

*These notes refer to the Welfare Reform Act (Northern Ireland)
2010 (c.13) which received Royal Assent on 13 August 2010*

Welfare Reform Act (Northern Ireland) 2010

EXPLANATORY NOTES

BACKGROUND AND POLICY OBJECTIVES

Part 1 - Social security

Contribution-based jobseeker's allowance and contributory employment and support allowance

17. In addition to making provision concerning conditionality, this Part also amends the contribution conditions for both contributory jobseeker's allowance and employment and support allowance. This will mean that in order to qualify, new claimants will normally need to have paid national insurance contributions for at least 26 weeks in one of the last two tax years prior to the claim. There is also provision to remove an adult dependency increase from maternity allowance and from carer's allowance. A further provision extends the mobility component of disability living allowance to certain people with severe visual impairments.