

# Child Maintenance and Other Payments Act 2008

# **CHAPTER 6**

# CHILD MAINTENANCE AND OTHER PAYMENTS ACT 2008

# PART 1

# THE CHILD MAINTENANCE AND ENFORCEMENT COMMISSION

- 1 The Child Maintenance and Enforcement Commission
- 2 Objectives of the Commission
- 3 Functions of the Commission: general
- 4 Promotion of child maintenance
- 5 Provision of information and guidance
- 6 Fees
- 7 Agency arrangements and provision of services
- 8 Contracting out
- 9 Annual report to Secretary of State
- 10 Directions and guidance
- 11 Review of the status of the Commission
- 12 Supplementary provisions

# PART 2

# TRANSFER OF CHILD SUPPORT FUNCTIONS ETC. TO THE COMMISSION

- 13 Transfer of child support functions
- 14 Transfer of property, rights and liabilities

# PART 3

CHILD SUPPORT ETC.

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# Removal of compulsion for benefit claimants

# 15 Repeal of sections 6 and 46

#### Maintenance calculations

- 16 Changes to the calculation of maintenance
- 17 Power to regulate supersession
- 18 Determination of applications for a variation
- 19 Transfer of cases to new rules

### Collection and enforcement

- 20 Use of deduction from earnings orders as basic method of payment
- 21 Deduction from earnings orders: the liable person's earnings
- 22 Orders for regular deductions from accounts
- 23 Lump sum deduction orders
- 24 Orders preventing avoidance
- 25 Administrative liability orders
- 26 Enforcement in county courts
- 27 Disqualification for holding or obtaining travel authorisation
- 28 Curfew orders
- 29 Commitment to prison
- 30 Disqualification for driving

### Debt management powers

- 31 Power to treat liability as satisfied
- 32 Power to accept part payment of arrears in full and final satisfaction
- 33 Power to write off arrears
- 34 Transfer of arrears

#### Miscellaneous

- 35 Registered maintenance agreements: Scotland
- 36 Offence of failing to notify change of address
- 37 Additional special case
- 38 Recovery of arrears from deceased's estate
- 39 Disclosure of information relating to family proceedings
- 40 Disclosure of information to credit reference agencies
- 41 Pilot schemes
- 42 Meaning of "child"
- 43 Extinction of liability in respect of interest and fees
- 44 Use of information
- 45 Liable relative provisions: exclusion of parental duty to maintain

### PART 4

#### LUMP SUM PAYMENTS: MESOTHELIOMA ETC.

# Mesothelioma lump sum payments

- 46 Lump sum payments
- 47 Conditions of entitlement
- 48 Determination of claims
- 49 Reconsideration
- 50 Appeal to First-tier Tribunal

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- 51 Appeal to Social Security Commissioner
- 52 Minors and people who lack capacity
- 53 Regulations: Part 4

Recovery of mesothelioma and other lump sum payments

54 Amendment of Social Security (Recovery of Benefits) Act 1997

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#### GENERAL

- 55 Regulations and orders: general
- 56 General interpretation
- 57 Minor and consequential amendments
- 58 Repeals
- 59 Transition
- 60 Financial provisions
- 61 Extent
- 62 Commencement
- 63 Citation

#### **SCHEDULES**

#### SCHEDULE 1 —

# Constitution of the Commission

1 The Commission shall consist of the following members—

Appointment of a person to chair the Commission

2 Appointments for the purposes of paragraph 1(a) are to be...

# Appointment of directors

3 (1) Appointments for the purposes of paragraph 1(c) are to...

*Terms of appointment and tenure of members* 

- 4 (1) The terms and conditions of a person's appointment to...
- 5 (1) Subject to sub-paragraphs (2) and (3), a person appointed...

Remuneration etc. of non-executive members

- 6 (1) The Commission may pay, or make provision for paying,...
- (1) The Commission may pay, or make provision for paying,...

#### Appointment of deputy chair

8 The person appointed to chair the Commission must appoint one...

#### Staff

- 9 (1) The Commission is to have a chief executive.
- 10 (1) The Commission may appoint such other staff as it...

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#### Committees

- 11 (1) The Commission may establish committees for any purpose.
- 12 Appointment as a member of a committee or sub-committee of...

#### Procedure

13 The Commission may determine— (a) its own procedure (including quorum),...

# Delegation

- 14 (1) The Commission may authorise—(a) any member of the...
- 15 (1) The person appointed to chair the Commission may authorise—...

#### Instruments

16 (1) The fixing of the common seal of the Commission...

#### Finance

17 (1) The Secretary of State may out of money provided...

#### Accounts and audit

- 18 (1) The Commission must—(a) keep proper accounts and proper...
- 19 The Commission must keep under review the question whether its...

#### Non-executive functions committee

20 (1) The Commission must establish a committee to discharge the...

#### Supplementary powers

21 The Commission may do anything (except borrow money) which is...

# Status of the Commission

22 (1) The functions of the Commission, and of its members,...

# Validity

23 The validity of any proceedings of the Commission (including proceedings...

#### Public records

24 In Schedule 1 to the Public Records Act 1958 (c....

# Investigation by Parliamentary Commissioner

25 In Schedule 2 to the Parliamentary Commissioner Act 1967 (c....

# Civil service pensions

26 (1) The Commission must pay to the Minister for the...

# House of Commons disqualification

27 In Part 2 of Schedule 1 to the House of...

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# Northern Ireland Assembly disqualification

28 In Part 2 of Schedule 1 to the Northern Ireland...

# Freedom of information

29 In Part 6 of Schedule 1 to the Freedom of...

#### Interpretation

- 30 In this Schedule—(a) references to executive members of the...
- 31 In this Schedule, references to the staff of the Commission...
- In this Schedule, references to the committees of the Commission...

# SCHEDULE 2 —

SCHEDULE 3 — Transfer of child support functions
Part 1 — CONSEQUENTIAL AMENDMENTS

# Child Support Act 1991 (c. 48)

- 1 The Child Support Act 1991 (c. 48) is amended as...
- 2 In section 2 (welfare of children: the general principle)—
- 3 (1) Section 4 (child support maintenance) is amended as follows....
- 4 (1) Section 6 (applications by those claiming or receiving benefit)...
- 5 (1) Section 7 (right of child in Scotland to apply...
- 6 In section 8 (role of the courts with respect to...
- 7 (1) Section 10 (relationship between maintenance calculations and certain court...
- 8 (1) Section 11 (maintenance calculations) is amended as follows.
- 9 (1) Section 12 (default and interim maintenance decisions) is amended...
- 10 (1) Section 14 (information required by Secretary of State) is...
- 11 (1) Section 15 (powers of inspectors) is amended as follows....
- 12 In section 16 (revision of decisions)—(a) for "Secretary of...
- 13 In section 17 (decisions superseding earlier decisions)—
- 14 (1) Section 20 (appeals to appeal tribunals) is amended as...
- 15 In section 23A (redetermination of appeals), in subsection (4), before...
- 16 (1) Section 24 (appeal to Child Support Commissioner) is amended...
- 17 In section 25 (appeal from Child Support Commissioner on question...
- 18 In section 26 (disputes about parentage), for "Secretary of State"...
- 19 In section 27 (applications for declaration of parentage) for "Secretary...
- 20 In section 27A (recovery of fees for scientific tests)—
- 21 In section 28 (power to initiate or defend actions of...
- 22 In section 28ZA (decisions involving issues that arise on appeal...
- 23 In section 28ZB (appeals involving issues that arise on appeal...
- 24 In section 28ZC (restrictions on liability in certain cases of...
- 25 In section 28A (application for variation of usual rules for...
- 26 (1) Section 28B (preliminary consideration of applications) is amended
- 27 In section 28C (imposition of regular payments condition), in subsections...
- 28 In section 28D (determination of applications)—(a) for "Secretary of...
- 29 In section 28E (matters to be taken into account)—
- 30 In section 28F (agreement to variation)—(a) for "Secretary of...

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- 31 In section 28J (voluntary payments), in subsections (1), (2) and...
- 32 (1) Section 29 (collection of child support maintenance) is amended...
- 33 (1) Section 30 (collection and enforcement of other forms of...
- 34 In section 31 (deduction from earnings orders)—
- 35 In section 32 (regulations about deduction from earnings orders), in...
- 36 In section 33 (liability orders), for "Secretary of State" (in...
- 37 In section 34 (regulations about liability orders), in subsections (1)(a)...
- 38 (1) Section 35 (enforcement of liability orders by distress) is...
- 39 In section 37 (regulations about liability orders), in subsection (2),...
- 40 In section 38 (enforcement of liability orders by diligence), subsection...
- 41 In section 39A (commitment to prison and disqualification from driving)—...
- 42 (1) Section 40B (disqualification from driving) is amended as follows....
- 43 (1) Section 41 (arrears of child support maintenance) is amended...
- 44 (1) Section 41A (penalty payments) is amended as follows.
- 45 (1) Section 41B (repayment of overpaid child support maintenance) is...
- 46 In section 44 (jurisdiction), in subsection (1), for "Secretary of...
- 47 In section 46 (reduced benefit decisions), in subsection (3)(a), for...
- 48 In section 46A (finality of decisions), in subsection (1), after...
- 49 In section 46B (matters arising as respects decisions), in subsection...
- 50 In section 48 (right of audience), in subsection (1), for...
- After section 50 insert— Use of computers Any decision falling to be made under or by virtue...
- 52 (1) Schedule 1 (maintenance calculations) is amended as follows.
- 53 In paragraph 4 of Schedule 4A, for "Secretary of State"...

# Social Security Act 1998 (c. 14)

- 54 In paragraph 10 of Schedule 1 to the Social Security...
  - Part 2 Transitional Provision and Savings
- 55 (1) Anything which—(a) relates to any function transferred to...

# SCHEDULE 4 — Changes to the calculation of maintenance

# Introductory

1 Part 1 of Schedule 1 to the Child Support Act...

Calculation by reference to gross weekly income

2 In Part 1 (under which the weekly amount of child...

# Change to basic rate

3 For paragraph 2 (basic rate) substitute—(1) Subject to subparagraph (2), the basic rate is the...

*Increase in flat rate and minimum amounts of liability* 

4 In the following provisions, for "£5" substitute "£7"...

Applicable rate where non-resident parent party to other maintenance arrangement

5 (1) In paragraph 1(1) (under which the weekly rate of...

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#### Shared care

- 6 In paragraph 7(2) (circumstances in which decrease for shared care...
- 7 In paragraph 8(2) (circumstances in which decrease for shared care...
- 8 (1) In paragraph 9 (regulations about shared care), the existing...

# Weekly income

- 9 In paragraph 10 (which confers power to make regulations about...
- 10 In paragraph 10(3) (under which weekly income over £2,000 is...

#### SCHEDULE 5 — Maintenance calculations: transfer of cases to new rules

Power to require a decision about whether to stay in the statutory scheme

- 1 (1) The Secretary of State may require the interested parties...
- 2 (1) The Secretary of State may by regulations make provision...
- 3 (1) The Secretary of State shall by regulations make such...
- 4 If, in a particular case, any of the interested parties...

Effect on accrual of liability of exercise of power under paragraph I

5 (1) Where the power under paragraph 1(1) is exercised in...

# Additional powers

6 (1) The Secretary of State may by regulations make such...

#### *Interpretation*

7 In this Schedule— "interested parties" has such meaning as may...

# SCHEDULE 6 —

# Powers in relation to use of information

- 1 Information which is held for the purposes of any functions...
- 2 (1) This paragraph applies to information which is held for...
- 3 (1) This paragraph applies to information which is held for...
- 4 (1) This paragraph applies to information which is held for...
- 5 (1) This paragraph applies to information which is held for...

# Interpretation

6 In this Schedule, "Northern Ireland Department" means the Department for...

# SCHEDULE 7 — Minor and consequential amendments

Child Support Act 1991 (c. 48)

1 (1) The Child Support Act 1991 is amended as follows....

Social Security Administration Act 1992 (c. 5)

2 (1) The Social Security Administration Act 1992 is amended as...

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# Social Security Act 1998 (c. 14)

3 (1) The Social Security Act 1998 is amended as follows....

Tax Credits Act 2002 (c. 21)

4 (1) Schedule 5 to the Tax Credits Act 2002 (use...

Debt Arrangement and Attachment (Scotland) Act 2002 (asp 17)

5 In section 10(5) of the Debt Arrangement and Attachment (Scotland)...

Bankruptcy and Diligence etc. (Scotland) Act 2007 (asp 3)

6 In section 221 of the Bankruptcy and Diligence etc. (Scotland)...

SCHEDULE 8 — Repeals

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# Changes and effects yet to be applied to:

- s. 30 repealed by 2009 c. 24 Sch. 7 Pt. 4
- s. 45(2) repealed by 2012 c. 5 Sch. 14 Pt. 1
- s. 59(5) word inserted by 2009 c. 24 Sch. 5 para. 10
- s. 59(5) words repealed by 2009 c. 24 Sch. 7 Pt. 4
- s. 59(6) word inserted by 2009 c. 24 Sch. 5 para. 10
- s. 59(6) words repealed by 2009 c. 24 Sch. 7 Pt. 4
- Sch. 3 para. 42 repealed by 2009 c. 24 Sch. 7 Pt. 4
- Sch. 7 para. 2(2) repealed by 2009 c. 24 Sch. 7 Pt. 1
- Sch. 7 para. 1(15)-(18) repealed by 2009 c. 24 Sch. 7 Pt. 4
- Sch. 7 para. 2(2) repealed by 2012 c. 5 Sch. 14 Pt. 1