



Social Security Administration (Northern Ireland) Act 1992

1992 CHAPTER 8

PART VII

PROVISION OF INFORMATION

VALID FROM 01/04/1999

*[^{F1}Information relating to, or required for purposes of,
contributions, statutory sick pay or statutory maternity pay]*

Textual Amendments

- F1** Ss. 115D, 115E and preceding cross-heading inserted (1.4.1999) by S.I. 1999/671, art. 6, Sch. 5 para. 1; S.R. 1999/149, art. 2(c), Sch. 2 (subject to arts. 3-6 of that S.R.)

^{F2}115D Supply of contributions, etc. information held by Inland Revenue.

- (1) This section applies to information which is held for the purposes of functions relating to contributions, statutory sick pay or statutory maternity pay—
- (a) by the Inland Revenue, or
 - (b) by a person providing services to them, in connection with the provision of those services.
- (2) Information to which this section applies may, and must if an authorised officer so requires, be supplied—
- (a) to the Department or the Secretary of State, or
 - (b) to a person providing services to the Department or the Secretary of State, for use for the purposes of functions relating to social security or child support.

Status: Point in time view as at 27/08/1996. This version of this part contains provisions that are not valid for this point in time.

Changes to legislation: Social Security Administration (Northern Ireland) Act 1992, Part VII is up to date with all changes known to be in force on or before 15 June 2024. There are changes that may be brought into force at a future date. Changes that have been made appear in the content and are referenced with annotations. (See end of Document for details)

- (3) In subsection (2) “authorised officer” means an officer of the Department or the Secretary of State authorised for the purposes of this section by the Department or the Secretary of State.

Textual Amendments

- F2** Ss. 115D, 115E and preceding cross-heading inserted (1.4.1999) by S.I. 1999/671, art. 6, Sch. 5 para. 1; S.R. 1999/149, art. 2(c), Sch. 2 (subject to arts. 3-6 of that S.R.)

^{F3}115E Supply to Inland Revenue for purposes of contributions, etc. of information held by Department or Secretary of State.

- (1) This section applies to information which is held for the purposes of functions relating to social security or child support—
- (a) by the Department or the Secretary of State, or
 - (b) by a person providing services to the Department or the Secretary of State, in connection with the provision of those services.
- (2) Information to which this section applies may, and must if an officer of the Inland Revenue authorised by the Inland Revenue for the purposes of this section so requires, be supplied—
- (a) to the Inland Revenue, or
 - (b) to a person providing services to the Inland Revenue,
- for use for the purposes of functions relating to contributions, statutory sick pay or statutory maternity pay.

Textual Amendments

- F3** Ss. 115D, 115E and preceding cross-heading inserted (1.4.1999) by S.I. 1999/671, art. 6, Sch. 5 para. 1; S.R. 1999/149, art. 2(c), Sch. 2 (subject to arts. 3-6 of the said S.R.)

Inland Revenue

116 Disclosure of information by Inland Revenue.

- (1) No obligation as to secrecy imposed by statute or otherwise on a person employed in relation to the Inland Revenue shall prevent information obtained or held in connection with the assessment or collection of income tax from being disclosed—
- (a) to the Department;
 - (b) to the Secretary of State; or
 - (c) to an officer of either of them authorised to receive such information in connection with the operation of the Contributions and Benefits Act [^{F4} the Jobseekers (Northern Ireland) Order 1995] or this Act or of any enactment applying in Great Britain corresponding to [^{F5} either of those Acts or that Order].
- (2) In relation to persons who are carrying on or have carried on a trade, profession or vocation income from which is chargeable to tax under Case I or II of Schedule D,

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disclosure under subsection (1) above relating to that trade, profession or vocation shall be limited to information about the commencement or cessation of, and employed earners engaged in, the trade, profession or vocation, but sufficient information may also be given to identify the persons concerned.

- (3) Subsection (1) above extends only to disclosure by or under the authority of the Commissioners of Inland Revenue; and information which is subject to disclosure to any person by virtue of that subsection shall not be further disclosed to any person except where the further disclosure is made—
- (a) to a person to whom disclosure could by virtue of that subsection have been made by or under the authority of the Commissioners of Inland Revenue;
 - (b) for the purposes of proceedings (civil or criminal) in connection with the operation of the Contributions and Benefits Act [^{F6}, the Jobseekers (Northern Ireland) Order 1995] or this Act or of any enactment applying in Great Britain corresponding to [^{F7} either of those Acts or that Order]; or
 - (c) for any purposes of sections 15 to 60 above and any corresponding provisions applying in Great Britain.

Textual Amendments

- F4** Words in s. 116(1)(c) inserted (17.7.1996) by S.I. 1995/2705 (N.I. 15), art. 40(1), **Sch. 2 para. 40(2)(a)**; S.R. 1996/285, **art. 2**
- F5** Words in s. 116(1)(c) substituted (17.7.1996) by S.I. 1995/2705 (N.I. 15), art. 40(1), **Sch. 2 para. 40(2)(b)**; S.R. 1996/285, **art. 2, Sch.**
- F6** Words in s. 116(3)(b) inserted (17.7.1996) by S.I. 1995/2705 (N.I. 15), art. 40(1), **Sch. 2 para. 40(3)(a)**; S.R. 1996/285, **art. 2, Sch.**
- F7** Words in s. 116(3)(b) substituted (17.7.1996) by S.I. 1995/2705 (N.I. 15), art. 40(1), **Sch. 2 para. 40(3)(b)**; S.R. 1996/285, **art. 2, Sch.**

VALID FROM 09/09/2002

[^{F8}116ZA] Supply of tax information to assess certain employment or training schemes

- (1) This section applies to information which—
- (a) relates to the commencement or cessation of employment or self-employment of persons who have participated in any designated employment or training scheme; and
 - (b) is required by the Department or the Secretary of State in order to assess policy relating to such schemes.
- (2) In subsection (1) “designated employment or training scheme” means any scheme which—
- (a) is operated by the Department or the Secretary of State (whether under arrangements with any other person or not) for any purposes connected with employment or training; and
 - (b) is designated by the Department for the purposes of this section.
- (3) In subsection (1) the reference to the commencement or cessation of the self-employment of any person is a reference to the commencement or cessation of any trade, profession or vocation carried on by him.

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- (4) No obligation as to secrecy imposed by statute or otherwise on a person employed in relation to the Inland Revenue shall prevent any such information obtained or held in connection with the assessment or collection of income tax from being disclosed to—
- (a) the Department;
 - (b) the Secretary of State; or
 - (c) an officer of either of them authorised to receive such information for the purposes of this section.
- (5) This section extends only to disclosure by or under the authority of the Inland Revenue.
- (6) Information which is the subject of disclosure to any person by virtue of this section shall not be further disclosed to any person except where the further disclosure is made—
- (a) to a person to whom disclosure could be made by virtue of subsection (4); or
 - (b) for the purposes of any civil or criminal proceedings relating to the Contributions and Benefits Act, the Jobseekers (Northern Ireland) Order 1995 or this Act or to any enactment applying in Great Britain corresponding to any of them.]

Textual Amendments

F8 S. 116ZA inserted (9.9.2002) by Employment Act 2002 (c. 22), s. 50, **Sch. 6 para. 8**; S.I. 2002/2256, **art. 2**

VALID FROM 01/04/1999

[^{F9}116A] Disclosure of contributions, etc. information by Inland Revenue.

- (1) No obligation as to secrecy imposed by statute or otherwise on persons employed in relation to the Inland Revenue shall prevent information held for the purposes of the functions of the Inland Revenue in relation to contributions, statutory sick pay or statutory maternity pay from being disclosed—
- (a) to any of the authorities to which this paragraph applies, or any person authorised to exercise any function of that authority, for the purposes of the functions of that authority, or
 - (b) in a case where the disclosure is necessary for the purpose of giving effect to any agreement to which an order under section 155(1) below relates.
- (2) The authorities to which subsection (1)(a) above applies are—
- (a) the Health and Safety Executive for Northern Ireland,
 - (b) the Government Actuary's Department,
 - (c) the Northern Ireland Statistical and Research Agency, and
 - (d) the Occupational Pensions Regulatory Authority.]

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Textual Amendments

- F9** S. 116AA inserted (1.4.1999) by S.I. 1999/671, art. 6, **Sch. 5 para. 3**; S.R. 1999/149, art. 2(c), **Sch. 2** (subject to arts. 3-6 of the said S.R.)

VALID FROM 01/07/1997

[^{F10}116A Supply of information by Inland Revenue for purposes of contributions.

- (1) This section applies to information which is held—
 - (a) by the Commissioners of Inland Revenue; or
 - (b) by a person providing services to the Commissioners of Inland Revenue in connection with the provision of those services.
- (2) Information to which this section applies may, with the authority of the Commissioners, be supplied to, or to a person providing services to, the Department or the Secretary of State for use for any purpose relating to contributions.
- (3) Information supplied under subsection (2) above shall not be supplied by the recipient to any other person or body unless—
 - (a) it could be supplied to that person or body under that subsection; or
 - (b) it is supplied for the purposes of any civil or criminal proceedings relating to the Contributions and Benefits Act, the Jobseekers (Northern Ireland) Order 1995 or this Act or to any enactment applying in Great Britain corresponding to any of them;and shall not be so supplied in those circumstances without the authority of the Commissioners.
- (4) But where information supplied under subsection (2) above has been used in amending or supplementing other information, it is lawful for it to be—
 - (a) supplied to any person or body to whom that other information could be supplied; or
 - (b) used for any purpose for which that other information could be used.
- (5) This section does not limit the circumstances in which information may be supplied apart from this section.]

Textual Amendments

- F10** Ss. 116, 116A, and cross-heading substituted (1.7.1997) for s. 116 and cross-heading by 1997 c. 47, s. 1(2); S.I. 1997/1577, art. 1(2), **Sch.**

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VALID FROM 01/07/1997

[^{F11} Other government information]

Textual Amendments

F11 S. 116B and the preceding *cross-heading* inserted (1.7.1997) by 1997 c. 47, s. 2(2); S.I. 1997/1577, art. 2, Sch.

^{F12}116B Supply of other government information for fraud prevention and verification.

- (1) This section applies to information which is held by, or by a person providing services to, a Minister of the Crown or a Northern Ireland department or other government department and which relates to—
 - (a) passports, immigration and emigration, nationality or prisoners; or
 - (b) any other matter which is prescribed.
- (2) Information to which this section applies may be supplied to, or to a person providing services to, the Department or the Secretary of State—
 - (a) for use in the prevention, detection, investigation or prosecution of offences relating to social security; or
 - (b) for use in checking the accuracy of information relating to benefits, contributions or national insurance numbers or to any other matter relating to social security and (where appropriate) amending or supplementing such information.
- (3) Information supplied under subsection (2) above shall not be supplied by the recipient to any other person or body unless—
 - (a) it could be supplied to that person or body under that subsection;
 - (b) it is supplied for the purposes of any civil or criminal proceedings relating to the Contributions and Benefits Act, the ^{M1}Jobseekers (Northern Ireland) Order 1995 or this Act or to any enactment applying in Great Britain corresponding to any of them; or
 - (c) it is supplied to the Housing Executive.
- (4) But where information supplied under subsection (2) above has been used (in accordance with paragraph (b) of that subsection) in amending or supplementing other information, it is lawful for it to be—
 - (a) supplied to any person or body to whom that other information could be supplied; or
 - (b) used for any purpose for which that other information could be used.
- (5) This section does not limit the circumstances in which information may be supplied apart from this section.

Textual Amendments

F12 S. 116B and the preceding *cross-heading* inserted (1.7.1997) by 1997 c. 47, s. 2(2); S.I. 1997/1577, art. 2, Sch.

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Marginal Citations

M1 S.I. 1995/2705 (N.I.15).

VALID FROM 01/07/1997

[^{F13}The Housing Executive]

Textual Amendments

F13 Ss. 116C, 116D and the preceding cross-heading inserted (1.7.1997) by S.I. 1997/1182 (N.I. 11), art. 3; S.R. 1997/316, art. 2, Sch.

[^{F14}116C Supply of information to the Housing Executive.

- (1) This section applies to information relating to social security which is held—
 - (a) by the Department or the Secretary of State; or
 - (b) by a person providing services to the Department or the Secretary of State in connection with the provision of those services.
- (2) Information to which this section applies may be supplied to—
 - (a) the Housing Executive; or
 - (b) a person authorised to exercise any function of the Housing Executive relating to housing benefit,
for use in the administration of housing benefit.
- (3) But where information to which this section applies has been supplied to the Department, the Secretary of State or the person providing services under section 116 or 116B above it may only be supplied under subsection (2) above—
 - (a) for use in the prevention, detection, investigation or prosecution of offences relating to housing benefit; or
 - (b) for use in checking the accuracy of information relating to housing benefit and (where appropriate) amending or supplementing such information.
- (4) The Department or the Secretary of State—
 - (a) may impose conditions on the use of information supplied under subsection (2) above; and
 - (b) may charge a reasonable fee in respect of the cost of supplying information under that subsection.
- (5) Where information is supplied to the Housing Executive or other person under subsection (2) above, the Executive or other person shall have regard to it in the exercise of any function relating to housing benefit.
- (6) Information supplied under subsection (2) above shall not be supplied by the recipient to any other person or body unless—
 - (a) it is supplied—
 - (i) by the Housing Executive to a person authorised to exercise any function of the Executive relating to housing benefit; or

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- (ii) by a person authorised to exercise any function of the Housing Executive relating to housing benefit to the Executive;
 - (b) it is supplied for the purposes of any civil or criminal proceedings relating to the Contributions and Benefits Act, the Jobseekers (Northern Ireland) Order 1995 or this Act or to any enactment applying in Great Britain corresponding to any of them; or
 - (c) it is supplied under section 116D below.
- (7) This section does not limit the circumstances in which information may be supplied apart from this section (in particular by reason of section 116(4) or 116B(4) above).]

Textual Amendments

F14 SS. 116C, 116D and the preceding *cross-heading* inserted (1.7.1997) by S.I. 1997/1182 (N.I. 11), art. 3; S.R. 1997/316, art. 2, Sch.

[^{F15}116D Supply of information by the Housing Executive.

- (1) The Department or the Secretary of State may require—
- (a) the Housing Executive; or
 - (b) a person authorised to exercise any function of the Housing Executive relating to housing benefit,
- to supply benefit administration information held by the Executive or other person to, or to a person providing services to, the Department or the Secretary of State for use for any purpose relating to social security.
- (2) The Department or the Secretary of State may require—
- (a) the Housing Executive; or
 - (b) a person authorised to exercise any function of the Housing Executive relating to housing benefit,
- to supply benefit policy information held by the Executive or other person to, or to a person providing services to, the Department or the Secretary of State.
- (3) Information shall be supplied under subsection (1) or (2) above in such manner and form, and in accordance with such requirements, as may be prescribed.
- (4) In subsection (1) above “benefit administration information”, in relation to the Housing Executive or other person, means any information which is relevant to the exercise of any function relating to housing benefit by the Executive or other person.
- (5) In subsection (2) above “benefit policy information” means any information which may be relevant to the Department or the Secretary of State—
- (a) in preparing estimates of likely future expenditure on housing benefit; or
 - (b) in developing policy relating to housing benefit.]

Textual Amendments

F15 Ss. 116C, 116D and the preceding *cross-heading* inserted (1.7.1997) by S.I. 1997/1182 (N.I. 11), art. 3; S.R. 1997/316, art. 2, Sch.

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Modifications etc. (not altering text)

- C1** S. 116D: functions modified (*prosp.*) by S.I. 1999/3147 (N.I. 11), arts. 1(2), 67, **Sch. 8 para. 32**
S. 116D: functions exercisable by the Department of the Environment for Northern Ireland transferred (26.6.2001) to the Department of Finance and Personnel in Northern Ireland by S.R. 2001/229, **art. 4(1)** (with art. 12)

Persons employed or formerly employed in social security administration or adjudication

117 Unauthorised disclosure of information relating to particular persons.

- (1) A person who is or has been employed in social security administration or adjudication is guilty of an offence if he discloses without lawful authority any information which he acquired in the course of his employment and which relates to a particular person.
- (2) A person who is or has been employed in the audit of expenditure or the investigation of complaints is guilty of an offence if he discloses without lawful authority any information—
 - (a) which he acquired in the course of his employment;
 - (b) which is, or is derived from, information acquired or held by or for the purposes of any of the government departments or other bodies or persons referred to in Part I of Schedule 4 to this Act or in any corresponding enactment having effect in Great Britain; and
 - (c) which relates to a particular person.
- (3) It is not an offence under this section—
 - (a) to disclose information in the form of a summary or collection of information so framed as not to enable information relating to any particular person to be ascertained from it; or
 - (b) to disclose information which has previously been disclosed to the public with lawful authority.
- (4) It is a defence for a person charged with an offence under this section to prove that at the time of the alleged offence—
 - (a) he believed that he was making the disclosure in question with lawful authority and had no reasonable cause to believe otherwise; or
 - (b) he believed that the information in question had previously been disclosed to the public with lawful authority and had no reasonable cause to believe otherwise.
- (5) A person guilty of an offence under this section shall be liable—
 - (a) on conviction on indictment, to imprisonment for a term not exceeding two years or to a fine or to both; or
 - (b) on summary conviction, to imprisonment for a term not exceeding six months or a fine not exceeding the statutory maximum or both.
- (6) For the purposes of this section, the persons who are “employed in social security administration or adjudication” are—
 - (a) any person specified in Part I of Schedule 4 to this Act or in any corresponding enactment having effect in Great Britain;

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- (b) any other person who carries out the administrative work of any of the government departments or other bodies or persons referred to in that Part of that Schedule or that corresponding enactment; and
- (c) any person who provides, or is employed in the provision of, services to any of those departments, persons or bodies;

and “employment”, in relation to any such person, shall be construed accordingly.

[^{F16}(6A) Subsection (6) above shall have effect as if any medical practitioner who, for the purposes of section 52 above, is provided by any person in pursuance of a contract entered into with the Department were specified in Part I of Schedule 4 to this Act]

(7) For the purposes of subsections (2) and (6) above, any reference in Part I of Schedule 4 to this Act or in any corresponding enactment having effect in Great Britain to a government department shall be construed in accordance with Part II of that Schedule or any corresponding enactment having effect in Great Britain, and for this purpose “government department” shall be taken to include—

- (a) the Commissioners of Inland Revenue; and
- (b) the Scottish Courts Administration.

(8) For the purposes of this section, the persons who are “employed in the audit of expenditure or the investigation of complaints” are—

- (a) the Comptroller and Auditor General for Northern Ireland;
- (b) the Northern Ireland Parliamentary Commissioner for Administration;
- (c) the Northern Ireland Commissioner for Complaints;
- (d) the Comptroller and Auditor General;
- (e) the Parliamentary Commissioner for Administration;
- (f) any member of the staff of the Northern Ireland Audit Office or the National Audit Office;
- (g) any other person who carries out the administrative work of either of those Offices, or who provides, or is employed in the provision of, services to either of them;
- (h) the Health Service Commissioner for England, Wales or Scotland; and
- (i) any officer of any of the Commissioners referred to in paragraph (b), (c), (e) or (h) above;

and “employment”, in relation to any such person, shall be construed accordingly.

(9) For the purposes of this section a disclosure is to be regarded as made with lawful authority if, and only if, it is made—

- (a) in accordance with his official duty—
 - (i) by a civil servant; or
 - (ii) by a person employed in the audit of expenditure or the investigation of complaints, who does not fall within subsection (8)(g) above;
- (b) by any other person either—
 - (i) for the purposes of the function in the exercise of which he holds the information and without contravening any restriction duly imposed by the person responsible; or
 - (ii) to, or in accordance with an authorisation duly given by, the person responsible;
- (c) in accordance with any statutory provision or order of a court;

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- (d) for the purpose of instituting, or otherwise for the purposes of, any proceedings before a court or before any tribunal or other body or person referred to in Part I of Schedule 4 to this Act or in any corresponding enactment having effect in Great Britain; or
- (e) with the consent of the appropriate person;

and in this subsection “the person responsible” means the Department, the Lord Chancellor or any person authorised by the Department or the Lord Chancellor for the purposes of this subsection and includes a reference to “the person responsible” within the meaning of any corresponding enactment having effect in Great Britain.

(10) For the purposes of subsection (9)(e) above, “the appropriate person” means the person to whom the information in question relates, except that if the affairs of that person are being dealt with—

- (a) under a power of attorney;
- (b) by a controller appointed under Article 101 of the ^{M2}Mental Health (Northern Ireland) Order 1986 or by a receiver appointed under section 99 of the ^{M3}Mental Health Act 1983;
- (c) by a Scottish mental health custodian, that is to say—
 - (i) a curator bonis, tutor or judicial factor; or
 - (ii) the managers of a hospital acting on behalf of that person under section 94 of the ^{M4}Mental Health (Scotland) Act 1984; or
- (d) by a mental health appointee, that is to say—
 - (i) a person directed or authorised as mentioned in sub-paragraph (a) of rule 38(1) of Order 109 of the Rules of the ^{M5}Supreme Court (Northern Ireland) 1980 or sub-paragraph (a) of rule 41(1) of the ^{M6}Court of Protection Rules 1984; or
 - (ii) a controller ad interim appointed under sub-paragraph (b) of the said rule 38(1) or any receiver ad interim appointed under sub-paragraph (b) of the said rule 41(1),

the appropriate person is the attorney, controller, receiver, custodian or appointee, as the case may be, or, in a case falling within paragraph (a) above, the person to whom the information relates.

Textual Amendments

F16 S. 117(6A) inserted (3.1.1995) by 1994 c. 40, ss. 76, 82(2)(f), Sch. 16 para. 25

Marginal Citations

M2 S.I. 1986/595 (N.I. 4).

M3 1983 c. 20.

M4 1984 c. 36.

M5 S.R. (N.I.) 1980 No. 346.

M6 S.I. 1984/2035.

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Notification of deaths

118 Regulations as to notification of deaths.

- (1) Regulations may provide that it shall be the duty of the Registrar General or any registrar to furnish the Department, for the purpose of its functions under the Contributions and Benefits Act [^{F17}, Parts II and III of the Jobseekers (Northern Ireland) Order 1995] and this Act and the functions of the Secretary of State under any enactment applying in Great Britain corresponding to [^{F18}either of those Acts or those Parts], with the prescribed particulars of such deaths as may be prescribed.
- (2) The regulations may make provision as to the manner in which and times at which the particulars are to be furnished.
- (3) In subsection (1) “Registrar General” and “registrar” have the meanings assigned to them in the ^{M7}Births and Deaths Registration (Northern Ireland) Order 1976.

Textual Amendments

F17 Words in s. 118(1) inserted (17.7.1996) by S.I. 1995/2705 (N.I. 15), art. 40(1), **Sch. 2**, para. 41(a); S.R. 1996/285, art. 2, **Sch.**

F18 Words in s. 118(1) substituted (17.7.1996) by S.I. 1995/2705 (N.I. 15), art. 40(1), **Sch. 2 para. 41(b)**; S.R. 1996/285, art. 2, **Sch.**

Modifications etc. (not altering text)

C2 S. 118 applied (with modifications) (7.2.1994) by 1993 c. 49, s. 163(2); S.R. 1994/17, art. 2

Marginal Citations

M7 S.I. 1976/1041 (N.I. 14).

Personal representatives - income support and supplementary benefit

119 Personal representatives to give information about the estate of a deceased person who was in receipt of income support or supplementary benefit.

- (1) The personal representatives of a person who was in receipt of income support [^{F19}an income-based jobseeker’s allowance] or supplementary benefit at any time before his death shall provide the Department with such information as it may require relating to the assets and liabilities of that person’s estate.
- (2) If the personal representatives fail to supply any information within 28 days of being required to do so under subsection (1) above, then—
 - (a) the county court may, on the application of the Department, make an order directing them to supply that information within such time as may be specified in the order, and
 - (b) any such order may provide that all costs of and incidental to the application shall be borne personally by any of the personal representatives.

Status: Point in time view as at 27/08/1996. This version of this part contains provisions that are not valid for this point in time.

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Textual Amendments

F19 Words in s. 119 inserted (17.7.1996) by S.I. 1995/2705 (N.I. 15), art. 40(1), Sch. 2 para. 42; S.R. 1996/285, art. 2, Sch.

VALID FROM 08/10/1997

[^{F20}Landlords and agents]

Textual Amendments

F20 S. 119A and the preceding cross-heading inserted (8.10.1997) by S.I. 1997/1182 (N.I. 11), art. 10; S.R. 1997/449, art. 2

[^{F21}119A Power to require information from landlords and agents.

- (1) Regulations shall provide that where a claim for housing benefit in respect of a dwelling is made to the Housing Executive and the circumstances are such as are prescribed—
 - (a) the Executive; or
 - (b) a person authorised to exercise any function of the Executive relating to housing benefit,may require any appropriate person to supply information of a prescribed description to the Executive or other person.
- (2) Subject to subsection (4) below, for the purposes of subsection (1) above a person is an appropriate person in relation to a dwelling if he is—
 - (a) a person to whom anyone is, or claims to be, liable to make relevant payments;
 - (b) a person to whom, or at whose direction, a person within paragraph (a) above has agreed to make payments in consequence of being entitled to receive relevant payments; or
 - (c) a person acting on behalf of a person within paragraph (a) or (b) above in connection with any aspect of the management of the dwelling.
- (3) In subsection (2) above “relevant payments”, in relation to a dwelling, means payments in respect of the dwelling which are of a description in relation to which housing benefit may be paid.
- (4) Regulations may provide that any prescribed person, or any person of a prescribed description, is not an appropriate person for the purposes of subsection (1) above.
- (5) The descriptions of information which may be prescribed for the purposes of subsection (1) above include, in particular, any description of information relating to, or to any interest in or other connection with, dwellings and other property situated anywhere in the United Kingdom.
- (6) Information shall be supplied under subsection (1) above in such manner and form, and at such time and in accordance with such other requirements, as may be prescribed.

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- (7) Information supplied to the Housing Executive or other person under subsection (1) above may be used by the Executive or other person only in the exercise of any function relating to housing benefit.
- (8) The provisions of section 116D above apply in relation to any information supplied under subsection (1) above which is not benefit administration information (within the meaning of those provisions) as if it were.]

Textual Amendments

F21 S. 119A and the preceding cross-heading inserted (8.10.1997) by S.I. 1997/1182 (N.I. 11), art. 10; S.R. 1997/449, art. 2

Modifications etc. (not altering text)

C3 S. 119A: functions modified (*prosp.*) by S.I. 1999/3147 (N.I. 11), arts. 1(2), 67, Sch. 8 para. 32 (with art. 75)

Housing benefit

120 Information for purposes of housing benefit.

- (1) The Department may supply to the Housing Executive such information of a prescribed description obtained by reason of the exercise of any of the Department's functions under the Contributions and Benefits Act [^{F22}, the Jobseekers (Northern Ireland) Order 1995] or this Act as the Executive may require in connection with any of the Executive's functions relating to housing benefit.
- (2) The Housing Executive shall supply to the Department such information of a prescribed description obtained by reason of the exercise of the Executive's functions relating to housing benefit as the Department may require in connection with any of its functions under the Contributions and Benefits Act [^{F22}, the Jobseekers (Northern Ireland) Order 1995] or this Act.
- (3) It shall also be the duty of the Housing Executive to supply the Department, in the prescribed manner and within the prescribed time—
- (a) with such information as the Department may require concerning the Executive's performance of any of the Executive's functions relating to housing benefit; and
 - (b) with such information as the Department may require to enable it—
 - (i) to prepare estimates of likely future amounts of housing benefit expenditure; and
 - (ii) to decide questions relating to the development of housing benefit policy.
- [^{F23}(4) Where a person is authorised by the Housing Executive to exercise any of its functions relating to housing benefit—
- (a) subsection (1) above shall have effect in relation to information required in connection with the exercise of those functions; and
 - (b) subsection (2) above shall have effect in relation to information obtained by reason of their exercise,

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as if the authorised person were the Executive.]

Textual Amendments

- F22** Words in s. 120(1) and (2) inserted (17.7.1996) by S.I. 1995/2705 (N.I. 15), art. 40(1), **Sch. 2 para. 43**; S.R. 1996/285, art. 2, **Sch.**
- F23** S. 120(4) inserted (27.8.1996) by S.I. 1996/1632 (N.I. 11), arts. 1, 18, **Sch. 5 para. 5**

Statutory sick pay and other benefits

121 Disclosure by the Department for purpose of determination of period of entitlement to statutory sick pay.

Where the Department considers that it is reasonable for information held by the Department to be disclosed to an employer, for the purpose of enabling that employer to determine the duration of a period of entitlement under Part XI of the Contributions and Benefits Act in respect of an employee, or whether such a period exists, the Department may disclose the information to that employer.

122 Duties of employers - statutory sick pay and claims for other benefits.

- (1) Regulations may make provision requiring an employer, in a case falling within subsection (3) below to furnish information in connection with the making, by a person who is, or has been, an employee of that employer, of a claim for—
- [^{F24}(a) short-term incapacity benefit;]
 - (b) a maternity allowance;
 - [^{F25}(c) long-term incapacity benefit;]
 - (d) industrial injuries benefit; or
 - (e) a severe disablement allowance.
- (2) Regulations under this section shall prescribe—
- (a) the kind of information to be furnished in accordance with the regulations;
 - (b) the person to whom information of the prescribed kind is to be furnished; and
 - (c) the manner in which, and period within which, it is to be furnished.
- (3) The cases are—
- (a) where, by virtue of paragraph 2 of Schedule 11 to the Contributions and Benefits Act or of regulations made under paragraph 1 of that Schedule, a period of entitlement does not arise in relation to a period of incapacity for work;
 - (b) where a period of entitlement has come to an end but the period of incapacity for work which was running immediately before the period of entitlement came to an end continues; and
 - (c) where a period of entitlement has not come to an end but, on the assumption that—
 - (i) the period of incapacity for work in question continues to run for a prescribed period; and
 - (ii) there is no material change in circumstances,

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the period of entitlement will have ended on or before the end of the prescribed period.

(4) Regulations—

- (a) may require employers to maintain such records in connection with statutory sick pay as may be prescribed;
- (b) may provide for—
 - (i) any person claiming to be entitled to statutory sick pay; or
 - (ii) any other person who is a party to proceedings arising under Part XI of the Contributions and Benefits Act,
 to furnish to the Department, within a prescribed period, any information required for the determination of any question arising in connection therewith; and
- (c) may require employers who have made payments of statutory sick pay to furnish to the Department such documents and information, at such times, as may be prescribed.

Textual Amendments

F24 S. 122(1)(a) substituted (13.4.1995) by S.I. 1994/1898 (N.I. 12), art. 13(1), **Sch. 1 Pt. II para. 48(a)**; S.R. 1994/450, art. 2, **Sch. 1 Pt. IV**

F25 S. 122(1)(c) substituted (13.4.1995) by S.I. 1994/1898 (N.I. 12), art. 13(1), **Sch. 1 Pt. II para. 48(b)**; S.R. 1994/450, art. 2, **Sch. 1 Pt. IV**

Statutory maternity pay and other benefits

123 Disclosure by the Department for purpose of determination of period of entitlement to statutory maternity pay.

Where the Department considers that it is reasonable for information held by the Department to be disclosed to a person liable to make payments of statutory maternity pay for the purpose of enabling that person to determine—

- (a) whether a maternity pay period exists in relation to a woman who is or has been an employee of his; and
- (b) if it does, the date of its commencement and the weeks in it in respect of which he may be liable to pay statutory maternity pay,

the Department may disclose the information to that person.

124 Duties of employers - statutory maternity pay and claims for other benefits.

- (1) Regulations may make provision requiring an employer in prescribed circumstances to furnish information in connection with the making of a claim by a woman who is or has been his employee for—
 - (a) a maternity allowance;
 - (b) [^{F26}short-term incapacity benefit];
 - (c) a [^{F27}long-term incapacity benefit under section 30A], 40 or 41 of the Contributions and Benefits Act; or
 - (d) a severe disablement allowance.

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- (2) Regulations under this section shall prescribe—
- (a) the kind of information to be furnished in accordance with the regulations;
 - (b) the person to whom information of the prescribed kind is to be furnished; and
 - (c) the manner in which, and period within which, it is to be furnished.
- (3) Regulations—
- (a) may require employers to maintain such records in connection with statutory maternity pay as may be prescribed;
 - (b) may provide for—
 - (i) any woman claiming to be entitled to statutory maternity pay; or
 - (ii) any other person who is a party to proceedings arising under Part XII of the Contributions and Benefits Act,to furnish to the Department, within a prescribed period, any information required for the determination of any question arising in connection therewith; and
 - (c) may require persons who have made payments of statutory maternity pay to furnish to the Department such documents and information, at such times, as may be prescribed.

Textual Amendments

F26 Words in s. 124(1)(b) substituted (13.4.1995) by S.I. 1994/1898 (N.I. 12), art. 13(1), **Sch. 1 Pt. II**, para. 49(a); S.R. 1994/450, art. 2, **Sch. Pt. IV**

F27 Words in s. 124(1)(c) substituted (13.4.1995) by S.I. 1994/1898 (N.I. 12), art. 13(1), **Sch. 1 Pt. II**, para. 49(b); S.R. 1994/450, art. 2, **Sch. Pt. IV**

Maintenance proceedings

125 Furnishing of addresses for maintenance proceedings, etc.

- (1) The Department may incur expenses for the purpose of furnishing the address at which a man or woman is recorded by it as residing, where the address is required for the purpose of taking or carrying on legal proceedings to obtain or enforce an order for the making by the man or woman of payments—
- (a) for the maintenance of the man’s wife or former wife, or the woman’s husband or former husband; or
 - (b) for the maintenance or education of any person as being the son or daughter of the man or his wife or former wife, or of the woman or her husband or former husband.
- (2) In subsection (1)(b) above “son or daughter” includes an illegitimate son or daughter.

Status:

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Changes to legislation:

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