EXPLANATORY NOTE

(This note is not part of the Order.)

This Order provides for the coming into operation of provisions of the Social Security Fraud Act (Northern Ireland) 2001. Section 1(4) and (9) (which provides additional powers to obtain information) is commenced for the purpose of authorising the making of an order on 23rd December 2002 and for all other purposes on 24th February 2003. The following provisions are commenced from 24th February 2003–

section 1(1) to (3) and (5) to (8);

section 2 which provides for electronic access to information;

section 4 which provides for arrangements for payments in respect of information; and section 16 and the Schedule which provide for consequential repeals, in so far as not already in operation.

This Order does not impose a charge on business.