EXPLANATORY NOTE

(This note is not part of the Order)

This Order provides for the coming into force on 29th November 1999 of further provisions of the Social Security Act 1998 ("the Act") introducing new arrangements for decision-making in relation to income support, the social fund, child's special allowance and the recovery of benefits from compensation.

The provisions brought into force by article 2 and Schedule 1 relate in particular to the transfer of decision-making functions from adjudication officers to the Secretary of State, from social fund officers to appropriate officers of the Secretary of State and from social security appeal tribunals and medical appeal tribunals to appeal tribunals constituted under Chapter I of Part I of the Act.

Article 3 and Schedules 2 to 20 make consequential amendments in other statutory instruments in so far as they are concerned with, or make reference to, existing arrangements for decision-making and appeals.

Article 4 and Schedules 21 to 23 make transitional provision, in particular as to the manner in which matters are to be dealt with on or after 29th November 1999 which are awaiting determination under the existing srrangements for decision-making and appeals immediately before that date.