

**AGE-RELATED PAYMENTS
(NORTHERN IRELAND) ORDER 2004**

S.I. 2004 No. 1987 (N.I. 11)

EXPLANATORY MEMORANDUM

CONSULTATION

6. There is a long-standing policy of parity between Great Britain and Northern Ireland in social security matters. Due to the timescales involved for ensuring payments are made on time, and as the Order will merely give effect to the decision already announced by the Chancellor and endorsed by the Minister with responsibility for Finance in Northern Ireland, a consultation exercise has not taken place.