
EXPLANATORY NOTE

(This note is not part of the Regulations.)

These Regulations further amend the Housing Benefit (General) Regulations (Northern Ireland) 1987 and the Income Support (General) Regulations (Northern Ireland) 1987.

They provide that claimants coming to Northern Ireland from Montserrat as a result of a volcanic eruption on the island are not to be treated as persons from abroad for the purposes of income support and housing benefit.

In so far as these Regulations are required, for the purposes of regulation 2 to be referred to the Social Security Advisory Committee under section 149(2) of the Social Security Administration (Northern Ireland) Act 1992 (c. 8), (“the 1992 Act”), and after agreement by the Social Security Advisory Committee, they have not been so referred by virtue of section 150(1)(b) of that Act. Otherwise they make in relation to Northern Ireland only provision corresponding to provision contained in Regulations made by the Secretary of State for Social Security in relation to Great Britain and accordingly, by virtue of section 149(3) of, and paragraph 10 of Schedule 5 to, the 1992 Act, are not subject to the requirement of section 149(2) of that Act for prior reference to the Social Security Advisory Committee.