

EXPLANATORY MEMORANDUM TO
LANDS TRIBUNAL (SALARIES) ORDER (NORTHERN IRELAND) 2007

2007 No. 255

1. This explanatory memorandum has been prepared by Department of Finance and Personnel and is laid before Parliament by Command of Her Majesty.

2. Description

2.1 The Lands Tribunal (Salaries) Order (Northern Ireland) 2007, allows for increases in the salary of the President of the Lands Tribunal for Northern Ireland from £120,300 to £122,105 from 1st April 2007 and to £123,200 from 1st November 2007. It also allows for the salary of any other member of the Tribunal to increase from £114,400 to £116,116 from 1st April and to £116,700 from 1st November 2007.

3. Matters of special interest to the Joint Committee on Statutory Instruments

3.1 None

4. Legislative Background

4.1 The Department of Finance and Personnel has made the above order under powers conferred by section 2(5) of the Lands Tribunal and Compensation Act (Northern Ireland) 1964, as amended by Article 4 of the Northern Ireland Act 1998 (Modifications of Enactments) Order 2002.

The Lands Tribunal is a Court of Record established under the Lands Tribunal and Compensation Act (NI) 1964. The Tribunal consists of a President and one Member, both of whom are appointed by the Lord Chancellor. Under the 1964 Act, the Department of Finance and Personnel (DFP) has responsibility for appointing staff to assist the Tribunal in performing its functions and for determining their remuneration. DFP also has various rulemaking responsibilities in relation to the Tribunal's jurisdiction and proceedings.

5. Territorial Extent and Application

5.1 This Order applies to Northern Ireland only.

6. European Convention on Human Rights

6.1 As the instrument is subject to negative resolution procedure and does not amend primary legislation, no statement is required.

7. Policy background

7.1 This Order provides for changes in the annual salary payable to the President and any other member of the Lands Tribunal for Northern Ireland following recommendations made in the Report of the Review Body on Senior Salaries in 2007 (HMSO CM 7030). In reaching its recommendations, the Review Body takes account of various considerations including, the need to recruit and retain suitably qualified people, regional variations in labour markets and Government policies for improving public services. Government announced on 2nd March that the recommended increases would be paid in two stages; 1 per cent from 1 April 2007 and the balance paid from 1 November 2007.

7.2 It is unlikely that there will be public interest arising from the Order.

8. Impact

8.1 The Order has no direct impact on businesses, charities or voluntary bodies. There is no adverse impact for those listed under Section 75 of the Northern Ireland Act 1998.

9. Contact

9.1 Norman Irwin at the Department of Finance and Personnel Tel: 02890 529147 or e-mail: norman.irwin@dfpni.gov.uk can answer any queries regarding the Order.