
EXPLANATORY NOTE

(This note is not part of the Regulations.)

These regulations implement Council Directive [79/7/EEC](#) (O.J. No. L6, 10.1.79, p. 24) on the progressive implementation of the principle of equal treatment for men and women on matters of social security, by removing certain age differences between men and women in the conditions of entitlement to severe disablement allowance and invalid care allowance.

Regulation 2 amends sections 68 and 70 of, and Schedule 6 to, the Social Security Contributions and Benefits (Northern Ireland) Act 1992 by substituting references to “pensionable age” and “retiring age” (which are different for men and women) with “the age of 65”.

Regulation 3 makes consequential amendments to Schedules 1 and 2 to the Social Security (Incapacity for Work) (Northern Ireland) Order 1994.

Regulations 4 and 5 substitute “the age of 65” for the references to “pensionable age” and “retiring age” in the Social Security (Severe Disablement Allowance) Regulations (Northern Ireland) 1984 and the Social Security (Invalid Care Allowance) Regulations (Northern Ireland) 1976. They also insert in those regulations transitional provisions relating to persons over 65 on the coming into operation of these regulations.