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STATUTORY RULES OF NORTHERN IRELAND

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**2017 No. 190**

**The Welfare Reform (Northern Ireland) Order  
2015 (Commencement No. 8 and Transitional  
and Transitory Provisions) Order 2017**

**Sanctions: transition from old style ESA in case of a new award**

**15.—**(1) This Article applies where—

- (a) a person is entitled to a new style ESA award and they were previously entitled to an old style ESA award that was not in existence immediately before the first day on which the person in question is entitled to the new style ESA award; and
- (b) immediately before the old style ESA award terminated, payments were reduced under regulation 63 of the ESA Regulations 2008 (reduction of employment and support allowance).

(2) Where this Article applies—

- (a) the failure which led to reduction of the old style ESA award (“the relevant failure”) is to be treated for the purposes of Part 8 of the ESA Regulations 2016, as a failure which is sanctionable under section 11J of the 2007 Act (sanctions);
- (b) the new style ESA award is to be reduced in relation to the relevant failure, in accordance with the provisions of this article and Part 8 of the ESA Regulations 2016 as modified by this article; and
- (c) the reduction referred to in sub-paragraph (b) is to be treated, for the purposes of the ESA Regulations 2016, as a reduction under section 11J of the 2007 Act.

(3) The reduction period for the purposes of the ESA Regulations 2016 is to be the number of days which is equivalent to the length of the fixed period applicable to the person under regulation 63 of the ESA Regulations 2008 in relation to the relevant failure, minus—

- (a) the number of days (if any) in that fixed period in respect of which the amount of the old style ESA award was reduced; and
- (b) the number of days (if any) in the period starting with the day after the day on which the old style ESA award terminated and ending with the day before the first day on which the person is entitled to the new style ESA award.

(4) Accordingly, regulation 51 of the ESA Regulations 2016 (general principles for calculating reduction periods) applies in relation to the relevant failure as if—

- (a) in paragraph (1), for the words “in accordance with regulations 52 and 53” there were substituted the words “in accordance with Article 15 of the Welfare Reform (Northern Ireland) Order 2015 (Commencement No. 8 and Transitional and Transitory Provisions) Order 2017”; and
- (b) in paragraph (3), for the words “in accordance with regulation 52 or 53” there were substituted the words “in accordance with Article 15 of the Welfare Reform (Northern Ireland) Order 2015 (Commencement No. 8 and Transitional and Transitory Provisions) Order 2017”.

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**Changes to legislation:** There are currently no known outstanding effects for the The Welfare Reform (Northern Ireland) Order 2015 (Commencement No. 8 and Transitional and Transitory Provisions) Order 2017, Section 15. (See end of Document for details)

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**Modifications etc. (not altering text)**

- C1** Arts. 10-23 applied (13.11.2017) by The Welfare Reform (Northern Ireland) Order 2015 (Commencement No. 9 and Transitional and Transitory Provisions) Order 2017 (S.R. 2017/216), **art. 5**
- C2** Arts. 10-23 applied (15.1.2018) by The Welfare Reform (Northern Ireland) Order 2015 (Commencement No. 10 and Transitional and Transitory Provisions and Commencement No. 9 and Transitional and Transitory Provisions (Amendment)) Order 2018 (S.R. 2018/1), **art. 5**
- C3** Arts. 10-23 applied (9.5.2018) by The Welfare Reform (Northern Ireland) Order 2015 (Commencement No. 11 and Transitional and Transitory Provisions) Order 2018 (S.R. 2018/97), **art. 5**
- C4** Arts. 10-23 applied (19.7.2018) by The Welfare Reform (Northern Ireland) Order 2015 (Commencement No. 12 and Transitional and Transitory Provisions and Commencement No. 9, 10 and 11 and Transitional and Transitory Provisions (Amendment)) Order 2018 (S.R. 2018/138), **art. 5**
- C5** Arts. 10-23 applied (31.1.2019) by The Welfare Reform (Northern Ireland) Order 2015 (Commencement No. 14 and Savings and Transitional Provisions) Order 2019 (S.R. 2019/7), **art. 2(12)**

**Commencement Information**

- I1** Art. 15 in operation at made date

**Changes to legislation:**

There are currently no known outstanding effects for the The Welfare Reform (Northern Ireland) Order 2015 (Commencement No. 8 and Transitional and Transitory Provisions) Order 2017, Section 15.