
EXPLANATORY NOTE

(This note is not part of the Regulations)

These Regulations amend the Schedule to the Statutory Sick Pay (General) Regulations (Northern Ireland) 1982. The Schedule sets out categories of persons who are deemed to be incapable of work by reason of coronavirus.

Regulation 2 adds a new category of persons. These are persons defined in guidance issued by the Regional Agency for Public Health and Social Well Being as being extremely vulnerable and at very high risk of severe illness from coronavirus because of an underlying health condition, and who have been advised, in accordance with that guidance, to follow rigorously shielding measures. The guidance is available from the following website:

www.publichealth.hscni.net/news/covid-19-coronavirus(HSC Public Health Agency Northern Ireland).

No regulatory impact assessment has been produced for these Regulations in view of the urgency required to provide additional financial support to those unable to work as a result of coronavirus.

These Regulations make in relation to Northern Ireland only provision corresponding to provision contained in Regulations made by the Secretary of State for Work and Pensions in relation to Great Britain and accordingly, by virtue of section 149(3) of, and paragraph 10 of Schedule 5 to, the Social Security Administration (Northern Ireland) Act 1992 (c. 8), are not subject to the requirement of section 149(2) of that Act for prior reference to the Social Security Advisory Committee.