

1973. No. 332

**HEALTH AND PERSONAL SOCIAL SERVICES****General Medical Practitioner Loans Order (Northern Ireland) 1973***Made . . . . . 17th September 1973**Coming into operation . . . . . 1st October 1973**To be laid before the Parliament of the United Kingdom under paragraph 4(5)(b) of the Schedule to the Northern Ireland (Temporary Provisions) Act 1972.*

The Ministry of Health and Social Services (hereinafter referred to as "the Ministry") on behalf of the Secretary of State and in exercise of the powers conferred on it by Article 59 of and Schedule 9 to the Health and Personal Social Services (Northern Ireland) Order 1972(a) and of every other power enabling it in that behalf and with the approval of the Ministry of Finance hereby makes the following Order:—

1. This Order may be cited as the Health and Personal Social Services (General Practitioner Loans) Order (Northern Ireland) 1973 and shall come into operation on 1st October 1973.

2. In this Order unless the context otherwise requires the following expressions have the respective meanings hereby assigned to them:—

"the Agency" means the Northern Ireland Central Services Agency for the Health and Social Services established under Article 26 of the Order;

"Board" means a Health and Social Services Board established under Article 16 of the Order for any area;

"the Order" means the Health and Personal Social Services (Northern Ireland) Order 1972.

3. Boards may make loans to practitioners providing General Medical Services for the purpose of enabling them—

(a) to provide, or to acquire a share in, premises used or to be used, in whole or in part, for the provision of those services;

(b) to alter, enlarge, improve or repair such premises;

(c) to acquire any land required for the erection of, or in connection with the use of, such premises;

(d) to repay any loan raised by them for any such purpose.

4. Boards and the Agency shall perform their functions under this Order in accordance with a scheme to be made by the Ministry and shall comply with any directions given by the Ministry thereunder.

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(a) S.I. 1972, No. 1265 (N.I. 14).

5.—(1) It shall be the duty of the Agency to receive and consider applications from practitioners for loans and make recommendations to the Board concerned in accordance with the scheme and any directions given by the Ministry thereunder.

(2) The Board shall if it is in agreement with these recommendations sanction the loan and notify the Agency which shall advance to the practitioner the amount of the loan.

(3) The Agency shall, on behalf of the Board concerned, and in accordance with the scheme or with any directions given by the Ministry thereunder, secure payment of the interest on and repayment of the principal of any loans under Article 3.

6.—(1) Subject to the limit specified in paragraph 5 of Schedule 9 to the Order Boards may borrow such sums as they may require for the purposes of this Order.

(2) The Ministry of Finance shall guarantee in such manner and on such conditions as it thinks fit, the payment of interest on and the repayment of the principal of any loans raised by a Board under Article 6(1).

(3) Any funds surplus to a Board's immediate requirements may be deposited in a bank, invested in Treasury Bills or invested in such manner as the Ministry with the consent of the Ministry of Finance may approve.

7. The rate of interest payable shall be determined by the Ministry with the approval of the Ministry of Finance.

8. A Board may, where land or other property has been conveyed to it as a security for a loan under Article 3, hold and dispose of such land or other property.

9. All expenses incurred by a Board under this Order shall be defrayed out of its revenue account in respect of loans.

10. The Health Services (General Practitioner Loans) Order (Northern Ireland) 1968(b) is hereby revoked.

Sealed with the Official Seal of the Ministry of Health and Social Services for Northern Ireland this 17th day of September 1973.

(L.S.)

*F. A. Elliott,*  
Assistant Secretary.

Sealed with the Official Seal of the Ministry of Finance for Northern Ireland this 17th day of September 1973.

(L.S.)

*C. F. Darling,*  
Assistant Secretary.

## EXPLANATORY NOTE

*(This note is not part of the Order, but is intended to indicate its general purport.)*

This Order empowers Health and Social Services Boards to make loans to general medical practitioners to enable them to purchase practice premises, to alter, enlarge, improve or repair practice premises, to acquire land for use in connection with practice premises, in accordance with a scheme to be made by the Ministry.

Provision is also made for the borrowing powers of Boards, the guaranteeing, by the Ministry of Finance, of loans raised by Boards, the defrayal of expenses incurred in making loans to general medical practitioners, the repayment of interest and principal by general medical practitioners and the exercise of certain functions by the Northern Ireland Central Services Agency.

The Order authorises Boards to hold and dispose of land or any other property conveyed to them as security for a loan.

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This Order has been exempted from printing by the Statutory Rules Act (Northern Ireland) 1958. A summary is given in the List of Statutory Rules and Orders of a Local Character under the heading ROADS.