

SCHEDULE

Regulation 2

Energy Payment Support Scheme (Northern Ireland) 2022

Citation and interpretation

1.—(1) This Scheme may be cited as the Energy Payment Support Scheme (Northern Ireland) 2022.

(2) In this Scheme:—

“the 1992 Act” means the Social Security Contributions and Benefits (Northern Ireland) Act 1992(1);

“the 1995 Order” means the Jobseekers (Northern Ireland) Order 1995(2);

“the 2007 Act” means the Welfare Reform Act (Northern Ireland) 2007(3);

“the 2015 Order” means the Welfare Reform (Northern Ireland) Order 2015(4);

“the Department” means the Department for Communities;

“an Energy Payment” means financial assistance provided under this Scheme;

“care home” means an establishment that provides accommodation together with nursing or personal care for adults or children;

“employment and support allowance” means employment and support allowance under section 1 of the 2007 Act;

“income support” means income support under section 123 of the 1992 Act;

“jobseekers allowance” means jobseekers allowance under Article 3 of the 1995 Order;

“the qualifying week” means the week beginning with (and including) Monday 13th December 2021 and ending on Sunday 19th December 2021;

“social security information” means information held by or on behalf of the Department and obtained as a result of, or for the purpose of, the exercise of the Department’s functions in relation to social security;

“the standard rate” means a single payment of £200;

“state pension credit” means state pension credit under the State Pension Credit Act (Northern Ireland) 2002(5);

“universal credit” means universal credit under Part 2 of the 2015 Order.

Eligibility

2.—(1) A person is not eligible for an Energy Payment at the standard rate unless they were in receipt of—

- (a) the income-related allowance of employment and support allowance; or
- (b) income support; or
- (c) income-based jobseeker’s allowance or joint-claim jobseeker’s allowance; or
- (d) state pension credit; or
- (e) universal credit

(1) 1992 c. 7 (N.I.)

(2) S.I. 1995/2705 (N.I. 15)

(3) 2007 c. 2 (N.I.)

(4) S.I. 2015/2006 (N.I. 1)

(5) 2002 c. 14 (N.I.)

Status: This is the original version (as it was originally made).

on any one day during the qualifying week, and on that day were ordinarily resident in Northern Ireland.

- (2) Only one Energy Payment shall be payable under this scheme in respect of any person.
- (3) A person who is resident in a care home shall not be eligible for a payment under this scheme.

Recovery

- 3. The Department may recover any payment made in error.

Delayed payment

4.—(1) A person who is eligible for an Energy Payment, and has not received it by 28th March 2022, may apply for a payment.

- (2) An application under sub-paragraph (1) must—
 - (a) be made in writing to the Department or by telephone to the relevant telephone numbers published on the NI Direct website
 - (b) be received by the Department before 31st May 2022; and
 - (c) specify—
 - (i) the applicant's name, address, date of birth and national insurance number; and
 - (ii) the benefits that the applicant was in receipt of during the qualifying week.

(3) If the Department is satisfied that a person making an application under sub-paragraph (1) is eligible for an Energy Support payment and has not already received such a payment, the Department shall make that payment.

Appeals

- 5. There will be no right of appeal.

Information

6. The Department may use social security information for the purpose of determining whether a person is eligible for an Energy Payment.

Provision of Energy Support payment

- 7. The Department shall make Energy Payments under the Scheme.