

1988 No. 69

HOUSING

**Homes Insulation Scheme and Grants Order
(Northern Ireland) 1988**

Made 7th March 1988

Coming into operation 11th April 1988

The Department of Economic Development in exercise of the powers conferred by Article 86(1), (2), (3), (4)(a), (5) and (7) of the Housing (Northern Ireland) Order 1981(a) and now vested in it(b) and of every other power enabling it in that behalf, with the approval of the Department of Finance and Personnel(c) hereby makes the following Order:

Citation, commencement and interpretation

1.—(1) This Order may be cited as the Homes Insulation Scheme and Grants Order (Northern Ireland) 1988 and shall come into operation on 11th April 1988.

(2) In this Order “grant” means a grant paid under Article 86(1) of the Housing (Northern Ireland) Order 1981.

Homes Insulation Scheme

2. The Department of Economic Development hereby makes the Homes Insulation Scheme (Northern Ireland) 1988 set out in the Schedule.

Amounts of grants

3. The grant shall be 90 per cent. of the cost of the works qualifying for it or £137 whichever is the lesser amount.

Revocation

4. Subject to Article 5 the Homes Insulation Scheme and Grants Order (Northern Ireland) 1984(d) is hereby revoked.

Transitional provisions

5. The Homes Insulation Scheme and Grants Order (Northern Ireland) 1984 shall apply to any applications for grant made before the coming into operation of this Order as if this Order had not been made.

(a) S.I. 1981/156 (N.I. 3)

(b) See S.R. 1984 No. 204

(c) Formerly Department of Finance: See S.I. 1982/338 (N.I. 6) Art. 3

(d) S.R. 1984 No. 310

Sealed with the Official Seal of the Department of Economic
Development on 7th March 1988.

(L.S.)

D. Gibson

Under-Secretary

The Department of Finance and Personnel hereby approves the foregoing
Order.

Sealed with the Official Seal of the Department of Finance and Personnel
on 7th March 1988.

(L.S.)

Joan O. M. Frame

Assistant Secretary

The Homes Insulation Scheme (Northern Ireland) 1988*Interpretation*

1. In this Scheme:—

“British Standard Specification 5615:1978” means the specification for insulating jackets for domestic hot water storage cylinders (ISBN 0 580 10325 0), published on 30th September 1978 under authority of the Executive Board of the British Standards Institution, 2 Park Street, London W1A 2BS;

“insulated additional roof space” means roof space which has been added to the dwelling by works of improvement and in all or any part of which there is insulation material of a thickness of 30mm or more;

“roof space” means space between the roof of a house and the ceiling of any room, which is used or available for use for the purposes of living accommodation and which is not wholly separated from the roof by any other room; and

“spouse” means the applicant’s husband or wife living with the applicant; or a person with whom the applicant is living as though they were husband and wife.

Specified insulation works

2.—(1) Subject to the provisions of this Scheme, grant will be available for the following insulation works:—

- (a) the provision in any roof space, other than an insulated additional roof space, of material specified in column 2 of the Appendix as made by or for the body named in column 1 to the thickness specified in column 3;
- (b) where there is no means of access to any roof space for the purpose of carrying out the insulation works referred to in sub-paragraph (1)(a), the provision of such a means of access, including a permanent means of access;
- (c) the insulation, in any roof space, of any cold water tank and any water supply, overflow and expansion pipes; and
- (d) the provision, for any hot water tank or cylinder which is not already insulated by any means, of a jacket conforming to British Standard Specification 5615:1978 or, if there is insufficient space for such a jacket, of other means of insulation.

(2) Grant shall only be available where at the completion of the insulation works:—

- (a) insulation material has been provided throughout the area of the roof space except for any area:—
 - (i) to which it is not reasonably practicable to obtain or provide means of obtaining access;
 - (ii) where the absence of insulation is necessary for adequate ventilation of the roof space;
 - (iii) which is below a water tank; or
 - (iv) which is insulated additional roof space;
- (b) any cold water tank in any roof space insulated under this Scheme and any water supply, overflow and expansion pipes in any such roof space are insulated; and
- (c) any hot water tank or cylinder which was not insulated at the start of those works is insulated as mentioned in sub-paragraph (1)(d).

(3) Grant shall only be available for the insulation works mentioned in sub-paragraph (1)(b), (c) or (d) where at the same time as such insulation works are carried out the insulation works referred to in sub-paragraph (1)(a) are also carried out.

Cases in which grant is to be available

3.—(1) A grant for any dwelling under this Scheme is to be made only where there is an application on grounds of special need.

(2) In this paragraph “application on the grounds of special need” means an application made by a person who, or whose spouse, is at the time of application in receipt of income support, family credit or housing benefit within the meaning of Part III of the Social Security (Northern Ireland) Order 1986(a).

Description of houses qualifying for grant

4.—(1) The houses qualifying for a grant under this Scheme are all houses completed before 1st October 1977 other than:—

- (a) those without any roof space;
- (b) those in respect of which a grant has been paid under the Homes Insulation (Northern Ireland) Order 1978(b) or Article 86 of the Housing (Northern Ireland) Order 1981; and
- (c) subject to sub-paragraph (2), those in which there is, or has been at any time during the subsistence of the applicant’s interest in the house insulation material of a thickness of 30mm or more in all or any part of any roof space.

(2) A house which is excluded from qualifying for a grant under sub-paragraph (1)(c) shall qualify if all the insulation material of a thickness of 30mm or more in the roof space:—

- (a) is insulating a water tank, cylinder, water supply pipe or overflow or expansion pipe; or
- (b) is in insulated additional roof space.

(3) For the purposes of this Scheme, dwellings which are provided by the conversion of houses or other buildings are to be regarded as completed before 1st October 1977 if such houses or other buildings were completed before that date.

Persons from whom applications are to be entertained

5.—(1) Subject to sub-paragraph (2), the following are the persons from whom applications for grant are to be entertained in respect of houses within the description specified in paragraph 4:—

- (a) a person in occupation of such a house;
- (b) where the house is unoccupied, any person entitled to occupy it; and
- (c) where the house is subject to a tenancy or licence, any landlord or licensor.

(2) No application made by a public authority shall be entertained.

(3) In this paragraph “public authority” means a public body established by or under any statutory provision or a housing association for the time being registered in the register of housing associations established under Article 124 of the Housing (Northern Ireland) Order 1981 other than one whose rules restrict membership to persons who are tenants or prospective tenants of the association and preclude the granting or assigning of tenancies to persons other than members.

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

(b) S.I. 1978/1406 (N.I. 22) repealed by S.I. 1981/156 (N.I. 3)

(4) In sub-paragraph (3) "housing association" means a housing association within the meaning of Article 114 of the Housing (Northern Ireland) Order 1981.

APPENDIX

Materials specified for the insulation of roof spaces

| <i>Column 1</i> Company | <i>Column 2</i> Materials | <i>Column 3</i> Thickness |
|-------------------------------|--|------------------------------|
| Certain Teed Corporation | Certain Teed Blowing Wool Glass Fibre (Agrément Certificate 83/1226)* | 110mm |
| Dupre Vermiculite Ltd. | Micafil (exfoliated vermiculite) (Agrément Certificate 86/1706) | 155mm |
| | Snugg Loft Insulation (exfoliated vermiculite) (Agrément Certificate 82/1029) | 155mm |
| Fibrewarm Ltd. | Fibrewarm Blown Glass Fibre (Agrément Certificate 85/1478)* | 100mm |
| Guardian Fiberglass Inc. | Fibrewarm Blown Loft Insulation | } (BS 5803 Part 2) 100mm |
| Gyproc Insulation Ltd. | Gypglas 1000 | } (BS 5803 100mm |
| | Gypglas Home Insulation | } Part 1) |
| | Rooftherm | } (BS 5803 115mm |
| | | } Part 2) |
| Moy Insulation Ltd. | Moy Plus | } (BS 5803 100mm |
| | | } Part 1) |
| NV Owens-Corning SA | Thermolan TI 112 | } (BS 5803 100mm |
| | | } Part 1) |
| | Thermolan TBW 100 | } (BS 5803 95mm |
| | Thermatic Glass Wool | |
| | Instafibre Blown Glass Wool | } Part 2) |
| Pilkington Insulation Ltd. | Cosywrap | } (BS 5803 100mm |
| | Crown 75 | |
| | Crown Contract Mat | |
| | Crown Wool | |
| | DO-IT-ALL Loft Insulation | |
| | DO-IT-ALL Multi-Purpose Slabs | |
| | Heatsaver | |
| | Homebase Loft Insulation | |
| | Housewarm | |
| | Insulay | |
| | Payless DIY Loft Insulation | |
| | Rocksil Insulation Mat | |
| | Sankey Wrap | |
| | Solar Wrap | |

| Column 1 Company | Column 2 Materials | Column 3 Thickness |
|---------------------|--|-----------------------|
| | Supamat All Round Home Insulation | |
| | Supawrap | |
| | Texas Loft Insulation | |
| | UBM Glass Fibre Insulation | |
| | Warmahome | |
| | Wilko Loft Insulation | |
| | Superfil No. 6 Wool | |
| | Dysons Blown Loft Insulation | |
| | Fibreflow Rock Wool Blown Loft Insulation | (BS 5803 Part 2) |
| | Impact Rock Wool Plus Loft Insulation | |
| | Thermatic Rockwool Blown Mineral Fibre | |
| Rockwool AB | Ecomax Loose Wool Insulation | (BS 5803 Part 2) |
| Rockwool Ltd. | B & Q Loft Insulation | |
| | Energy Saver Loft Insulation | |
| | Energy Saver Loft Hatch Insulation | |
| | Energy Saver Super Loft Insulation | |
| | Payless DIY Loft Insulation | |
| | Rockwool 'A' Batts | |
| | Rockwool 'A' Roll | |
| | Rockwool Roll Batt | |
| | Rockwool Timber Batt | |
| | Sankey Loft Insulation | (BS 5803 Part 1) |
| | Smiths DO-IT-ALL Insulation | |
| | Solarwarm | |
| | Solarwarm Super | |
| | UBM Loft Insulation | |
| | Wickes Rockwool Loft Insulation | |
| | Wickes Rockwool 'A' Batts | |
| | Wickes Multi-Thickness Loft Insulation | |
| | Wickes Timber Frame and Top-Up | |
| | Energy Saver Multi- Purpose Slabs | (BS 5803 Part 1) |
| | Energy Saver Loose Lay Insulation (Agrément Certificate 84/1295) | 90mm |

| <i>Column 1 Company</i> | <i>Column 2 Materials</i> | <i>Column 3 Thickness</i> |
|--|---|-------------------------------|
| | High Performance Rockwool Blown Mineral Fibre (Agrément Certificate 84/1386)* | 90mm |
| | Rockwool Blown Mineral Fibre (Agrément Certificate 84/1353)* | 95mm |
| | Rockwool 002 Blown Mineral Fibre (Agrément Certificate 84/1368)* | 95mm |
| Thermatic Blown Fibre Insulation Ltd. | Thermatic Glass Wool Thermatic Rockwool Blown Mineral Fibre | } (BS 5803 Part 2) 95mm |
| U-Save (Insulation) Ltd. | Arctic Shield Blown Cellulose Fibre Polar Blown Cellulose Fibre Thorowarm Blown Cellulose Fibre U-Save Blown Cellulose Fibre Warmcel Blown Cellulose Fibre | |
| Wickes Building Supplies Ltd. | Wickes Rockwool Loose Lay DIY Loft Insulation (Agrément Certificate 84/1302) | 90mm |

(Note: Any reference to a BS number or Agrément Certificate number in this Schedule is for the purpose of identifying the material concerned and does not incorporate into this scheme any condition applicable to that number. Applicants may wish to know, however, that the conditions of those certificates marked * require the material to be installed by specialist contractors.)

EXPLANATORY NOTE

(This note is not part of the Order.)

This Order which comes into operation on 11th April 1988 revokes the Homes Insulation Scheme and Grants Order (Northern Ireland) 1984 and the Homes Insulation Scheme (Northern Ireland) 1984 contained therein and substitutes a revised Scheme — the Homes Insulation Scheme (Northern Ireland) 1988.

As in the previous Scheme, grant is payable by the Northern Ireland Housing Executive under Article 86 of the Housing (Northern Ireland) Order 1981 for the provision of insulation to a required standard in the roof space, to the cold water tank and water supply pipes in the roof space and to the hot water cylinder in those dwellings possessing an uninsulated roof space immediately above living accommodation. Where there is no means of access to any roof space for the purpose of carrying out these insulation works, grant may be paid (within the maximum stipulated below) on the provision of such a means of access, including a permanent means of access. Owners, tenants and persons in occupation of a house may apply for grant only on the grounds of special need. An application on grounds of special need may be made by an applicant who, or whose spouse, at the time of the application is in receipt of income support, family credit or housing benefit. Income support and family credit superseded respectively supplementary benefit and family income supplement when Part III of the Social Security (Northern Ireland) Order 1986 was brought into operation on 11th April 1988 by virtue of the Social Security (1986 Order) (Commencement) (No. 7) Order (Northern Ireland) 1987 (S.R. No. 449 (C. 14)).

The rate of grant is 90 per cent. of the cost of works qualifying for grant or £137, whichever is the less. The grant ceiling of £137 is an increase of £42 over the maximum grant previously available. The general non-means tested grant of 66 per cent. is withdrawn.

There have been extensive changes to the list of insulation materials which meet the required standard for grant aid, since the Homes Insulation Scheme (Northern Ireland) 1984 was published. In particular a requirement is introduced that material of a specified description should be made by or for a specified company.

Finally, the revised Scheme provides that where grant has been applied for before the coming into operation of this Scheme then the Homes Insulation Scheme and Grants Order (Northern Ireland) 1984 shall continue to apply to that application or claim.