EXPLANATORY NOTE

(This note is not part of the Regulations)

These Regulations give effect in Great Britain to amendments made to reciprocal arrangements relating to matters for which provision is made by the Child Support Act 1991 and, in Northern Ireland, by the Child Support (Northern Ireland) Order 1991.

These amendments make provision so that, where the 2012 calculation rules apply to a child support case, the case will be dealt with in and under the provision of the territory in which the applicant resides until certain requirements are met. In all cases, the requirements are that: the application is taken to have been made; the address of the non-resident parent in relation to that application has been ascertained and verified; and, where the applicant resides in Great Britain, any application fee must have been paid or waived. An additional requirement must be satisfied in two scenarios. Firstly, where there is an existing case (that is a 1993 or 2003 scheme case) linked to the new application, any liability end date must have passed (that is, the date determined as the date beyond which no further liability accrues in relation to the existing case in accordance with regulations made in the relevant territory). Secondly, where the application is a choice to remain in the statutory scheme, made following the parties in an existing case being required to choose whether or not to remain in the statutory scheme, the liability end date must have passed. Where these requirements are met and the non-resident parent resides in a different jurisdiction from the applicant, the case will be transferred to the territory in which the non-resident parent resides and the provisions applying in that territory will apply.

The amendments are contained in the Exchange of Letters between the Minister of State for the Department for Work and Pensions and the Minister for Social Development set out in the Schedule to the Regulations.

An impact assessment has not been published for this instrument as it has no impact on the private sector or civil society organisations.