

Social security: assistance for short term need and community care

2.—(1) In Part 2 of Schedule 5 to the Scotland Act 1998, Section F1 is amended as follows.

(2) In the Exceptions, at the end insert—

“Providing occasional financial or other assistance to or in respect of individuals for the purposes of—

- (a) meeting, or helping to meet, an immediate short term need—
 - (i) arising out of an exceptional event or exceptional circumstances, and
 - (ii) that requires to be met to avoid a risk to the well-being of an individual, or
- (b) enabling qualifying individuals to establish or maintain a settled home, and “qualifying individuals” means individuals who have been or, without the assistance, might otherwise be—
 - (i) in prison, hospital, a residential care establishment or other institution, or
 - (ii) homeless or otherwise living an unsettled way of life.

But the following are not excepted—

- (a) providing financial assistance for the purposes of meeting maternity expenses, funeral expenses or expenses for heating incurred due to cold weather,
- (b) the subject-matter of—
 - (i) section 138 of the Social Security Contributions and Benefits Act 1992 (payments out of the social fund)(a),
 - (ii) section 69 of the Child Support, Pensions and Social Security Act 2000 (discretionary housing payments)(b).”.

(3) In the Interpretation provision, at the end insert—

“Paragraph 5(1) of Part 3 of this Schedule does not apply to the subject-matter of—

- (a) section 138 of the Social Security Contributions and Benefits Act 1992, or
- (b) section 69 of the Child Support, Pensions and Social Security Act 2000.

The reference to the subject-matter of section 138 of the 1992 Act is to be construed as a reference to it as at 8th May 2012 and the reference to the subject-matter of section 69 of the 2000 Act is to be construed as a reference to it as at the date on which the Scotland Act (Modification of Schedule 5) (No. 2) Order 2013 (S.I. 2013/) came into force; and if any amendment of section 69 of the 2000 Act made by the Welfare Reform Act 2012(c) is not in force on that date, it is to be treated as if it were.”.

Modification of enactments

3.—(1) After this Order comes into force, a pre-commencement devolved enactment has effect as if article 2 of this Order had been in force at the time when the enactment was passed or made.

(2) Paragraph (1) applies to such an enactment only in so far as it confers a function on—

- (a) the Scottish Ministers, or
- (b) a council constituted under section 2 of the Local Government etc. (Scotland) Act 1994(d).

(3) Paragraph (1) does not affect anything done before this Order comes into force by or under any pre-commencement devolved enactment.

(a) 1992 c.4. Section 138 was relevantly amended by the Social Security Act 1998 (c.14), section 70(1) and (2) and by the Welfare Reform Act 2012 (c.5), section 71.

(b) 2000 c.19.

(c) 2012 c.5.

(d) 1994 c.39. There is an amendment to section 2 not relevant to this Order.

- (4) In this article, “pre-commencement devolved enactment” means—
- (a) an Act of the Scottish Parliament passed before this Order comes into force,
 - (b) subordinate legislation made, before this Order comes into force, under an Act of the Scottish Parliament, and
 - (c) subordinate legislation made, before this Order comes into force, under an Act if the subordinate legislation—
 - (i) was made by Scottish statutory instrument, and
 - (ii) contains provision which, had it been in an Act of the Scottish Parliament, would have been within the legislative competence of that Parliament.
- (5) For the purposes of this article, an Act of the Scottish Parliament is taken to have been passed at the time when the Bill for the Act was passed by that Parliament.

[Name]
Clerk of the Privy Council

EXPLANATORY NOTE

(This note is not part of the Order)

This Order modifies Schedule 5 to the Scotland Act 1998 (c.46). Schedule 5 is concerned with matters which are outside the legislative competence of the Scottish Parliament.

Article 2 provides an exception to the social security reservation at Section F1 of Part 2 of Schedule 5. This exception gives the Scottish Parliament competence to legislate for financial or other assistance provided to or in respect of individuals for the purposes specified in the exception. Certain types of assistance which could otherwise fall within the exception are specifically excluded from the exception.

Article 3 modifies certain enactments so that they have effect, in relation to things done after this Order comes into force, as if the exception to the reservation was in force when the enactment was passed or made.

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£4.00

E4989 11/2012 124989T 19585

ISBN 978-0-11-153081-8



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