

**EXPLANATORY MEMORANDUM TO**  
**THE HOME LOSS PAYMENTS (PRESCRIBED AMOUNTS) (ENGLAND)**  
**REGULATIONS 2020**

**2020 No. 739**

**1. Introduction**

- 1.1 This explanatory memorandum has been prepared by the Ministry of Housing, Communities and Local Government and is laid before Parliament by Command of Her Majesty.

**2. Purpose of the instrument**

- 2.1 These Regulations prescribe the maximum and minimum amount of home loss payments payable under section 30(1) of the Land Compensation Act 1973 (c.26) (“the Act”) and the amount payable under section 30(2) of the Act when a person is displaced from a dwelling on any land by compulsory purchase or other circumstances specified in section 29 of the Act.

**3. Matters of special interest to Parliament**

*Matters of special interest to the Joint Committee on Statutory Instruments*

- 3.1 None.

*Matters relevant to Standing Orders Nos. 83P and 83T of the Standing Orders of the House of Commons relating to Public Business (English Votes for English Laws)*

- 3.2 As the instrument is subject to negative resolution procedure there are no matters relevant to Standing Orders Nos. 83P and 83T of the Standing Orders of the House of Commons relating to Public Business at this stage.

**4. Extent and Territorial Application**

- 4.1 The territorial extent of this instrument is England and Wales.
- 4.2 The territorial application of this instrument is England only because it applies in relation to cases of displacement from dwellings on any land in England only (see Regulation 1(2) of the instrument).

**5. European Convention on Human Rights**

- 5.1 As the instrument is subject to negative resolution procedure and does not amend primary legislation no statement is required.

**6. Legislative Context**

- 6.1 These Regulations prescribe increased maximum and minimum amounts of home loss payment under section 30(1) of the Act, and an increased flat rate home loss payment under section 30(2) of the Act. This effects an annual uprating of these amounts in line with house price inflation.

- 6.2 The current home loss payment minimum and maximum amounts, and flat rate amount, are set out in the Home Loss Payments (Prescribed Amounts) (England) Regulations 2019 (S.I. 2019/1117).

## **7. Policy background**

### *What is being done and why?*

- 7.1 Home loss payments are payable under the Act to owner-occupiers and tenants of dwellings displaced by compulsory purchase or public redevelopment. They are intended to compensate people for the distress and inconvenience of having to move home at a time not of their choosing.
- 7.2 They are paid:
- (a) to an owner-occupier at a rate of 10% of the market value of their interest in a dwelling, subject to maximum and minimum thresholds; and
  - (b) to a tenant at a flat rate which has historically been equal to the minimum payment to an owner-occupier
- 7.3 The thresholds are reviewed annually. The new threshold has been calculated according to the Office of National Statistics' UK House Price Index. This showed an increase in house prices since 2019.
- 7.4 The Government has therefore decided to increase the maximum and minimum thresholds to £65,000 and £6,500 respectively and the flat rate to £6,500.
- 7.5 These Regulations implement this change.
- 7.6 The previous thresholds and flat rate will however continue to apply in relation to an owner-occupier or tenant displaced before 1st October 2020.

## **8. European Union (Withdrawal) Act/Withdrawal of the United Kingdom from the European Union**

- 8.1 This instrument does not relate to withdrawal from the European Union / trigger the statement requirements under the European Union (Withdrawal) Act.

## **9. Consolidation**

- 9.1 No consolidation is required as these Regulations replace the 2019 Regulations.

## **10. Consultation outcome**

- 10.1 Consultation is not normally undertaken in relation to prescribing the thresholds and flat rate for home loss payments.

## **11. Guidance**

- 11.1 The Ministry of Housing, Communities and Local Government will inform local authorities and private registered providers of social housing of the increased thresholds and flat rate.

## **12. Impact**

- 12.1 There is no, or no significant, impact on business, charities or voluntary bodies.

- 12.2 The impact on the public sector is that acquiring authorities will need to pay more compensation where qualifying tenants are displaced or where owner-occupied properties affected by the new thresholds are acquired. It is not possible to quantify this as the number and value of dwellings taken by compulsory purchase or other circumstances specified in section 29 of the Act in any year is unknown.
- 12.3 An Impact Assessment has not been prepared for this instrument as it brings into effect an uprating in line with house price inflation following an annual review.

### **13. Regulating small business**

- 13.1 The legislation does not apply to activities that are undertaken by small businesses.

### **14. Monitoring & review**

- 14.1 The approach to monitoring this legislation is to review the home loss payment thresholds and flat rate annually.
- 14.2 These Regulations do not include a statutory review clause.

### **15. Contact**

- 15.1 Theresa Donohue at the Ministry of Housing, Communities and Local Government Telephone: 030344 41719 or email: [theresa.donohue@communities.gov.uk](mailto:theresa.donohue@communities.gov.uk) can be contacted with any queries regarding the instrument.
- 15.2 Lucy Hargreaves, Deputy Director for Planning Development Management, at the Ministry of Housing, Communities and Local Government can confirm that this Explanatory Memorandum meets the required standard.
- 15.3 Christopher Pincher MP, Minister of State for Housing at the Ministry of Housing, Communities and Local Government can confirm that this Explanatory Memorandum meets the required standard.