organisation;

(c) that the service in question was performed for a person who, or as the case may be, a body which was able to pay remuneration at the normal rate for the service in question;

(d) that the principal purpose of the person undertaking the service without receiving any or adequate remuneration is to reduce his assessable income for the purposes of the Order; and

- (e) that any remuneration foregone would have fallen to be taken into account as earnings,

the value of the remuneration foregone shall be estimated by a child support officer and an amount equal to the value so estimated shall be treated as income of the person who performed those services.

27. Subject to paragraphs 28 to 30, where the child support officer is satisfied that, otherwise than in the circumstances set out in paragraph 26, a person has intentionally deprived himself of—

- (a) any income or capital which would otherwise be a source of income;
- (b) any income or capital which it would be reasonable to expect would be secured by him,

with a view to reducing the amount of his assessable income, his net income shall include the amount estimated by a child support officer as representing the income which that person would have had if he had not deprived himself of or failed to secure that income, or as the case may be, that capital.

28. No amount shall be treated as income by virtue of paragraph 27 in relation to—

- (a) one parent benefit;
- (b) if the parent is a person to, or in respect of, whom income support is payable, unemployment benefit;
- (c) a payment from a discretionary trust or a trust derived from a payment made in consequence of a personal injury.

29. Where an amount is included in the income of a person under paragraph 27 in respect of income which would become available to him on application, the amount included under that paragraph shall be included from the date on which it could be expected to be acquired.

30. Where a child support officer determines under paragraph 27 that a person has deprived himself of capital which would otherwise be a source of income, the amount of that capital shall be reduced at intervals of 52 weeks, starting with the week which falls 52 weeks after the first week in respect of which income from it is included in the calculation of the assessment in question, by an amount equal to the amount which the child support officer estimates would represent the income from that source in the immediately preceding period of 52 weeks.

31. Where a payment is made on behalf of a parent or a relevant child in respect of food, ordinary clothing or footwear, gas, electricity or fuel charges, housing costs or rates, an amount equal to the amount which the child support officer estimates represents the value of that payment shall be treated as the income of the parent in question except to the extent that such amount is—

- (a) disregarded under paragraph 37 of Schedule 2;
- (b) a payment of school fees paid by or on behalf of someone other than the absent parent.

32. Where paragraph 26 applies the amount to be treated as the income of the parent shall be determined as if it were earnings from employment as an employed earner and in a case to which paragraph 27 or 31 applies the amount shall be determined as if it were other income to which Part III of this Schedule applies.

Amounts to be disregarded when calculating or estimating N and M

1. The amounts referred to in this Schedule are to be disregarded when calculating or estimating N and M (parent's net income).
2. An amount in respect of income tax applicable to the income in question where not otherwise allowed for under these regulations.
3. Where a payment is made in a currency other than sterling, an amount equal to any banking charge or commission payable in converting that payment to sterling.
4. Any amount payable in a country outside the United Kingdom where there is a prohibition against the transfer to the United Kingdom of that amount.
5. Any compensation for personal injury and any payments from a trust fund set up for that purpose.
6. Any advance of earnings or any loan made by an employer to an employee.
7. Any payment by way of, or any reduction or discharge of liability resulting from entitlement to housing benefit.
8. Any disability living allowance, mobility supplement or any payment intended to compensate for the non-payment of any such allowance or supplement.
9. Any payment which is—
 - (a) an attendance allowance under section 64 of the Contributions and Benefits Act;
 - (b) an increase of disablement pension under section 104 or 105 of that Act (increases where constant attendance needed or for exceptionally severe disablement);
 - (c) a payment made under regulations made in exercise of the power conferred by Schedule 8 to that Act (payments for pre-1948 cases);
 - (d) an increase of an allowance payable in respect of constant attendance under that Schedule;
 - (e) payable by virtue of Articles 14, 15, 16, 43 or 44 of the Personal Injuries (Civilians) Scheme 1983(a) (allowances for constant attendance and exceptionally severe disablement allowance and severe disablement occupational allowance) or any analogous payment; or
 - (f) a payment based on the need for attendance which is paid as part of a war disablement pension.
10. Any payment under section 144 of the Contributions and Benefits Act (entitlement of pensioners to Christmas bonus).
11. Any social fund payment within the meaning of Part VIII of the Contributions and Benefits Act.
12. Any payment made by the Department to compensate for the loss (in whole or in part) of entitlement to housing benefit.
13. Any payment made by the Department to compensate for loss of housing benefit supplement under regulation 19A of the Supplementary Benefit (Requirements) Regulations (Northern Ireland) 1983(b).

(a) S.I. 1983/686: the relevant amending instrument is S.I. 1984/1675

(b) S.R. 1983 No. 61; relevant amending regulations are S.R. 1983 No. 291, S.R. 1984 No. 79 and S.R. 1986 No. 236

14. Any payment made by the Department to compensate a person who was entitled to supplementary benefit in respect of a period ending immediately before 11th April 1988 but who did not become entitled to income support in respect of a period beginning with that day.

15. Any concessionary payment made to compensate for the non-payment of income support, disability living allowance, or any payment to which paragraph 9 applies.

16. Any payments of child benefit to the extent that they do not exceed the basic rate of that benefit as defined in regulation 4.

17. Any payment made under regulations 8 to 10 or 12 of the Welfare Foods Regulations (Northern Ireland) 1988(a) (payments made in place of milk tokens or the supply of vitamins).

18. Subject to paragraph 20 and to the extent that it does not exceed £10·00—

(a) war disablement pension or war widow's pension or a payment made to compensate for non-payment of such a pension;

(b) a pension paid by the government of a country outside the United Kingdom and which either—

(i) is analogous to a war disablement pension, or

(ii) is analogous to a war widow's pension.

19.—(1) Except where sub-paragraph (2) applies and subject to sub-paragraph (3) and paragraphs 20, 37 and 46, £10·00 of any charitable or voluntary payment made, or due to be made, at regular intervals.

(2) Subject to sub-paragraph (3) and paragraphs 37 and 46, any charitable or voluntary payment made, or due to be made, at regular intervals which is intended and used for an item other than food, ordinary clothing or footwear, gas, electricity or fuel charges, housing costs of any member of the family or the payment of rates.

(3) Sub-paragraphs (1) and (2) shall not apply to a payment which is made by a person for the maintenance of any member of his family or of his former partner or of his children.

(4) For the purposes of sub-paragraph (1) where a number of charitable or voluntary payments fall to be taken into account they shall be treated as though they were one such payment.

20.—(1) Where, but for this paragraph, more than £10·00 would be disregarded under paragraphs 18 and 19(1) in respect of the same week, only £10·00 in aggregate shall be disregarded and where an amount falls to be deducted from the income of a student under paragraph 16(3)(b) or (c) of Schedule 1, that amount shall count as part of the £10·00 disregard allowed under this paragraph:

(2) Where any payment which is due to be paid in one week is paid in another week, sub-paragraph (1) and paragraphs 18 and 19(1) shall have effect as if that payment were received in the week in which it was due.

21. In the case of a person participating in provision or arrangements for training under sections 2 and 3 of the Disabled Persons (Employment) Act (Northern Ireland) 1945 or section 1(1) of the Employment and Training Act (Northern Ireland) 1950 or attending a course at an employment rehabilitation unit established under any of those sections—

(a) S.R. 1988 No. 137; relevant amending regulations are S.R. 1991 No. 81

- (a) any travelling expenses reimbursed to the person;
- (b) any lodging allowance under section 4 of the Disabled Persons (Employment) Act (Northern Ireland) 1945 or section 3(3) of the Employment and Training Act (Northern Ireland) 1950;
- (c) any training premium under the Employment and Training Act (Northern Ireland) 1950,

but this paragraph, except in so far as it relates to a payment mentioned in sub-paragraph (a), (b) or (c), does not apply to any part of any allowance under section 4 of the Disabled Persons (Employment) Act (Northern Ireland) 1945 or section 3(3) of the Employment and Training Act (Northern Ireland) 1950.

22. Where a parent occupies a dwelling as his home and that dwelling is also occupied by a person, other than a non-dependant or a person who is provided with board and lodging accommodation and that person is contractually liable to make payments in respect of his occupation of the dwelling to the parent, the amount or, as the case may be, the amounts specified in paragraph 19 of Schedule 2 to the Family Credit (General) Regulations (Northern Ireland) 1987(a) which apply in his case, or, if he is not in receipt of family credit, the amounts which would have applied if he had been in receipt of that benefit.

23. Where a parent, who is not a self-employed earner, is in receipt of rent or any other money in respect of the use and occupation of property other than his home, that rent or other payment to the extent of any sums which that parent is liable to pay by way of—

- (a) payments which would be treated as housing costs by paragraph 3 of Schedule 3 if that property were his home (exempt income: additional provisions relating to housing costs);
- (b) rates payable in respect of that property.

24. Where a parent provides board and lodging accommodation in his home otherwise than as a self-employed earner—

- (a) £20·00 of any payment for that accommodation made by the person to whom that accommodation is provided; and
- (b) where any such payment exceeds £20·00, 50 per centum of the excess.

25. Any payment made to a person in respect of an adopted child who is a member of his family that is made in accordance with a scheme approved by the Department under Article 59(4) of the Adoption (Northern Ireland) Order 1987(b) (schemes for payments of allowances to adopters)—

- (a) where the child is not a child in respect of whom child support maintenance is being assessed, to the extent that it exceeds the amount referred to in regulation 9(1)(g)(i), reduced, as the case may be, under regulation 9(4);
- (b) in any other case, to the extent that it does not exceed the amount of the income of a child which is treated as that of his parent by virtue of Part IV of Schedule 1.

26. Any payment received under a policy of insurance taken out to insure against the risk of being unable to maintain repayments on a loan taken out to acquire an interest in, or to meet the cost of repairs or improvements to, the parent's home and used to meet such repayments, to the extent that the payment received under that policy does not in any period exceed the total of—

- (a) any interest payable on that loan;

(a) S.R. 1987 No. 463: relevant amending rule is S.R. 1991 No. 18

(b) S.I. 1987/2203 (N.I. 22)

(b) any capital repayable on that loan; and

(c) any premiums payable on that policy.

27. In the calculation of the income of the parent with care, any maintenance payments made by the absent parent in respect of his qualifying child.

28. Any payment made by—

(a) a Health and Social Services Board to a person who is caring for a child and with whom that child is boarded out by virtue of arrangements made under section 114(1)(a) of the Children and Young Persons Act (Northern Ireland) 1968(a) or by a voluntary organisation under section 129(1) of that Act; or

(b) a training school, within the meaning of section 137 of that Act(b) (approval of schools), under paragraph 14(2) of Schedule 5 to that Act to a person who is caring for a child and with whom that child lives or is boarded-out under paragraphs 6, 7 or 8 of Schedule 5 to that Act(c).

29. Any payment made by a Health and Social Services Board, training school or voluntary organisation in respect of a person who is not normally a member of the household but is temporarily in the care of a member of it.

30. Any payment made by a Health and Social Services Board under section 122, 123 or 164 of the Children and Young Persons Act (Northern Ireland) 1968(d) (Health and Social Services Boards' duty to promote the welfare of children and powers to grant financial assistance to persons in, or formerly in, their care).

31. Any resettlement benefit which is paid to the parent by virtue of regulation 3 of the Social Security (Hospital In-Patients) (Amendment No. 2) Regulations (Northern Ireland) 1987(e) (transitional provisions).

32.—(1) Any payment or repayment made under regulation 3, regulation 5 or regulation 8 of the Travelling Expenses and Remission of Charges Regulations (Northern Ireland) 1989(f) (entitlement to full remission and payment, persons entitled to remission in part or payment in part and repayment).

(2) Any payment or repayment made by the Department which is analogous to a payment or repayment mentioned in sub-paragraph (1).

33. Any payment made (other than a training allowance), whether by the Department of Economic Development(g) or any other person, under the Disabled Persons (Employment) Act (Northern Ireland) 1945(h) or in accordance with provision or arrangements made under section 1(1) of the Employment and Training Act (Northern Ireland) 1950(i) to assist disabled persons to obtain or retain employment despite their disability.

(a) 1968 c. 34 (N.I.)

(b) Section 137 was amended by Schedule 18 to the Health and Personal Social Services (Northern Ireland) Order 1972 (S.I. 1972/1265 (N.I. 14))

(c) Paragraph 8 of Schedule 5 was amended by Article 6(2) of the Treatment of Offenders (Northern Ireland) Order 1989 (S.I. 1989/1344 (N.I. 15))

(d) Sections 122 and 164 were amended by Schedule 18 to the Health and Personal Social Services (Northern Ireland) Order 1972; by virtue of Article 17(1)(c) of that Order the functions under sections 122, 123 and 164 are exercised by Health and Social Services Boards

(e) S.R. 1987 No. 391

(f) S.R. 1989 No. 348; relevant amending regulations are S.R. 1991 No. 224 and S.R. 1992 No. 234

(g) See S.R. & O. (N.I.) 1964 No. 205, Article 3 for change in style of Ministry of Labour and National Insurance to Ministry of Health and Social Services; S.R. & O. (N.I.) 1973 No. 504, Article 6 for transfer of functions from Ministry of Health and Social Services to Department of Manpower Services and S.I. 1982/846 (N.I. 11), Article 3 for renaming the Department of Manpower Services the Department of Economic Development

(h) 1945 c. 6 (N.I.)

(i) 1950 c. 29 (N.I.); section 1(1) was amended by Article 3 of the Employment and Training (Amendment) (Northern Ireland) Order 1988 (S.I. 1988/1087 (N.I. 10))

34. Any contribution to the expenses of maintaining a household which is made by a non-dependant member of that household.

35. Any sum in respect of a course of study attended by a child payable by virtue of regulations made under Article 50 or 51, or by virtue of the provisions of Article 55 of the Education and Libraries (Northern Ireland) Order 1986(a) (provisions to assist persons to take advantage of educational facilities).

36. Where a person receives income under an annuity purchased with a loan which satisfies the following conditions—

- (a) that loan was made as part of a scheme under which not less than 90 per centum of the proceeds of the loan were applied to the purchase by the person to whom it was made of an annuity ending with his life or with the life of the survivor of two or more persons (in this paragraph referred to as “the annuitants”) who include the person to whom the loan was made;
- (b) that the interest on the loan is payable by the person to whom it was made or by one of the annuitants;
- (c) that at the time the loan was made the person to whom it was made or each of the annuitants had attained the age of 65;
- (d) that the loan was secured on a dwelling in Northern Ireland and the person to whom the loan was made or one of the annuitants owns an estate or interest in that dwelling; and
- (e) that the person to whom the loan was made or one of the annuitants occupies the dwelling on which it was secured as his home at the time the interest is paid,

the amount, calculated on a weekly basis equal to—

- (i) where, or insofar as, section 26 of the Finance Act 1982(b) (deduction of tax from certain loan interest) applies to the payments of interest on the loan, the interest which is payable after the deduction of a sum equal to income tax on such payments at the basic rate for the year of assessment in which the payment of interest becomes due;
- (ii) in any other case the interest which is payable on the loan without deduction of such a sum.

37. Any payment of the description specified in paragraph 39 of Schedule 9 to the Income Support Regulations (disregard of payments made under certain trusts and disregard of certain other payments) and any income derived from the investment of such payments.

38. Any payment made to a juror or witness in respect of attendance at court other than compensation for loss of earnings or for loss of a benefit payable under the Contributions and Benefits Act.

39. Any special war widows' payment made under—

- (a) the Naval and Marine Pay and Pensions (Special War Widows Payment) Order 1990 made under section 3 of the Naval and Marine Pay and Pensions Act 1865(c);
- (b) the Royal Warrant dated 19th February 1990 amending the Schedule to the Army Pensions Warrant 1977(d);

(a) S.I. 1986/594 (N.I. 3)

(b) 1982 c. 39

(c) 1865 c. 73. Copies of the Order are available from the Ministry of Defence, NPC2, Room 317, Archway Block South, Old Admiralty Buildings, Spring Gardens, London SW1A 2BE

(d) Army Code no. 13045 published by HMSO

- (c) the Queen's Order dated 26th February 1990 made under section 2 of the Air Force (Constitution) Act 1917(a);
- (d) the Home Guard War Widows Special Payments Regulations 1990 made under section 151 of the Reserve Forces Act 1980(b);
- (e) the Orders dated 19th February 1990 amending Orders made on 12th December 1980 concerning the Ulster Defence Regiment made in each case under section 140 of the Reserve Forces Act 1980(c),

and any analogous payment made by the Secretary of State for Defence to any person who is not a person entitled under the provisions mentioned in sub-paragraphs (a) to (e).

40. Any payment to a person as holder of the Victoria Cross or the George Cross or any analogous payment.

41. Any payment made under a scheme established to assist relatives and other persons to visit persons in custody.

42. Any amount by way of a refund of income tax deducted from profits or emoluments chargeable to income tax under Schedule D or Schedule E.

43. Maintenance payments (whether paid under the Order or otherwise) insofar as they are not treated as income under Part III or IV.

44. Where following a divorce or separation—

(a) capital is divided between the parent and the person who was his partner before the divorce or separation; and

(b) that capital is intended to be used to acquire a new home for that parent or to acquire furnishings for a home of his,

income derived from the investment of that capital for one year following the date on which that capital became available to the parent.

45. Payments in kind.

46. Any payment made by the Joseph Rowntree Memorial Trust from money provided to it by the Secretary of State for Health for the purpose of maintaining a family fund for the benefit of severely handicapped children.

47. Any payment of expenses to a person who is—

(a) engaged by a charitable or voluntary body; or

(b) a volunteer,

if he otherwise derives no remuneration or profit from the body or person paying those expenses.

48. In this Schedule—

“concessionary payment” means a payment made under arrangements made by the Department with the consent of the Department of Finance and Personnel which is charged either to the National Insurance Fund or to a Departmental Expenditure Vote to which payments of benefit under the Contributions and Benefits Act are charged;

“mobility supplement” has the same meaning as in regulation 2(1) of the Income Support Regulations;

“war disablement pension” and “war widow’s pension” have the same meanings as in section 146(2) of the Contributions and Benefits Act.

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- (a) 1917 c. 51. Queen's Regulations for the Royal Air Force are available from HMSO
 - (b) 1980 c. 9. Copies of the Regulations are available from the Ministry of Defence, NPC2, Room 317, Archway Block South, Old Admiralty Buildings, Spring Gardens, London SW1A 2BE
 - (c) Army Code no. 60589 published by HMSO

Eligible Housing Costs

Eligible housing costs for the purposes of determining exempt income and protected income

1. Subject to the following provisions of this Schedule, the following payments in respect of the provision of a home shall be eligible to be taken into account as housing costs for the purposes of these regulations—

- (a) payments of, or by way of, rent;
- (b) mortgage interest payments;
- (c) interest payments under a hire purchase agreement to buy a home;
- (d) interest payments on loans for repairs and improvements to the home;
- (e) payments by way of ground rent;
- (f) payments in respect of, or in consequence of, the use and occupation of the home;
- (g) where the home is a tent, payments in respect of the tent and the site on which it stands;
- (h) payments in respect of a licence or permission to occupy the home (whether or not board is provided);
- (i) payments by way of mesne profits;
- (j) payments of, or by way of, service charges, the payment of which is a condition on which the right to occupy the home depends;
- (k) mooring charges payable for a houseboat;
- (l) where the home is a caravan or a mobile home, payments in respect of the site on which it stands;
- (m) payments under a rental purchase agreement, that is to say an agreement for the purchase of a home under which the whole or part of the purchase price is to be paid in more than one instalment and the completion of the purchase is deferred until the whole or a specified part of the purchase price has been paid;
- (n) where the home is provided by an employer (whether under a condition or term in a contract of service or otherwise), payments to that employer in respect of the home, including payments made by the employer deducting the payment in question from the remuneration of the parent in question;
- (o) payments analogous to those mentioned in this paragraph;
- (p) payments in respect of a loan taken out to pay off another loan but only to the extent that it was incurred for that purpose and only to the extent to which the interest on that other loan would have been met under this paragraph.

Loans for repairs and improvements to the home

2. For the purposes of paragraph 1(d) “repairs and improvements” means major repairs necessary to maintain the fabric of the home and any of the following measures undertaken with a view to improving its fitness for occupation—

- (a) installation of a fixed bath, shower, wash basin or lavatory, and necessary associated plumbing;
- (b) damp proofing measures;
- (c) provision or improvement of ventilation and natural lighting;
- (d) provision of electric lighting and sockets;

- (e) provision or improvement of drainage facilities;
- (f) improvement of the structural condition of the home;
- (g) improvements to the facilities for the storing, preparation and cooking of food;
- (h) provision of heating, including central heating;
- (i) provision of storage facilities for fuel and refuse;
- (j) improvements to the insulation of the home;
- (k) other improvements which the child support officer considers reasonable in the circumstances.

Exempt income: additional provisions relating to eligible housing costs

3.—(1) The additional provisions made by this paragraph shall have effect only for the purpose of calculating or estimating exempt income.

(2) Subject to sub-paragraph (6), where the home of an absent parent or, as the case may be, a parent with care, is subject to a mortgage or charge and that parent makes periodical payments to reduce the capital secured by that mortgage or charge of an amount provided for in accordance with the terms thereof, the amount of those payments shall be eligible to be taken into account as the housing costs of that parent.

(3) Subject to sub-paragraph (6), where the home of an absent parent or, as the case may be, a parent with care, is held under an agreement and certain payments made under that agreement are included as housing costs by virtue of paragraph 1, the weekly amount of any other payments which are made in accordance with that agreement by the parent in order either—

- (a) to reduce his liability under that agreement; or
- (b) to acquire the home to which it relates,

shall also be eligible to be taken into account as housing costs.

(4) Where a policy of insurance has been obtained and retained for the purpose of discharging a mortgage or charge on the home of the parent in question, the amount of the premiums paid under that policy shall be eligible to be taken into account as a housing cost.

(5) Where a policy of insurance has been obtained and retained for the purpose of discharging a mortgage or charge on the home of the parent in question and also for the purpose of accruing profits on the maturity of the policy, the part of the premiums paid under that policy which are necessarily incurred for the purpose of discharging the mortgage or charge shall be eligible to be taken into account as a housing cost; and, where that part cannot be ascertained, 0.0277 per centum of the amount secured by the mortgage or charge shall be deemed to be the part which is eligible to be taken into account as a housing cost.

(6) For the purposes of sub-paragraphs (2) and (3), housing costs shall not include—

- (a) any payment of arrears or payments in excess of those which are required to be made under or in respect of a mortgage, charge or agreement to which either of those sub-paragraphs relate;
- (b) payments under any second or subsequent mortgage on the home to the extent that they are attributable to arrears or would otherwise not be eligible to be taken into account as housing costs;
- (c) premiums payable in respect of any policy of insurance against loss caused by the destruction of or damage to any building or land.

Conditions relating to eligible housing costs

4.—(1) Subject to the following provisions of this paragraph the housing costs referred to in this Schedule shall be included as housing costs only where—

- (a) they are incurred in relation to the parent's home;
- (b) the parent or, if he is one of a family, he or a member of his family, is responsible for those costs; and
- (c) the liability to meet those costs is to a person other than a member of the same household.

(2) For the purposes of sub-paragraph (1)(b) a parent shall be treated as responsible for housing costs where—

- (a) because the person liable to meet those costs is not doing so, he has to meet those costs in order to continue to live in the home and either he was formerly the partner of the person liable, or he is some other person whom it is reasonable to treat as liable to meet those costs; or
- (b) he pays a share of those costs in a case where—
 - (i) he is living in a household with other persons;
 - (ii) those other persons include persons who are not close relatives of his or his partner;
 - (iii) a person who is not such a close relative is responsible for those costs under the preceding provisions of this paragraph or has an equivalent responsibility for housing expenditure, and
 - (iv) it is reasonable in the circumstances to treat him as sharing that responsibility.

Accommodation also used for other purposes

5. Where amounts are payable in respect of accommodation which consists partly of residential accommodation and partly of other accommodation, only such proportion thereof as is attributable to residential accommodation shall be eligible to be taken into account as housing costs.

Ineligible service and fuel charges

6. Housing costs shall not include—

- (a) where the costs are inclusive of ineligible service charges within the meaning of paragraph 1 of Schedule 1 to the Housing Benefit Regulations (ineligible service charges), the amounts attributable to those ineligible service charges or, where that amount is not separated from or separately identified within the housing costs to be met under this paragraph, such part of the payments made in respect of those housing costs which are fairly attributable to the provision of those ineligible services having regard to the costs of comparable services; and
- (b) where the costs are inclusive of any of the items mentioned in paragraph 5(2) of Schedule 1 to the Housing Benefit Regulations (payment in respect of fuel charges), the deductions prescribed in that paragraph unless the parent provides evidence on which the actual or approximate amount of the service charge for fuel may be estimated, in which case the estimated amount.

Interpretation

7. In this Schedule—

“close relative” means a parent, parent-in-law, son, son-in-law, daughter, daughter-in-law, step-parent, step-son, step-daughter, brother, sister, or the

spouse of any of the preceding persons or, if that person is one of an unmarried couple, the other member of that couple.

Cases where child support maintenance is not to be payable

The payments and awards specified for the purposes of regulation 26(1)(b)(i) are—

- (a) the following payments under the Contributions and Benefits Act—
- (i) sickness benefit under section 31;
 - (ii) invalidity pension under section 33;
 - (iii) invalidity pension for widowers under section 41;
 - (iv) maternity allowance under section 35;
 - (v) invalidity pension for widows under section 40;
 - (vi) attendance allowance under section 64;
 - (vii) severe disablement allowance under section 68;
 - (viii) invalid care allowance under section 70;
 - (ix) disability living allowance under section 71;
 - (x) disablement pension under section 103;
 - (xi) disability working allowance under section 128;
 - (xii) statutory sick pay within the meaning of section 147;
 - (xiii) statutory maternity pay within the meaning of section 160;
- (b) awards in respect of disablement made under (or under provisions analogous to)—
- (i) the War Pensions (Coastguards) Scheme 1944(a);
 - (ii) the War Pensions (Naval Auxiliary Personnel) Scheme 1964(b);
 - (iii) the Pensions (Polish Forces) Scheme 1964(c);
 - (iv) the War Pensions (Mercantile Marine) Scheme 1964(d);
 - (v) The Royal Warrant of 21st December 1964 (service in the Home Guard before 1945)(e);
 - (vi) the Order by Her Majesty of 22nd December 1964 concerning pensions and other grants in respect of disablement or death due to service in the Home Guard after 27th April 1952(f);
 - (vii) the Order by Her Majesty (Ulster Defence Regiment) of 4th January 1971(g);
 - (viii) the Personal Injuries (Civilians) Scheme 1983(h);
 - (ix) the Naval, Military and Air Forces Etc. (Disablement and Death) Service Pensions Order 1983(i); and
- (c) payments from the Independent Living Fund.

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- (a) S.I. 1944/500
 - (b) S.I. 1964/1985
 - (c) S.I. 1964/2007
 - (d) S.I. 1964/2058
 - (e) Cmnd. 2563
 - (f) Cmnd. 2564
 - (g) Cmnd. 4567
 - (h) S.I. 1983/686
 - (i) S.I. 1983/883

EXPLANATORY NOTE

(This note is not part of the Regulations.)

These regulations provide for various matters relating to the calculation of child support maintenance under the Child Support (Northern Ireland) Order 1991 ("the Order") and also make provision for special cases under the Order.

Regulation 1 contains interpretation provisions. Regulation 2 contains general provisions regarding calculations under the Order.

Regulation 3 prescribes the amounts which are to be taken into account in the maintenance requirement formula in paragraph 1 of Schedule 1 to the Order. Regulation 4 defines the "basic rate" of child benefit for the purposes of that paragraph.

Regulation 5 prescribes values for the general rule formula in paragraph 2 of Schedule 1 to the Order. Regulation 6 prescribes an amount and a value for the purposes of the additional element formula in paragraph 4 of that Schedule.

Regulations 7 and 8 and Schedules 1 and 2 prescribe the amounts to be taken into account as assessable income for the purposes of paragraph 5 of Schedule 1 to the Order. Regulations 9 and 10 prescribe the exempt income of the absent parent and the parent with care for the purposes of that paragraph.

Regulation 11 prescribes the protected income level of the absent parent for the purposes of paragraph 6 of Schedule 1 to the Order. Regulation 12 provides for the calculation of the disposable income of the absent parent for the purposes of that paragraph.

Regulation 13 prescribes the minimum amounts of child support maintenance for the purposes of paragraph 7 of Schedule 1 to the Order.

Regulations 14 to 18 and Schedule 3 make provision for the calculation or estimation of housing costs for the purposes of determining exempt income and protected income.

Regulations 19 to 27 and Schedule 4 prescribe the circumstances in which cases are to be treated as special cases for the purposes of the Order. These include cases where both parents are absent; where more than one application for child support maintenance is made in relation to the same absent parent; where care arrangements are shared and for child support maintenance not to be payable in certain circumstances.

Regulation 28 makes provision for the amount payable where the absent parent is in receipt of income support or other prescribed benefit.

Articles 39, 40 and 47 of and paragraphs 1, 2 and 4 to 9 of Schedule 1 to, the Order are the enabling provisions under which these regulations are made.

They are brought into operation on 18th June 1992 by the Child Support (1991 Order) (Commencement No. 1) Order (Northern Ireland) 1992 (S.R. 1992 No. 278 (C. 13)).