
STATUTORY RULES OF NORTHERN IRELAND

2006 No. 462

**The Housing Benefit (Amendment)
Regulations (Northern Ireland) 2006**

Amendment of the Housing Benefit Regulations

2.—(1) The Housing Benefit Regulations (Northern Ireland) 2006(1) shall be amended in accordance with paragraphs (2) to (4).

(2) In regulation 81 (time and manner in which claims are to be made)—

- (a) in paragraph (1) before “Every claim” insert “Subject to paragraph (4A),”;
- (b) in paragraph (4) after “claim” where it first occurs insert “in writing”; and
- (c) after paragraph (4) insert—

“(4A) Where the relevant authority has published a telephone number for the purpose of receiving claims for housing benefit, a claim may be made by telephone to that telephone number.

(4B) The relevant authority may determine, in any particular case, that a claim made by telephone is not a valid claim unless the person making the claim approves a written statement of his circumstances, provided for the purpose by the relevant authority.

(4C) A claim made by telephone in accordance with paragraph (4A) is defective unless the relevant authority is provided during that telephone call with all the information it requires to determine the claim.

(4D) Where a claim made by telephone in accordance with paragraph (4A) is defective, the relevant authority is to provide the person making it with an opportunity to correct the defect.

(4E) If the person corrects the defect within one month, or such longer period as the relevant authority considers reasonable, of the date it last drew attention to it, the relevant authority shall treat the claim as if it had been duly made in the first instance.”.

^{F1}(3)

(4) In regulation 84(1) (duty to notify changes of circumstances) for “in writing to the designated office” substitute—

“to the designated office—

- (a) in writing or, where the relevant authority has published a telephone number for the purposes of regulation 81, by telephone unless the authority determines, in any particular case, that notice must be in writing or may be given otherwise than in writing or by telephone; or
- (b) in writing if in any class of case the relevant authority requires written notice unless the authority determines, in any particular case, that notice may be given otherwise than in writing.”.

Changes to legislation: There are currently no known outstanding effects for the The Housing Benefit (Amendment) Regulations (Northern Ireland) 2006, Section 2. (See end of Document for details)

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Textual Amendments

F1 [Reg. 2\(3\)](#) revoked (1.10.2008) by [The Housing Benefit \(Amendment\) Regulations \(Northern Ireland\) 2008 \(S.R. 2008/371\)](#), regs. [1\(1\)](#), [4](#)

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Commencement Information

I1 [Reg. 2](#) in operation at 20.12.2006, see [reg. 1\(1\)](#)

Changes to legislation:

There are currently no known outstanding effects for the The Housing Benefit (Amendment) Regulations (Northern Ireland) 2006, Section 2.