

1992 No. 377

HOUSING

**Assistance for Minor Works to Dwellings Regulations
(Northern Ireland) 1992**

Made 27th August 1992

Coming into operation 1st October 1992

The Department of the Environment, in exercise of the powers conferred on it by Articles 2(2) and 69(3) of the Housing (Northern Ireland) Order 1992(a) and of every other power enabling it in that behalf, hereby makes the following Regulations:

Citation, commencement and interpretation

1.—(1) These Regulations may be cited as the Assistance for Minor Works to Dwellings Regulations (Northern Ireland) 1992 and shall come into operation on 1st October 1992.

(2) In these Regulations “the Order” means the Housing (Northern Ireland) Order 1992.

Applications for assistance

2. An application for assistance shall be in writing and shall contain the following—

- (a) the name and address of the person applying for assistance,
- (b) the address of the dwelling to which it relates,
- (c) a description of the works, stating for which one or more of the purposes specified in regulation 3 they are to be carried out,
- (d) the name and address of the person who will carry out the works,
- (e) an estimate of the cost of the works or, if the works are to be carried out by the applicant, of the cost of the materials to be used in carrying them out,
- (f) confirmation that the works are not, so far as the applicant is aware, the subject of or included in any other application for assistance or for grant under Part III of the Order,
- (g) details of any assistance given by the Executive in respect of the dwelling in the period of 3 years preceding the date of the application,
- (h) a statement as to which of the conditions in regulation 4 are satisfied, and
- (i) the signature of the applicant.

(a) S.I. 1992/1725 (N.I. 15). See Article 2(2) for the definition of “the Department”

Dwellings and works which qualify for assistance

3. Assistance shall be given only in respect of a dwelling for the carrying out of works for the purposes mentioned in Article 69(1)(a) to (d) of the Order and Article 2 of the Assistance for Minor Works to Dwellings (Lead Pipes) Order (Northern Ireland) 1992(a).

Persons to whom assistance may be given

4. Subject to regulation 3 assistance may only be given to an applicant who satisfies the following conditions—

- (a) he is wholly or mainly resident in the dwelling, and
- (b) he has an owner's interest in the dwelling or is a tenant (not being a tenant of the Executive) of the dwelling (alone or jointly with others), and
- (c) either he, or his spouse, or the person with whom he lives as husband and wife, is in receipt of income support, family credit, disability working allowance or housing benefit under Part VII of the Social Security Contributions and Benefits (Northern Ireland) Act 1992(b).

The Executive's method of dealing with applications

5.—(1) As soon as practicable after receipt of an application, the Executive shall inform the applicant as to whether or not it proposes to give him assistance.

(2) If the Executive proposes to give assistance, it shall (having regard to regulation 6) indicate the likely amount of any grant it intends to make.

(3) If the Executive does not intend to provide any assistance it shall inform the applicant of its reasons for not doing so.

(4) If the works are for a purpose mentioned in Article 52(3) of the Order the Executive shall not approve an application unless it is satisfied that the works are necessary and appropriate to meet the needs of the disabled occupant and in considering this matter it shall consult the relevant Health and Social Services Board.

(5) The Executive shall carry out such inspections of the works and obtain such certificates from the person carrying them out, as are necessary to ensure that they are carried out to a reasonable standard.

Amount of assistance on any one application

6. Subject to regulation 7 the total amount of the grant given on any one application, for the purposes of Article 69(2)(a) of the Order, shall be the lesser of the following 2 sums—

- (a) a sum equal to 100 per cent. of the cost shown to the Executive to have been reasonably incurred by the applicant in respect of the works,
- (b) £1,080.

(a) S.R. 1992 No. 376

(b) 1992 c. 7

Amount of assistance in any period of 3 years

7. The sum determined for the purposes of Article 69(2)(b) of the Order (the total assistance in any period of 3 years in respect of any one dwelling) shall be £3,240.

Sealed with the Official Seal of the Department of the Environment on
27th August 1992.

(L.S.)

F. Rodgers

Assistant Secretary

EXPLANATORY NOTE

(This note is not part of the Regulations.)

These Regulations provide for the Northern Ireland Housing Executive to give assistance by way of grant under Article 69 of the Housing (Northern Ireland) Order 1992 ("the Order") for the provision of minor works to dwellings.

An application for a grant must be in writing and contain the particulars specified in regulation 2.

Regulation 3 specifies, by reference to Article 69 of the Order and Article 2 of the Assistance for Minor Works to Dwellings (Lead Pipes) Order (Northern Ireland) 1992, the dwellings and works in respect of which grant may be given and regulation 4 describes the persons to whom grant may be given.

The procedure for dealing with applications and for ensuring that the works are carried out to a reasonable standard is set out in regulation 5.

Regulation 6 provides that the total amount of the grant on any one application shall be a sum equal to the reasonable cost of the works but not exceeding £1,080.

By virtue of regulation 7 the total assistance in any period of 3 years in respect of any one dwelling may not exceed £3,240.