

1976 No. 74

LEGAL AID AND ADVICE

Legal Aid (Financial Conditions) Regulations
(Northern Ireland) 1976

Made 19th February 1976

Coming into operation 1st April 1976

To be laid before Parliament

The Secretary of State(a) in pursuance of sections 2 and 3 of the Legal Aid and Advice Act (Northern Ireland) 1965(b) hereby makes the following regulations:

Citation, commencement and interpretation

1.—(1) These regulations may be cited as the Legal Aid (Financial Conditions) Regulations (Northern Ireland) 1976 and shall come into operation on 1st April 1976.

(2) In these regulations—

“the Act” means the Legal Aid and Advice Act (Northern Ireland) 1965;

“the Regulations of 1975” means the Legal Aid (Financial Conditions No. 2) Regulations (Northern Ireland) 1975(c).

Disposable income for purposes of section 2 of the Act

2. Subject to the proviso to section 2(1) of the Act, legal aid shall be available for any person whose disposable income does not exceed £1790 a year, instead of the amount prescribed under that subsection by regulation 2 of the Regulations of 1975.

Contribution to Legal Aid Fund

3. A person's contribution to the Legal Aid Fund in respect of any proceedings may, subject to section 3(3) of the Act, include a contribution in respect of income not greater than one-third of the amount (if any) by which his disposable income exceeds £570 a year instead of the amount prescribed under section 3(1)(a) of the Act by regulation 3 of the Regulations of 1975.

Merlyn Rees

Northern Ireland Office
19th February 1976

One of Her Majesty's Principal
Secretaries of State

(a) Formerly the Ministry of Home Affairs for Northern Ireland: see S.I. 1973/2163

(b) 1965 c. 8 (N.I.)

(c) S.R. 1975 No. 210

EXPLANATORY NOTE

(This note is not part of the regulations but is intended to indicate their general purport.)

These regulations increase the financial limits for legal aid. In future legal aid will be available to those with incomes (after certain deductions) of not more than £1790 a year (instead of £1580) and without payment of a contribution from those with incomes (after deductions) of £570 a year (instead of £500).