



Social Security Contributions and Benefits (Northern Ireland) Act 1992

1992 CHAPTER 7

PART VIII

THE SOCIAL FUND

134 Payments out of the social fund

- (1) Payments may be made out of the social fund, in accordance with this Part of this Act—
 - (a) of prescribed amounts, whether in respect of prescribed items or otherwise, to meet, in prescribed circumstances, maternity expenses and funeral expenses; and
 - (b) to meet other needs in accordance with directions given or guidance issued by the Department.
- (2) Payments may also be made out of that fund, in accordance with this Part of this Act, of a prescribed amount or a number of prescribed amounts to prescribed descriptions of persons, in prescribed circumstances to meet expenses for heating which appear to the Department to have been or to be likely to be incurred in cold weather.
- (3) The power to make a payment out of the social fund such as is mentioned in subsection (1)(b) above may be exercised by making a payment to a third party with a view to the third party providing, or arranging for the provision of, goods or services for the applicant.
- (4) In this section “prescribed” means specified in or determined in accordance with regulations.