

# **Council Tax Reduction Scheme Working Age**

**Scheme Effective from 1 April 2026**

## Foreword

This document sets out the London Borough of Hillingdon's Council Tax Reduction Scheme for Working Age applicants. This scheme shall have effect 1 April 2026.

We have the scheme rules for pension age and working age applicants split into different documents. This split is to make the reading of the documents easier, to improve transparency, and to enable the scheme documents to focus on the needs of the different age groups. There are different scheme rules published for pension age applicants.

These scheme rules replace (supersede) the earlier scheme rules documents from 1 April 2026. Relevant legislation for the existence of these scheme rules includes:

The Welfare Reform Act 2012

The Local Government Finance Act 1992

The Council Tax Reduction Schemes (Prescribed Requirements) (England) Regulations 2012 (Statutory Instrument 2012 No.2885). There have been further annual Statutory Instruments amending these prescribed requirement regulations and details of these can be supplied on request.

The previous scheme rules still apply for days prior to 1 April 2026.

This Scheme complies with the requirements of s13A and Schedule 1A of the Local Government Finance Act 1992.

This Scheme does not and cannot make any changes to the scheme of other discounts and exemptions available in Council Tax. The authority will continue to comply with its statutory duty to award discounts and exemptions in appropriate cases for example (but not limited to): where there is a single occupier; where the charge payer has a severe mental impairment; where a band reduction is appropriate because of disability.

There is a policy intention to align the vulnerable group reduction with the rest of the scheme using a phased approach over 4 years. These further changes will be subject to public consultation and approval by full council.

## The Policy

### Working Age:

This scheme has two sections:

Section 1 is the scheme rules, some are required by law, whilst others are decided by the London Borough of Hillingdon following public consultations and approval by the full Council.

Section 2 contains more general guidance and information which is helpful for applicants to be aware of. For clarity the contents of Section 2 are not scheme rules but issues we wish to raise awareness of.

We have used a structure of point, paragraph, and sub-paragraph for these scheme rules.

As an example **55 Calculation of Income on a weekly basis** is as follows:

The whole of that short section numbered 55 is called a point.

That point has four paragraphs numbered 1), 2), 3) and 4).

There are sub-paragraphs which in the point are listed as a), b) etc but in some points a sub-paragraph or further sub-paragraph uses i), ii); or (aa) etc. This applies equally if content is single bracketed a) or double bracketed (a) or unbracketed.

We reserve the right to correct any indexing errors or typing errors.

## Banding Scheme:

The following Banding grid is used to assess your entitlement to a Council Tax Reduction, below the banding grid and a summary. Further explanation will be given later in these rules.

	Based on weekly income								
Household type:	Single		Couples		Family 1 child		Family 2 or more children		
CTR Banding	Lower Limit	Upper Limit	Lower Limit	Upper Limit	Lower Limit	Upper Limit	Lower Limit	Upper Limit	CTRS Reduction
Band 2	£0.00	£180.00	£0.00	£250.00	£0.00	£330.00	£0.00	£500.00	75%
Band 3	£0.00	£90.00	£0.00	£130.00	£0.00	£150.00	£0.00	£260.00	75%
Band 4	£90.01	£120.00	£130.01	£170.00	£150.01	£210.00	£260.01	£340.00	55%
Band 5	£120.01	£150.00	£170.01	£210.00	£210.01	£270.00	£340.01	£420.00	35%
Band 6	£150.01	£180.00	£210.01	£250.00	£270.01	£330.00	£420.01	£500.00	15%

### The key summarized principles of the banding scheme (Subject to capital limit, non-dependent deductions and other rules) are:

- The level of discount (as shown in the grid) will be based on the total net income (determined by the Hillingdon Council in accordance with these scheme rules) of the applicant and their partner,
- Income levels can vary in accordance with household size and but within a band claimants will still receive the same level of discount subject to other scheme rules.
- Payments for the claimant or a partner a war widow's pension, war disability pension or payments under the armed forces and reserve forces compensation scheme will still be disregarded under the proposed scheme.
- Where applicants or their partners or their children (child or young person as defined in these rules) are in receipt of Disability Living Allowance, Personal Independence Payments, Attendance Allowance, Pension Age Disability Payment (Scotland), Adult Disability Payment (Scotland), Employment and Support Allowance Support Component, the Limited Capability for Work element of Universal Credit, the Disabled Child Element of Universal Credit or is registered blind they are treated as vulnerable. If their net income totals less than the upper level in Band a discount of 75% will be awarded against their liability for Council

- Tax. This award will not be made if the capital of the claimant and their partner (if any) exceed the capital limit, or if non-dependent deductions fall to be made.
- e) Applicants who have a total net income less than the upper limit levels in Band 3 will receive a discount of 75% against their liability for Council Tax if they do not meet the criteria for band 2. This will also apply to those applicants receiving Income Support, Income-Related Employment and Support Allowance, and Income-Based Jobseekers Allowance or Universal Credit without earnings, whom for clarity they will fall in the Band 3 if they do not meet the criteria for band 2. Where applicants are not in receipt of those benefits and their income is above the levels specified in Band 3, Council Tax Reduction shall be awarded at the appropriate level (Bands 4,5 or 6). This award will not be made if the capital of the claimant and their partner (if any) exceed the capital limit, or if non-dependent deductions fall to be made, or if the applicant is otherwise not entitled in accordance with this scheme.
  - f) Applicants who have total net income levels above the appropriate upper limit band 6 levels shown in the grid for their household composition will receive no discount.
  - g) Where there is one or more non-dependents the appropriate deduction or deductions in accordance with these scheme rules will be made.
  - h) The calculation will be made after first deducting any discounts from the Council Tax.
  - i) In respect of claims that fall within bands 3, 4, 5 or 6 there will be a further limitation in that the eligible Council Tax used in the assessment will be limited to a maximum property band of D when calculating entitlement. The band for each dwelling will be shown on the Valuation List in accordance with Section 23 of The Local Government Finance Act 1992.
  - j) There is no longer a band 1.
  - k) Child or children means a child or young person who reside with the applicant as members of their family, and for whom the applicant is responsible.
  - i) The minimum weekly award will be £3 per week.

**Capital:**

For working age claimants £6,000 capital is disregarded. If the capital exceeds £6000 there will be no entitlement to Council Tax Reduction. Capital is calculated in accordance with these scheme rules.

**Universal Credit:**

The summarized principles in terms of assessing Universal Credit Income are:

- 1) The Housing Costs Element; Childcare Costs Element; and Carer Element; the Disabled Child Element (Universal Credit Regulations 2013 regulation

24(2)), and the Limited Capability for Work and Work Related Activity (if any) are deducted from the award made to the claimant or their partner.

- 2) Deductions and advance payments are added to your award.
- 3) Where the claimant and partner (if any) have no earned income the claimant will fall in band 3 unless they also meet the criteria for band 2.
- 4) The capital limit of £6000 and non-dependent deductions also apply to applicants in receipt of Universal Credit.

### **General Provisions:**

The Council reserves the right to amend any part of the scheme that relates to working age applicants in the current and/or future years to account for changes in legislation that affect the scheme.

### **Transition:**

A claim for Council Tax Benefit in respect of which there is an award of entitlement at the end of the day of 31 March 2013, or in respect of which no decision has been made, will be treated as a claim for Council Tax Reduction from 1 April 2013. This may apply to claims for Council Tax Benefit which by 31 March 2013 have been refused as having no entitlement but are subsequently revised so there is entitlement at 31 March 2013.

### **Discretionary Awards - a reduction under section 13A(1)(c) of the 1992 Act:**

The London Borough of Hillingdon has identified two classes which it considers to be in general financial need of a discount.

The first relates to persons aged 65 or over. The conditions are of eligibility for this group are:

- You (or your partner) are responsible for the council tax on a property in Hillingdon, in which you are living on 1 April of the Council Tax year in question,
- and either you or your partner will be 65, or over, on 31 March 2021,
- You are in receipt of this discount continuously from discount 31 March 2021
- and you are not otherwise receiving a Council Tax Reduction.

Further details on eligibility can be found on the Hillingdon Council website.

The second is a new class which is Care Leavers where their Council Tax will be reduced to nil. This will apply until they reach the age of 21. This discretionary reduction will be awarded after any appropriate exemptions and discounts are claimed.

Prior to 1 April 2025 we had a separate band (previously called band 1) giving a larger award where the claimant or partner received payment from a War Widows Pension, War Disability Pension, or an Armed Forces and Reserve Forces Compensation Scheme. We no longer had any claims, and there was a cost of maintaining this extra band. A decision has therefore been made to remove this band. Whilst we have not identified a separate class we would consider making a Discretionary award to any future claimants who lose of as a result of this change

All other applications for a Discretionary Reduction will be judged on their individual merits. We will not have “blanket policies” but applicants will be expected to demonstrate substantial or exceptional extra need, and regard may be had to the circumstances of other applicants for a Council Tax Reduction. Relevant decisions issued by the Valuation Tribunal and Courts may be considered.

Decisions on a discretionary application (other than application by way of over 65 class, and the Care Leaver class) will in the first instance be made by the Head of Service for Revenues and Benefits, or in their absence an equivalent or higher graded officer.

#### **Length of the Scheme:**

The Council Tax Reduction Scheme of the London Borough of Hillingdon is an ongoing scheme.

It will be subject to an annual review.

Any changes to the law will be automatically incorporated into the scheme.

Mistakes may be corrected.

## **Section 1 Scheme Rules effective from 1 April 2026**

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9. Remunerative work.
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11. Persons subject to immigration control.
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## **1 Interpretation:**

(1) In these Rules —

**“the 1992 Act”** means the Local Government Finance Act 1992;

**“Abbeyfield Home”** means an establishment run by the Abbeyfield Society including all bodies corporate or unincorporated which are affiliated to that society;

**“additional spouse”** means a spouse by the party to the marriage who is additional to the party to the marriage;

**“adoption leave”** means a period of absence from work on ordinary or additional adoption leave by virtue of section 75A or 75B of the Employment Rights Act 1996;

**“adult disability payment”** has the meaning given in regulation 2 of the DAWAP Regulations;

**“AFIP”** means an armed forces independence payment in accordance with an armed and reserve forces compensation scheme established under section 1(2) of the **Armed Forces (Pensions and Compensation) Act 2004**;

**“applicant”** means a person applying for a reduction under a scheme;

**“application”** means an application for a reduction under a scheme;

**“approved blood scheme”** means a scheme established or approved by the Secretary of State, for the purpose of providing compensation in respect of a person having been infected from contaminated blood products;

**“assessment period”** such period as is set out in points 45 to 47 of these scheme rules over which income falls to be calculated;

**“assessment period”** means—

(a) in relation to the earnings of a self-employed earner, in accordance with point 46 for the purpose of calculating the weekly earnings of the applicant; or

(b) in relation to any other income, in accordance with point 89 paragraph 14 for the purpose of calculating the weekly income of the applicant;

**“attendance allowance”** means—

(a) an attendance allowance under Part 3 of the SSCBA;

- (b) an increase of disablement pension under section 104 or 105 of that Act;
- (c) a payment by virtue of article 14, 15, 16, 43 or 44 of the Personal Injuries (Civilians) Scheme 1983 or any analogous payment; or
- (d) any payment based on need for attendance which is paid as part of a war disablement pension;

**“basic rate”**, where it relates to the rate of tax, has the meaning given by the Income Tax Act 2007 ;

**“the benefit Acts”** means the SSCBA, the Jobseekers Act 1995, the Welfare Reform Act 2007;

**Welfare Reform Act 2007(d)** as amended by the provisions of Schedule 3, and Part 1 of Schedule 14, to the Welfare Reform Act 2012(e) that remove references to an income-related allowance and a contributory allowance under Part 1 of the Welfare Reform Act 2007 as that Part has effect apart from those provisions;

**“converted employment and support allowance”** means an employment and support allowance which is not income-related and to which a person is entitled as a result of a conversion decision within the meaning of the Employment and Support Allowance (Existing Awards) Regulations;

**“board and lodging accommodation”** means accommodation provided to a family, or if he is a member of a family, for a charge which is inclusive of the provision of that accommodation and at least some cooked or prepared meals which both are cooked or prepared (by a person other than the person to whom the accommodation is provided or a member of his family) and are consumed in that accommodation or associated premises;

**“care home”** has the meaning given by section 3 of the Care Standards Act 2000(h) and in Scotland means a care home service within the meaning given by section 2(3) of the Regulation of Care (Scotland) Act 2001(i) and in Northern Ireland means a nursing home within the meaning of Article 11 of the Health and Personal Social Services (Quality, Improvement and Regulation) (Northern Ireland) Order 2003(j) or a residential care home within the meaning of Article 10 of that Order;

**Care Leaver** in respect of the class of persons identified under section 13A(1)(c) means a person under the age of 21 and who meets the criteria contained within section 4 of the Children (Leaving Care) Act 2000;

**Carer Element** means has the meaning given by regulations issued by the Secretary of State under the Welfare Reform Act 2012;

**“carer support payment”** means carer’s assistance given in accordance with the Carer’s Assistance (Carer Support Payment) (Scotland) Regulations 2023;

**“the Caxton Foundation”** means the charitable trust of that name established on 28th March 2011 out of funds provided by the Secretary of State for the benefit of certain persons suffering from hepatitis C and other persons eligible for payment in accordance with its provisions;

**“child”** means a person under the age of 16;

**“child benefit”** has the meaning given by section 141 of the SSCBA;

**“child disability payment”** has the meaning given by regulation 2 of the DACYP Regulations”;

**Childcare costs** element has the meaning given by regulations issued by the Secretary of State under the Welfare Reform Act 2012

**“child tax credit”** means a child tax credit under section 8 of the Tax Credits Act 2002;

**“close relative”** means a parent, parent-in-law, son, son-in-law, daughter, daughter-in-law, step-parent, step-son, step-daughter, brother, sister, or if any of the preceding persons is one member of a couple, the other member of that couple;

**“concessional payment”** means a payment made under arrangements made by the Secretary of State with the consent of the Treasury which is charged either to the National Insurance Fund or to a Departmental Expenditure Vote to which payments of benefit or tax credits under the benefit Acts or the Tax Credits Act 2002 are charged;

**“contributory employment and support allowance”** means an allowance under Part 1 of the Welfare Reform Act 2007(d) as amended by the provisions of Schedule 3, and Part 1 of Schedule 14, to the Welfare Reform Act 2012(e) that remove references to an income-related allowance and a contributory allowance under Part 1 of the Welfare Reform Act 2007 as that Part has effect apart from those provisions;

**“couple”** has the meaning given by regulation 4 of these Regulations;

**“the DACYP Regulations”** means the Disability Assistance for Children and Young people (Scotland) Regulations 2021;

**“the DAWAP Regulations”** means the Disability Assistance for Working Age People (Scotland) Regulations 2022;

**“Default Scheme Regulations”** means the Council Tax Reduction Schemes (Default Scheme) (England) Regulations 2012;

**“designated office”** means the office of an authority designated by it for the receipt of applications—

(a) by notice upon or with a form supplied by it for the purpose of making an application;

(b) by reference upon or with such a form to some other document from it and sent by electronic means or otherwise on application and without charge; or

(c) by any combination of the provisions set out in paragraphs (a) and (b);

**“disability living allowance”** means a disability living allowance under section 71 of the SSCBA;

**“earnings”** has the meaning given by point 49 of this scheme;

**“the Eileen Trust”** means the charitable trust of that name established on 29th March 1993 out of funds provided by the Secretary of State for the benefit of persons **eligible for payment in accordance with its provisions**;

**“electronic communication”** has the same meaning as in section 15(1) of the Electronic Communications Act 2000;

**“employed earner”** is to be construed in accordance with section 2(1)(a) of the SSCBA [and also includes a person who is in receipt of a payment which is payable under any enactment having effect in Northern Ireland and which corresponds to statutory sick pay or statutory maternity pay];

**“employment zone”** means an area with Great Britain designated for the purposes of paragraph 60 of the Welfare Reform Act 1997 and Pensions Act 1999 and an **“employment zone programme”** means a programme established for such an area or areas designed to assist claimants for a jobseeker’s allowance to obtain sustainable employment;

**“enactment”** includes an enactment comprised in, or in an instrument made under, an Act of the Scottish Parliament or the National Assembly of Wales;

**“extended reduction”** means a reduction under this scheme for which a person is eligible pursuant to point 22, this only applied to people who move into the London Borough of Hillingdon.

**“extended reduction (qualifying contributory benefits)”** means a reduction under this section of the scheme for which a person is eligible pursuant to point 22 of this scheme;

**“extended reduction period”** means the period for which a person is in receipt of an extended reduction in accordance with point 22 of this scheme;

**“family”** has the meaning given by point 5;

**“the Fund”** means moneys made available from time to time by the Secretary of State for the benefit of persons eligible for payment in accordance with the provisions of a scheme established by the Secretary of State on 24th April 1992 or, in Scotland, on 10th April 1992;

**“guarantee credit”** is to be construed in accordance with sections 1 and 2 of the State Pension Credit Act 2002;

**“Grenfell Tower support payment”** means a payment made for the purpose of providing compensation or support in respect of the fire on 14 June 2017 at Grenfell Tower;

**“a guaranteed income payment”** means a payment made under article 15(1)(c) or 29(1)(a) of the Armed Forces and Reserve Forces (Compensation Scheme) Order 2011;

**“historical child abuse payment”** means a payment made under-

- (a) Part 1 of the Historical Institutional Abuse (Northern Ireland) Act 2019;
- (b) Part 4 of the Redress for Survivors (Historical Child Abuse in Care)(Scotland) Act 2021;

**“The Horizon system”** means any version of the computer system used by the Post Office known as Horizon, Horizon Legacy, Horizon Online, or HNG-X;

**“housing benefit”** means housing benefit under Part 7 of the SSCBA;

**“housing costs element”** has the meaning given by regulations issued by the Secretary of State under the Welfare Reform Act 2012;

**“an income-based jobseeker’s allowance”** and **“a joint-claim jobseeker’s allowance”** have the meanings given by section 1(4) of the Jobseekers Act 1995;

**“income-related employment and support allowance”** means an income-related allowance under Part 1 of the Welfare Reform Act 2007;

**“independent hospital”—**

- (a) in England means a hospital as defined by section 275 of the National Health Service Act 2006 that is not a health service hospital as defined by that section;

(b) in Wales has the meaning given by section 2 of the Care Standards Act 2000; and

(c) in Scotland means an independent healthcare service as defined by section 2(5)(a) and (b) of the Regulation of Care (Scotland) Act 2001;

**“the Independent Living Fund (2006)”** means the Trust of that name established by a deed dated 10th April 2006 and made between the Secretary of State for Work and Pensions of the one part and Margaret Rosemary Cooper, Michael Beresford Boyall and Marie Theresa Martin of the other part;

**“invalid carriage or other vehicle”** means a vehicle propelled by a petrol engine or by electric power supplied for use on the road and to be controlled by the occupant;

**“LGBT Financial Recognition Scheme payment”** means a payment under the Lesbian, Gay, Bisexual and Transgender Financial Recognition Scheme administered under the authority of the Secretary of State for Defence;

**“the London Bombings Relief Charitable Fund”** means the company limited by guarantee (number 5505072), and registered charity of that name established on 11th July 2005 for the purpose of (amongst other things) relieving sickness, disability or financial need of victims (including families or dependants of victims) of the terrorist attacks carried out in London on 7th July 2005;

**“The London Emergencies Trust”** means the company of that name (number 09928465) incorporated on 23 December 2015 and the registered charity of that name (number 1172307) established on 28 March 2017;

**“lone parent”** means a person who has no partner and who is responsible for and a member of the same household as a child or young person;

**“the Macfarlane (Special Payments) Trust”** means the trust of that name, established on 29th January 1990 partly out of funds provided by the Secretary of State, for the benefit of certain persons suffering from haemophilia;

**“the Macfarlane (Special Payments) (No 2) Trust”** means the trust of that name, established on 3rd May 1991 partly out of funds provided by the Secretary of State, for the benefit of certain persons suffering from haemophilia and other beneficiaries;

**“the Macfarlane Trust”** means the charitable trust, established partly out of funds provided by the Secretary of State to the Haemophilia Society, for the relief of **poverty or distress among those suffering from haemophilia**;

**“main phase employment and support allowance”** means an employment and support allowance where the calculation of the amount payable in respect of the applicant includes a component under section 2(1)(b) or 4(2)(b) of the Welfare Reform Act 2007 or the applicant is a member of a work-related activity group;

**“maternity leave”** means a period during which a woman is absent from work because she is pregnant or has given birth to a child, and at the end of which she has a right to return to work either under the terms of her contract of employment or under Part 8 of the Employment Rights Act 1996;

**“maximum council tax reduction amount”** means the amount determined in accordance with point 33 of this scheme.

**“member of a couple”** means a member of a married or unmarried couple;

**"Member of the work-related activity group"** means a person who has or is treated as having limited capability for work under either-

(a ) Part 5 of the Employment and Support Allowance Regulations other than by virtue of regulation 30 of those Regulations; or

(b ) Part 4 of the Employment and Support Allowance Regulations 2013 other than by virtue of regulation 26 of those regulations.

**"MFET Limited"** means the company limited by guarantee (number 7121661) of that name, established for the purpose in particular of making payments in accordance with arrangements made with the Secretary of State to persons who have acquired HIV as a result of treatment by the NHS with blood or blood products;

**"Miscarriage of justice compensation payment"** means—

(a) a payment made under section 133(1) of the Criminal Justice Act 1988(a);  
or

(b) any other payment made by the Secretary of State, the Scottish Ministers or, in Northern Ireland, the Department of Justice, for the purpose of compensating a person—

(i) for a miscarriage of justice in criminal proceedings, or

(ii) for being wrongfully charged with a criminal offence;"

**"mobility supplement"** means a supplement to which point 13 of paragraph 89 refers;

**"mover"** means an applicant who changes the dwelling in which the applicant is resident, and in respect of which the applicant is liable to pay council tax, from a dwelling in the area of the authority to a dwelling in the area of a second billing authority;

the **"National Emergencies Trust"** means the registered charity of that name (number 1182809) established on 28<sup>th</sup> March 2019;

**"net earnings"** means such earnings as are calculated in accordance with point 50 of this scheme, as the case may be;

**"net profit"** means such profit as is calculated in accordance with point 59 of this scheme;

**"new dwelling"** means the dwelling to which the applicant has moved, or is about to move, in which the applicant will reside;

**"non-dependant"** has the meaning given by point 8 of this scheme;

**"occupational pension"** means any pension or other periodical payment under an occupational pension scheme but does not include any discretionary payment out of a fund established for relieving hardship in particular cases;

**"Parental bereavement leave"** means leave under section 80EA of the Employment Rights Act 1996;

**"partner"**, in relation to a person, means—

(a) where that person is a member of a couple, the other member of that couple;  
or

(b) where that person is polygamously married to two or more members of his household, any such member to whom he is married;

**“paternity leave”** means a period of absence from work on leave by virtue of section 80A or 80B of the Employment Rights Act 1996;

**“patient”** means a person (other than a person who is serving a sentence of imprisonment or detention in a youth custody institution) who is regarded as receiving free in-patient treatment within the meaning of regulation 2(4) and (5) of the Social Security (Hospital In-Patients) Regulations 2005;

**“pension age disability payment”** has the meaning given in regulation 2 of the Disability Assistance for Older People (Scotland) Regulations 2024;

**“pension fund holder”** means with respect to a personal pension scheme or an occupational pension scheme, the trustees, managers or scheme administrators, as the case may be, of the scheme concerned;

**“pensionable age”** has the meaning given by the rules in paragraph 1 of Schedule 4 to the Pensions Act 1995;

**“pensioner”** has the meaning given by point 2 of this scheme;

**“person on income support”** means a person in receipt of income support;

**“person treated as not being in Great Britain”** has the meaning given by point 10 of this scheme;

**“person who is not a pensioner”** has the meaning given by point 2 paragraph (b) of this scheme;

**“personal independence payment”** has the meaning given by Part 4 of the Welfare Reform Act 2012;

**“personal pension scheme”** means—

(a) a personal pension scheme as defined by section 1 of the Pension Schemes Act 1993;

(b) an annuity contract or trust scheme approved under section 620 or 621 of the Income and Corporation Taxes Act 1988 or a substituted contract within the meaning of section 622(3) of that Act which is treated as having become a registered pension scheme by virtue of paragraph 1(1)(f) of Schedule 36 to the Finance Act 2004;

(c) a personal pension scheme approved under Chapter 4 of Part 14 of the Income and Corporation Taxes Act 1988 which is treated as having become a registered pension scheme by virtue of paragraph 1(1)(g) of Schedule 36 to the Finance Act 2004;

**“policy of life insurance”** means any instrument by which the payment of money is assured on death (except death by accident only) or the happening of any contingency dependent on human life, or any instrument evidencing a contract which is subject to payment of premiums for a term dependent on human life;

**“polygamous marriage”** means any marriage to which point 4 of these rules applies;

**“the Post Office”** means Post Office Limited (registered number 02154540);

**“Post Office compensation payment”** means a payment made by the Post Office or the Secretary of State for the purpose of providing compensation or support which is—  
(a) in connection with the failings of the Horizon system; or

(b) otherwise payable following the judgment in *Bates and Others v Post Office Ltd* ((No. 3) “Common Issues”)(4);

“**qualifying age for state pension credit**” means (in accordance with section 1(2)(b) and (6) of the State Pension Credit Act 2002)—

(a) in the case of a woman, pensionable age; or

(b) in the case of a man, the age which is pensionable age in the case of a woman born on the same day as the man;

“**qualifying contributory benefit**” means—

(a) severe disablement allowance;

(b) incapacity benefit;

(c) contributory employment and support allowance;

“**qualifying income-related benefit**” means—

(a) income support;

(b) income-based jobseeker’s allowance;

(c) income-related employment and support allowance;

“**qualifying course**” means a qualifying course as defined for the purposes of Parts 2 and 4 of the Job Seeker’s Allowance Regulations 1996;

“qualifying person” means a person in respect of whom payment a Grenfell Tower support payment , a historical child abuse payment or a Windrush payment, a Post Office compensation payment, or a vaccine damage payment, an LGPT Financial Recognition Scheme payment or a miscarriage of justice compensation payment” has been made or has been made from the Fund, the Eileen Trust, MFET Limited, the Skipton Fund, the Caxton Foundation, The Scottish Infected Blood Support Scheme, an approved blood scheme, the London Emergencies Trust, the We Love Manchester Emergency Fund, the Windrush Compensation Scheme, the National Emergencies Trust, the Victims of Overseas Terrorism Compensation Scheme or the London Bombings Relief Charitable Fund;

“**reduction week**” means a period [of seven consecutive days] beginning with a Monday and ending with a Sunday;

“**relative**” means a close relative, grandparent, grandchild, uncle, aunt, nephew or niece;

“**relevant week**”, in relation to any particular day, means the week within which the day in question falls;

“**remunerative work**” has the meaning given by point 9 of this scheme;

“rent” means “eligible rent” to which regulation 12 of the Housing Benefit Regulations 2006 refer, less any deductions in respect of non-dependants which fall to be made under point 41 (non-dependant deductions) of this scheme;

“savings credit” shall be construed in accordance with sections 1 and 3 of the State Pension Credit Act 2002;

“**Scottish Adult Disability Living Allowance**” has the meaning given in regulation 2 of the Disability Assistance (Scottish Adult Disability Living Allowance) Regulations 2025(b);”.

“**Scottish basic rate**” means the rate of income tax of that name calculated in accordance with section 6A of the Income Tax Act 2007;

**"The Scottish infected Blood Scheme"** means the scheme of that name administered by the Common Services Agency (constituted under section 10 of the National Health Service (Scotland) Act 1978(b));

**"Scottish taxpayer"** has the same meaning as in Chapter 2 of Part 4A of the Scotland Act 1998;

**"second authority"** means the authority to which a mover is liable to make payments for the new dwelling;

**"self-employed earner"** is to be construed in accordance with section 2(1)(b) of the SSCBA;

**"self-employment route"** means assistance in pursuing self-employed earner's employment whilst participating in—

(a) an employment zone programme;

(b) a programme provided by or under arrangements made pursuant to section 2 of the Employment and Training Act 1973 (functions of the Secretary of State) or section 2 of the Enterprise and New Towns (Scotland) Act 1990 (functions in relation to training for employment, etc); or

(c) the Employment, Skills and Enterprise Scheme;

**"single applicant"** means an applicant who neither has a partner nor is a lone parent;

**"the Skipton Fund"** means the ex-gratia payment scheme administered by the Skipton Fund Limited, incorporated on 25th March 2004, for the benefit of certain persons suffering from hepatitis C and other persons eligible for payment in accordance with the scheme's provisions;

**"sports award"** means an award made by one of the Sports Councils named in section 23(2) of the National Lottery etc Act 1993 out of sums allocated to it for distribution under that section;

**"the SSCBA"** means the Social Security Contributions and Benefits Act 1992;

**"state pension credit"** means state pension credit under the State Pension Credit Act 2002;

**"Statutory parental bereavement pay"** means a payment to which a person is entitled in accordance with section 171ZZ6 of the Social Security Contribution and Benefits Act 1992;

**"student"** means a person, other than a person in receipt of a training allowance, who is attending or undertaking—

(a) a course of study at an educational establishment; or

(b) a qualifying course;

**"tax year"** means a period beginning with 6th April in one year and ending with 5th April in the next;

**"These regulations"** means the Council Tax Reduction Schemes (prescribed requirements) (England) 2012 (as amended), many of the references to these regulations have been changed to refer to these rules;

**"training allowance"** means an allowance (whether by way of periodical grants or otherwise) payable—

(a) out of public funds by a Government department or by or on behalf of the Secretary of State, Skills Development Scotland, Scottish Enterprise or Highlands

and Islands Enterprise, the Young People’s Learning Agency for England, the Chief Executive of Skills Funding or the Welsh Ministers;

(b) to a person for his maintenance or in respect of a member of his family; and

(c) for the period, or part of the period, during which he is following a course of training or instruction provided by, or in pursuance of arrangements made with, that department or approved by that department in relation to him or so provided or approved by or on behalf of the Secretary of State, Skills Development Scotland, Scottish Enterprise or Highlands and Islands Enterprise or the Welsh Ministers, but it does not include an allowance paid by any Government department to or in respect of a person by reason of the fact that he is following a course of full-time education, other than under arrangements made under section 2 of the Employment and Training Act 1973 or is training as a teacher;

**“the Trusts”** means the Macfarlane Trust, the Macfarlane (Special Payments) Trust and the Macfarlane (Special Payments) (No 2) Trust and **“Trustees”** is to be construed accordingly;

**“universal credit”** has the meaning given by section 1 of the Welfare Reform Act 2012;

**“vaccine damage payment”** means a payment made under the Vaccine Damage Payments Act 1979;

**“the Victims of Overseas Terrorism Compensation Scheme”** means the scheme of that name established by the Ministry of Justice in 2012 under section 47 of the Crime and Security Act 2010;

**“voluntary organisation”** means a body, other than a public or local authority, the activities of which are carried on otherwise than for profit;

**“war disablement pension”** means any retired pay or pension or allowance payable in respect of disablement under an instrument specified in section 639(2) of the Income Tax (Earnings and Pensions) Act 2003;

**“war pension”** means a war disablement pension, a war widow’s pension or a war widower’s pension;

**“war widow’s pension”** means any pension or allowance payable to a woman as a widow under an instrument specified in section 639(2) of the Income Tax (Earnings and Pensions) Act 2003 in respect of the death or disablement of any person

**“war widower’s pension”** means any pension or allowance payable to a man as a widower or to a surviving civil partner under an instrument specified in section 639(2) of the Income Tax (Earnings and Pensions) Act 2003 in respect of the death or disablement of any person;

**“water charges”** means—

a) as respects England and Wales, any water and sewerage charges under Chapter 1 of Part 5 of the Water Industry Act 1991,

(b) as respects Scotland, any water and sewerage charges established by Scottish Water under a charges scheme made under section 29A of the Water Industry (Scotland) Act 2002, in so far as such charges are in respect of the dwelling which a person occupies as his home;

**"the We Love Manchester Emergency Fund"** means the registered charity of that name (number 1173260) established on 30 May 2017;

**"The Windrush Compensation Scheme"** means-

- (a) the scheme of that name operated by the Secretary of State for the purpose of compensating individuals who have suffered loss in connection with being unable to demonstrate their lawful status in the United Kingdom; and
- (b) the policy entitled "Windrush Scheme: Support in urgent and exceptional circumstances" which was operated by the Secretary of State for the purpose of compensating individuals who, for urgent and exceptional reasons, required support in advance of the scheme referred to in paragraph (a) of this definition becoming operational;

"Windrush payment" means a payment made under the Windrush Compensation Scheme (Expenditure) Act 2020

**"working tax credit"** means a working tax credit under section 10 of the Tax Credits Act 2002;

**"young person"** means a person who falls within the definition of qualifying young person in section 142 of the SSCBA.

(2) In these rules, where an amount is to be rounded to the nearest penny, a fraction of a penny must be disregarded if it is less than half a penny and must otherwise be treated as a whole penny.

(3) For the purpose of these rules, a person is on an income-based jobseeker's allowance on any day in respect of which an income-based jobseeker's allowance is payable to him and on any day—

(a) in respect of which he satisfies the conditions for entitlement to an income-based jobseeker's allowance but where the allowance is not paid because of a reduction in accordance with section 19 or 19A or regulations made under section 17A or 19B of the Jobseekers Act 1995 (circumstances in which a jobseeker's allowance is not payable);

(b) which is a waiting day for the purposes of paragraph 4 of Schedule 1 to that Act and which falls immediately before a day in respect of which an income-based jobseeker's allowance is payable to him or would be payable to him but for section 19 or 19A or regulations made under section 17A or 19B of that Act; or

(c) in respect of which an income-based jobseeker's allowance would be payable but for a restriction imposed pursuant to section 6B, 7, 8 or 9 of the Social Security Fraud Act 2001 (loss of benefit provisions).

(4) For the purposes of these rules, a person is on an income-related employment and support allowance on any day in respect of which an income-related employment and support allowance is payable to him and on any day—

(a) in respect of which he satisfies the conditions for entitlement to an income-related employment and support allowance but where the allowance is not paid in accordance with section 18 of the Welfare Reform Act 2007 (disqualification); or

(b) which is a waiting day for the purposes of paragraph 2 of Schedule 2 to that Act and which falls immediately before a day in respect of which an income-related

employment and support allowance is payable to him or would be payable to him but for section 18 of that Act.

(5) For the purposes of these rules, two persons shall be taken to be estranged only if their estrangement constitutes a breakdown of the relationship between them.

(6) In these rules, references to any person in receipt of state pension credit include a person who would be in receipt of state pension credit but for regulation 13 of the State Pension Credit Regulations 2002(a) (small amounts of state pension credit).

(7) References in these rules to an applicant participating as a service user are to-

(a) a person who is being consulted by or on behalf of-

(i) a body which has a statutory duty to provide services in the field of health, social care or social housing; or

(ii) a body which conducts research or undertakes monitoring for the purpose of planning or improving such services, in their capacity as a user, potential user, carer of a user or person otherwise affected by the provision of those services;

(aa) A person being consulted by or on behalf of -

(i) the Secretary of State in relation to any of the Secretary of State's functions in the field of social security or child support or under section 2 of the Employment and Training Act 1973; or

(ii) a body which conducts research or undertakes monitoring for the purpose of planning or improving such functions, in their capacity as a person affected or potentially affected by the exercise of those functions or the care of such a person; or

(b) the carer of a person consulted as described in point 1 paragraph 7 subparagraph (a) or (aa) where the carer is not being consulted as described in the subparagraph.

## **2 Meaning of “pensioner” and “person who is not a pensioner”:**

(1) In these rules a person is

(a) a “pensioner” if—

(i) he has attained the qualifying age for state pension credit; and

(ii) he is not and, if he has a partner, his partner is not -

(aa) a person on income support, on an income-based jobseeker's allowance, or on an income-related employment and support allowance; or

(bb) a person with an award of universal credit; and

(b) a “person who is not a pensioner” if—

(i) he has not attained the qualifying age for state pension credit; or

(ii) he has attained the qualifying age for state pension credit and he, or if he has a partner, his partner, is

(aa) a person on income support, on income-based jobseeker's allowance or an income-related employment and support allowance; or

(bb) a person with an award of universal credit.

(2) For the purposes of sub-paragraphs (a)(ii)(bb) and (b)(ii)(bb) in paragraph (1) an award of universal credit is to be disregarded

(a) during the relevant period; or

(b) where regulation 60A of the Universal Credit (Transitional Provisions) Regulations 2014 applies in respect of the award.

(3) In this regulation-

“assessment period” has the same meaning as in the Universal Credit Regulations 2013;

“relevant period” means the period beginning with the day on which P and each partner of P has attained the qualifying age for state pension credit and ending with the day on which the last assessment period for universal credit ends.

### **3 Meaning of “couple”:**

(1) In these rules “couple” means—

(a) a man and woman who are married to each other and are members of the same household;

(b) a man and woman who are not married to each other but are living together as husband and wife;

(c) two people of the same sex who are civil partners of each other and are members of the same household; or

(d) two people of the same sex who are not civil partners of each other but are living together as if they were civil partners.

(2) Two people of the same sex are to be treated as living together as if they were civil partners if, and only if, they would be treated as living together as husband and wife were they of opposite sexes.

### **4 Polygamous marriages:**

(1) This point applies to any case where—

(a) a person is a husband or wife by virtue of a marriage entered into under a law which permits polygamy; and

(b) either party to the marriage has for the time being any spouse additional to the other party.

(2) For the purposes of point 4 neither party to the marriage is to be taken to be a member of a couple.

### **5 Meaning of “family”:**

(1) In these rules “family” means—

(a) a couple;

- (b) a couple and a member of the same household for whom one of them is or both are responsible and who is a child or a young person; or
  - (c) a person who is not a member of a couple and a member of the same household for whom that person is responsible and who is a child or a young person.
- (2) The references to a child or young person in point 5 sub-paragraph (1)(b) and (1)(c) include a child or young person in respect of whom section 145A of the SSCBA applies for the purposes of entitlement to child benefit, but only for the period prescribed under section 145A(1).
- (3) The references to a young person in point 5 sub-paragraphs (1)(b) and (1)(c) do not include a young person who is —
- (a) on income support, an income-based jobseeker's allowance or an income-related employment and support allowance;
  - (b) a person to whom section 6 of the Children (Leaving Care) Act 2000 (exclusion from benefits) applies; or
  - (c) entitled to an award of universal credit.

**6 Circumstances in which a person is to be treated as responsible or not responsible for another:**

- (1) A person is to be treated as responsible for a child or young person who is normally living with him, including a child or young person to whom point 6 paragraph (2) applies.
- (2) Where a child or young person spends equal amounts of time in different households, or where there is a question as to which household he is living in, the child or young person shall be treated for the purposes of point 6 paragraph (1) as normally living with—
- (a) the person who is receiving child benefit in respect of that child or young person, or
  - (b) if there is no such person—
    - (i) where only one claim for child benefit has been made in respect of him, the person who made that claim, or
    - (ii) in any other case the person who has the primary responsibility for him.
- (3) For the purposes of these rules a child or young person is the responsibility of only one person in any reduction week and any person other than the one treated as responsible for the child or young person under this point is to be treated as not so responsible.

**7 Households:**

- (1) Subject to point 7 paragraphs (2) and (3), an applicant and any partner and, where the applicant or his partner is treated (by virtue of point 7) as responsible for a child or young person, that child or young person and any child of that child or young person, are to be treated as members of the same household notwithstanding that any of them is temporarily absent from that household.

- (2) A child or young person is not to be treated as a member of the applicant's household where he is —
- (a) placed with the applicant or his partner by a local authority under section 23(2)(a) of the Children Act 1989) or by a voluntary organisation under section 59(1)(a) of that Act, or section 81(2) of the Social Services and Well-being (Wales) Act 2014 (ways in which looked after children are to be accommodated and maintained) or in Scotland boarded out or placed with the applicant or his partner under a relevant enactment; or
  - (b) placed, or in Scotland boarded out, with the applicant or his partner prior to adoption; or
  - (c) placed for adoption with the applicant or his partner in accordance with the Adoption and Children Act 2002 or the Adoption Agencies (Scotland) Regulations 2009 or the Adoption (Northern Ireland) Order 1987.
- (3) Subject to point 7 paragraph (4), point 7 paragraph (1) does not apply to a child or young person who is not living with the applicant and who—
- (a) is being looked after by, or in Scotland is in the care of, a local authority under a relevant enactment; or
  - (b) has been placed, or in Scotland boarded out, with a person other than the applicant prior to adoption; or
  - (c) has been placed for adoption in accordance with the Adoption and Children Act 2002 or the Adoption Agencies (Scotland) Regulations 2009.
- (4) An authority must treat a child or young person to whom point 7 subparagraph (3)(a) applies as being a member of the applicant's household in any reduction week where—
- (a) that child or young person lives with the applicant for part or all of that reduction week; and
  - (b) the authority considers that it is reasonable to do so taking into account the nature and frequency of that child's or young person's visits.
- (5) In this regulation "relevant enactment" means—
- (a) the Army Act 1955;
  - (b) the Air Force Act 1955;
  - (c) the Naval Discipline Act 1957;
  - (d) the Matrimonial Proceedings (Children) Act 1958;
  - (e) the Social Work (Scotland) Act 1968;
  - (f) the Family Law Reform Act 1969;
  - (g) the Children and Young Persons Act 1969;
  - (h) the Matrimonial Causes Act 1973;
  - (i) the Children Act 1975;
  - (j) the Domestic Proceedings and Magistrates' Courts Act 1978;
  - (k) the Adoption and Children (Scotland) Act 2007;
  - (l) the Family Law Act 1986;
  - (m) the Children Act 1989;
  - (n) the Children (Scotland) Act 1995;
  - (na) the Children's Hearings (Scotland) Act 2011(c ); and

(o) the Legal Aid, Sentencing and Punishment of Offenders Act 2012.

**8 Non-dependants:**

(1) In these rules, “non-dependant” means any person, except someone to whom point 8 paragraph (2) applies, who normally resides with an applicant or with whom an applicant normally resides.

(2) This paragraph applies to—

(a) any member of the applicant’s family;

(b) if the applicant is polygamously married, any partner of his and any child or young person who is a member of his household and for whom he or one of his partners is responsible;

(c) a child or young person who is living with the applicant but who is not a member of his household by virtue of point 7 (households);

(d) subject to point 8 paragraph (3), any person who, with the applicant, is jointly and severally liable to pay council tax in respect of a dwelling for any day under sections 6, 7 or 75 of the 1992 Act (persons liable to pay council tax);

(e) subject to point 8 paragraph (3), any person who is liable to make payments on a commercial basis to the applicant or the applicant’s partner in respect of the occupation of the dwelling;

(f) a person who lives with the applicant in order to care for him or a partner of his and who is engaged by a charitable or voluntary organisation which makes a charge to the applicant or his partner for the services provided by that person.

(3) Excepting persons to whom point 8 sub-paragraphs (2)(a) to (c) and (f) refer, a person to whom any of the following sub-paragraphs applies shall be a non-dependant—

(a) a person who resides with the person to whom he is liable to make payments in respect of the dwelling and either—

(i) that person is a close relative of his or his partner; or

(ii) the tenancy or other agreement between them is other than on a commercial basis;

(b) a person whose liability to make payments in respect of the dwelling appears to the authority to have been created to take advantage of a scheme except someone who was, for any period within the eight weeks prior to the creation of the agreement giving rise to the liability to make such payments, otherwise liable to make payments of rent in respect of the same dwelling;

(c) a person who becomes jointly and severally liable with the applicant for council tax in respect of a dwelling and who was, at any time during the period of eight weeks prior to his becoming so liable, a non-dependant of one or more of the other residents in that dwelling who are so liable for the tax, unless the change giving rise to the new liability was not made to take advantage of a scheme.

## **9 Remunerative work:**

(1) Subject to the following provisions of this point, a person shall be treated for the purposes of these rules as engaged in remunerative work if he is engaged, or, where his hours of work fluctuate, he is engaged on average, for not less than 16 hours a week, in work for which payment is made or which is done in expectation of payment.

(2) Subject to point 9 paragraph (3), in determining the number of hours for which a person is engaged in work where his hours of work fluctuate, regard shall be had to the average of hours worked over—

(a) if there is a recognisable cycle of work, the period of one complete cycle (including, where the cycle involves periods in which the person does no work, those periods but disregarding any other absences);

(b) in any other case, the period of 5 weeks immediately prior to the date of claim, or such other length of time as may, in the particular case, enable the person's weekly average hours of work to be determined more accurately.

(3) Where, for the purposes of point 9 sub-paragraph (2)(a), a person's recognisable cycle of work at a school, other educational establishment or other place of employment is one year and includes periods of school holidays or similar vacations during which he does not work, those periods and any other periods not forming part of such holidays or vacations during which he is not required to work must be disregarded in establishing the average hours for which he is engaged in work.

(4) Where no recognisable cycle has been established in respect of a person's work, regard must be had to the number of hours or, where those hours will fluctuate, the average of the hours, which he is expected to work in a week.

(5) A person must be treated as engaged in remunerative work during any period for which he is absent from work referred to in point 9 paragraph (1) if the absence is either without good cause or by reason of a recognised, customary or other holiday.

(6) A person on income support, an income-based jobseeker's allowance or an income-related employment and support allowance for more than 3 days in any reduction week will be treated as not being in remunerative work in that week.

(7) A person must not be treated as engaged in remunerative work on any day on which the person is on maternity leave, paternity leave or adoption leave, or is absent from work because he is ill.

(8) A person must not be treated as engaged in remunerative work on any day on which he is engaged in an activity in respect of which—

(a) a sports award has been made, or is to be made, to him; and

(b) no other payment is made or is expected to be made to him.

## **10 Persons treated as not being in Great Britain:**

- (1) Persons treated as not being in Great Britain are a class of person prescribed for the purposes of paragraph 2(9)(b) of Schedule 1A to the 1992 Act and which must not be included in an authority's scheme.
- (2) Except where a person falls within point 10 paragraphs (5) or (6), a person is to be treated as not being in Great Britain if the person is not habitually resident in the United Kingdom, the Channel Islands, the Isle of Man or the Republic of Ireland.
- (3) A person must not be treated as habitually resident in the United Kingdom, the Channel Islands, the Isle of Man or the Republic of Ireland unless the person has a right to reside in one of those places.
- (4) For the purposes of point 10 paragraph (3), a right to reside does not include a right which exists by virtue of, or in accordance with—
- (a) Regulation 13 of the EEA Regulations;
  - (aa) regulation 14 of the EEA Regulations, but only in a case where the right exists under that regulation because the person is—
    - (i) a jobseeker for the purpose of the definition of “qualified person” in regulation 6(1) of those Regulations, or
    - (ii) a family member (within the meaning of regulation 7 of those Regulations) of such a jobseeker;
  - (b) regulation 16 of the EEA Regulations, but only in a case where the right exists under that regulation because the applicant satisfies the criteria in paragraph 5 of that regulation.
- (4A) For the purposes of point 10 paragraph 3, a right to reside does not include a right to reside which exists by virtue of a person having been granted limited leave to enter, or remain in, the United Kingdom under the Immigration Act 1971 (1971 c 77) by virtue of-
- (a)
  - (b) Appendix EU to the immigration rules made under section 3(2) of that Act,
  - (c) being a person with a Zambrano right to reside as defined in Annex 1 of Appendix EU to the immigration rules made under section 3(2) of that Act.; or
  - (d) having arrived in the United Kingdom with an entry clearance that was granted under Appendix EU (Family Permit) to the immigration rules made under section 3(2) of that Act.
- (4B) Paragraph (4A) (b) does not apply to a person who-
- (a) has a right to reside granted by virtue of being a family member of a relevant person of Northern Ireland; and
  - (b) would have a right to reside under the EEA Regulations if the relevant person of Northern Ireland were an EEA national, provided that the right to reside does not fall within paragraph (4)(a) or (b).
- (5) A person falls within point 10 paragraph 5 if the person is—
- (za) a person granted leave in accordance with the immigration rules made under section 3(2) of the immigration Act 1971, where such leave is granted by virtue of-
    - (i) the Afghan Relocations and Assistance Policy; or

(ii) the previous scheme for locally-employed staff in Afghanistan (sometimes referred to as the ex-gratia scheme):

(zb) a person in Great Britain not coming within paragraph (za) or (eiv) who left Afghanistan in connection with the collapse of the Afghan government that took place on 15 August 2021;

(zc) a person in Great Britain who was residing in Ukraine immediately before 1 January 2022, left Ukraine in connection with the Russian invasion which took place on 24 February 2022 and -

(i) has been granted leave in accordance with immigration rules made under section 3(2) of the Immigration Act 1971;

(ii) has a right of abode in the United Kingdom within the meaning given in section 2 of that Act; or

(iii) does not require leave to enter or remain in the United Kingdom in accordance with section 3ZA of that Act;

(zd) a person who was residing in Israel, the West Bank, the Gaza Strip, East Jerusalem, the Golan Heights or Lebanon immediately before 7th October 2023, left Israel, the West Bank, the Gaza Strip, East Jerusalem, the Golan Heights or Lebanon in connection with the Hamas terrorist attack in Israel on 7th October 2023 or the violence which rapidly escalated in the region following the attack and—

(i) has been granted leave in accordance with immigration rules made under section 3(2) of the Immigration Act 1971(7),

(ii) has a right of abode in the United Kingdom within the meaning given in section 2 of that Act(8), or

(iii) does not require leave to enter or remain in the United Kingdom in accordance with section 3ZA of that Act;

(ze) a person who was residing in Sudan before 15th April 2023, left Sudan in connection with the violence which rapidly escalated on 15th April 2023 in Khartoum and across Sudan and—

“(zf) a person who—

(i) was residing in a country or territory outside Great Britain immediately before His Majesty’s Government—

(aa) provided public information to advise British nationals to leave that country or territory, or

(bb) arranged the evacuation of British nationals from that country or territory;

(ii) has left that country or territory and is present in Great Britain; and

(iii) has—

(aa) a right of abode in the United Kingdom within the meaning given in section 2 of the Immigration Act 1971(c),

(bb) no requirement of leave to enter or remain in the United Kingdom in accordance with section 3ZA of that Act(d),

(cc) leave to enter or remain in the United Kingdom in accordance with immigration rules made under section 3(2) of that Act,

or

(dd) leave on a discretionary basis outside of rules made under section 3(2) of that Act; or

(zg) a person who, as part of a safe and legal humanitarian immigration route, has leave to enter or remain in the United Kingdom in accordance with immigration rules made under section 3(2) of the Immigration Act 1971 or leave on a discretionary basis outside of rules;”;

(i) has been granted leave in accordance with immigration rules made under section 3(2) of the Immigration Act 1971,

(ii) has a right of abode in the United Kingdom within the meaning given in section 2 of that Act, or

(iii) does not require leave to enter or remain in the United Kingdom in accordance with section 3ZA of that Act;

(a) a qualified person for the purposes of regulation 6 of the EEA Regulations as a worker or a self-employed person;

(b) a family member of a person referred to in point 10 sub-paragraph (5)(a);

(c) a person who has a right to reside permanently in the United Kingdom by virtue of regulation 15(1)(c), (d) or (e) of the EEA Regulations;

(ca) a family member of a relevant person of Northern Ireland, with a right to reside which falls within paragraph (4A)(b), provided that the relevant person of Northern Ireland falls within paragraph (5)(a), or would do so but for the fact that they are not an EEA national;

(cb) a frontier worker within the meaning of regulation 3 of the Citizens’ Rights (Frontier Workers) (EU Exit) Regulations 2020;

(cc) a family member of a person referred to in sub-paragraph (cb), who has been granted limited leave to enter, or remain in, the United Kingdom by virtue of Appendix EU to the immigration rules made under section 3(2) of the Immigration Act 1971;

(d) a person recorded by the Secretary of State as a refugee within the definition in Article 1 of the Convention relating to the Status of Refugees done at Geneva on 28th July 1951, as extended by Article 1(2) of the Protocol relating to the Status of Refugees done at New York on 31st January 1967;

(e) a person who has been granted, or who is deemed to have been granted leave outside the rules made under section 3(2) of the Immigration Act 1971(b)

(i) discretionary leave to enter or remain in the United Kingdom,

(ii) leave to remain under the Destitution Domestic Violence concession(c) which came into effect on 1st April 2012,

(iii) leave deemed to have been granted by virtue of regulation 3 of the Displaced Persons (Temporary Protection) Regulations 2005(d); or

- (iv) granted under the Afghan Citizens Resettlement Scheme;
- (f) a person who has humanitarian protection granted under those rules;
- (g) a person who is not a person subject to immigration control within the meaning of section 115(9) of the Immigration and Asylum Act 1999 and who is in the United Kingdom as a result of his deportation, expulsion or other removal by compulsion of law from another country to the United Kingdom.
- (h) in receipt of income support, or on an income-related employment and support allowance;
- (ha) in receipt of an income-based jobseeker's allowance who has a right to reside other than a right to reside falling within point 10 paragraph (4); or
- (hb) in receipt of universal credit.;
- (5A) Paragraph (5)(zf) does not apply after the expiry of 6 months beginning on the day on which the public information is issued, or the evacuation is started.
- (6) A person falls within this paragraph if the person is a Crown servant or member of Her Majesty's forces posted overseas.
- (7) A person mentioned in point 10 paragraph (6) is posted overseas if the person is performing overseas the duties of a Crown servant or member of Her Majesty's forces and was, immediately before the posting or the first of consecutive postings, habitually resident in the United Kingdom.
- (8) In this point—
  - “**claim for asylum**” has the same meaning as in section 94(1) of the Immigration and Asylum Act 1999;
  - “**Crown servant**” means a person holding an office or employment under the Crown;
  - “**EEA National**” has the meaning given in regulation 2(1) of the EEA Regulations;
  - “**EEA Regulations**” means the Immigration (European Economic Area) Regulations 2016; and references to the EEA Regulations are to be read with Schedule 4 to the Immigration and Social Security Co-ordination (EU Withdrawal) Act 2020 (Consequential, Savings, Transitional and Transitory Provisions) Regulations 2020;
  - “**Family Member**” has the meaning given in regulation 7(1)(a), (b) or (c) of the EEA Regulations, except that regulation 7(4) of the EEA Regulations does not apply for the purposes of paragraphs (4B) and (5)(ca);
  - “**Her Majesty's forces**” has the same meaning as in the Armed Forces Act 2006.
  - “**Relevant person of Northern Ireland**” has the meaning given in Annex 1 of Appendix EU to the immigration rules made under section 3(2) of the Immigration Act 1971.

### **11 Persons subject to immigration control:**

- (1) Subject to point 11 paragraph (1A), persons subject to immigration control are a class of person prescribed for the purposes of paragraph 2(9)(b) of Schedule 1A to the 1992 Act and who must not be included in an authority's scheme.

(1A) "A person who is a national of a state which has ratified the European Convention on Social and Medical Assistance(9) (done in Paris on 11th December 1953) or a state which has ratified the Council of Europe Social Charter (signed in Turin on 18th October 1961) and who is lawfully present in the United Kingdom is not a person subject to immigration control for the purpose of paragraph (1).".

(2) "Person subject to immigration control" has the same meaning as in section 115(9) of the Immigration and Asylum Act 1999.

## **12 Procedure by which a person may apply for a reduction under this scheme:**

1. Point 12 paragraphs 2 to 8 apply to an application for a reduction under this scheme.

2. An application may be made—

(a) in writing,

(b) by means of an electronic communication in accordance with these scheme rules,

(c) where the authority has published a telephone number for the purpose of receiving such applications by telephone.

(d) A LACI or a LAID or a UC LCTR notification when received will also be treated as an application for Council Tax Reduction.

3. (1) An application which is made in writing must be made to the offices of the authority on a properly completed form.

(2) The form must be provided free of charge by the authority for the purpose.

4. (1) Where an application made in writing is defective because—

(a) it was made on the form supplied for the purpose but that form is not accepted by the authority as being properly completed; or

(b) it was made in writing but not on the form approved for the purpose and the authority does not accept the application as being in a written form which is sufficient in the circumstances of the case having regard to the sufficiency of the written information and evidence, the authority may, in a case to which sub-paragraph (a) applies, request the applicant to complete the defective application or, in the case to which sub-paragraph (b) applies, supply the applicant with the approved form or request further information and evidence.

(2) An application made on a form provided by an authority is properly completed if it is completed in accordance with the instructions on the form, including any instructions to provide information and evidence in connection with the application.

5. (1) If an application made by electronic communication is defective an authority must provide the person making the application with an opportunity to correct the defect.

(2) An application made by electronic communication is defective if the applicant does not provide all the information the authority requires.

6. In a particular case the authority may determine that an application made by telephone is only valid if the person making the application approves a written statement of his circumstances provided by the authority.

7. (1) If an application made by telephone is defective the authority must provide the person making the application with an opportunity to correct the defect.

(2) An application made by telephone is defective if the applicant does not provide all the information the authority requests during the telephone call.

8. Transition - a claim for Council Tax Benefit in respect of which there is an award of entitlement at the end of the day of 31 March 2013, or in respect of which no decision has been made, will be treated as a claim for Council Tax Reduction from 1 April 2013. This may apply to claims for Council Tax Benefit which by 31 March 2013 have been refused as having no entitlement but are subsequently revised so there is entitlement on 31 March 2013.

### **13 Procedure by which a person may make an appeal against certain decisions of the authority:**

(1) A person who is aggrieved by a decision of an authority which affects—

(a) the person's entitlement to a reduction under its scheme, or

(b) the amount of any reduction to which that person is entitled,

may serve a written notice on that authority stating the matter by which, and the grounds on which, he is aggrieved.

(2) The authority must—

(a) consider the matter to which the notice relates,

(b) notify the aggrieved person in writing—

(i) that the ground is not well founded, giving reasons for that belief; or

(ii) that steps have been taken to deal with the grievance, stating the steps taken.

(3) Where, following notification under point 13 sub-paragraphs (2)(b)(i) or (ii), the person is still aggrieved, or if the authority fails to notify the person aggrieved in accordance with point 13 sub-paragraph (2)(b) within two months of the service of his notice, he may appeal to a valuation tribunal under section 16 of the 1992 Act.

### **14 Procedure for an application to the authority for a reduction under section 13A(1)(c) of the 1992 Act:**

(1) An application to an authority for a reduction under section 13A(1)(c)(a) of the 1992 Act may be made—

(a) in writing,

(b) by means of an electronic communication in accordance with this scheme,

or

(c) where the authority has published a telephone number for the purpose of receiving such applications, by telephone.

(2) Where—

- (a) the authority has made a determination under section 13A(1)(c) in relation to a class of case in which liability is to be reduced; and
- (b) a person in that class would otherwise be entitled to a reduction under its scheme, that person's application for a reduction under the authority's scheme may also be treated as an application for a reduction under section 13A(1)(c).

#### **14A Homes from Ukraine Scheme:**

- (1) A Scheme must include provision that any payment made in connection with the Homes for Ukraine Scheme is to be disregarded in determining-
  - (a) an applicant's entitlement to a reduction under the scheme; or
  - (b) the amount of any reduction to which the applicant is entitled.
- (2) In this regulation- "the Homes for Ukraine Scheme" means the Homes for Ukraine sponsorship scheme which was announced in Parliament by the Secretary of State for Levelling Up, Housing and Communities on 14 March 2022.

#### **15 Interpretation:**

In defining (Electronic Communication) –

"information" includes an application, a certificate, notice or other evidence and "official computer system" means a computer system maintained by or on behalf of the authority for sending, receiving, processing or storing of any information.

#### **16 Conditions for the use of electronic communication:**

- (1) An authority may use an electronic communication in connection with an application for, and awards of, reductions under its scheme.
- (2) A person other than that authority may use an electronic communication in connection with the matters referred to in point 16 paragraph (1) if the conditions specified in point 16 paragraphs (3) to (6) are satisfied.
- (3) The first condition is that the person is for the time being permitted to use an electronic communication by an authorisation given by means of a direction of the Chief Executive of the authority.
- (4) The second condition is that the person uses an approved method of—
  - (a) authenticating the identity of the sender of the communication;
  - (b) electronic communication,
  - (c) authenticating any application or notice delivered by means of an electronic communication; and
- (d) subject to point 16 paragraph (7), submitting to the authority any information.
- (5) The third condition is that any information sent by means of an electronic communication is in a form approved for the purposes of this Part.
- (6) The fourth condition is that the person maintains such records in written or electronic form as may be specified in a direction given by the Chief Executive of the authority.

(7) Where the person uses any method other than the method approved of submitting any information that information is to be treated as not having been submitted.

(8) In this point “approved” means approved by means of a direction given by the Chief Executive of the authority for the purposes of this Part.

### **17 Use of intermediaries:**

The authority may use intermediaries in connection with—

- (a) the delivery of any information by means of an electronic communication; and
- (b) the authentication or security of anything transmitted by such means, and may require other persons to use intermediaries in connection with those matters.

### **18 Effect of delivering information by means of electronic communication:**

(1) Any information which is delivered by means of an electronic communication is to be treated as having been delivered in the manner or form required by any provision of an authority’s scheme, on the day the conditions imposed—

- (a) by this these scheme rules; and
- (b) by or under an enactment, are satisfied.

(2) An authority may determine that any information is to be treated as delivered on a different day (whether earlier or later) from the day provided for in point 18 paragraph (1).

(3) Information must not be taken to have been delivered to an official computer system by means of an electronic communication unless it is accepted by the system to which it is delivered.

### **19 Proof of identity of sender or recipient of information:**

If it is necessary to prove, for the purpose of any legal proceedings, the identity of—

- (a) the sender of any information delivered by means of an electronic communication to an official computer system; or
- (b) the recipient of any such information delivered by means of an electronic communication from an official computer system, the sender or recipient, as the case may be, is to be presumed to be the person whose name is recorded as such on that official computer system.

## **20 Proof of delivery of information:**

(1) If it is necessary to prove, for the purpose of any legal proceedings, that the use of an electronic communication has resulted in the delivery of any information this is presumed to have been the case where—

- (a) any such information has been delivered to the relevant authority, if the delivery of that information has been recorded on an official computer system; or
- (b) any such information has been delivered by the relevant authority, if the delivery of that information has been recorded on an official computer system.

(2) If it is necessary to prove, for the purpose of any legal proceedings, that the use of an electronic communication has resulted in the delivery of any such information, this is presumed not to be the case, if that information delivered to the authority has not been recorded on an official computer system.

(3) If it is necessary to prove, for the purpose of any legal proceedings, when any such information sent by means of an electronic communication has been received, the time and date of receipt is presumed to be that recorded on an official computer system.

## **21 Proof of content of information:**

If it is necessary to prove, for the purpose of any legal proceedings, the content of any information sent by means of an electronic communication, the content shall be presumed to be that recorded on an official computer system.

## **22 Extended Reduction: movers into an authority's area:**

22. Where—

- (a) an application is made to a billing authority (“the current authority”) for a reduction under this scheme, and
- (b) the applicant, or the partner of the applicant, is in receipt of an extended reduction from—
  - (i) another billing authority in England;
  - (ii) a billing authority in Wales;
  - (iii) a local authority in Scotland, or
  - (iv) a local authority in Northern Ireland,

the current billing authority must reduce any reduction to which the applicant is entitled under this scheme by the amount of that extended reduction.

The law requires that an Extended Reduction is offered to movers. This relates to people who have moved into the London Borough of Hillingdon from the area of another billing authority. It is no longer offered to working age applicants other than movers into the London Borough of Hillingdon.

### **23 Making an application:**

- (1) In the case of a couple or members of a polygamous marriage an application is to be made by whichever one of them they agree should so apply or, in default of agreement, by such one of them as the authority determines.
- (2) Where a person who is liable to pay council tax in respect of a dwelling is unable for the time being to act, and—
  - (a) a deputy has been appointed by the Court of Protection with power to claim, or as the case may be, receive benefit on his behalf; or
  - (b) in Scotland, his estate is being administered by a judicial factor or any guardian acting or appointed under the Adults with Incapacity (Scotland) Act 2000 who has power to apply or, as the case may be, receive benefit on his behalf; or
  - (c) an attorney with a general power or a power to apply or, as the case may be, receive benefit, has been appointed by that person under the Powers of Attorney Act 1971, the Enduring Powers of Attorney Act 1985 or the Mental Capacity Act 2005 or otherwise, that deputy, judicial factor, guardian or attorney, as the case may be, may make an application on behalf of that person.
- (3) Where a person who is liable to pay council tax in respect of a dwelling is unable for the time being to act and point 23 paragraph (2) does not apply to him, an authority may, upon written application made to them by a person who, if a natural person, is over the age of 18, appoint that person to exercise on behalf of the person who is unable to act, any right to which that person might be entitled under the authority's scheme and to receive and deal on his behalf with any sums payable to him.
- (4) Where a person who is liable to pay council tax in respect of a dwelling is for the time being unable to act and the Secretary of State has appointed a person to act on his behalf under regulation 33 of the Social Security (Claims and Payments) Regulations 1987 (persons unable to act), the authority may if that person agrees, treat him as if he had been appointed by them under point 23 paragraph (3).
- (5) Where the authority has made an appointment under point 23 paragraph (3) or treated a person as an appointee under point 23 paragraph (4)—
  - (a) it may at any time revoke the appointment;
  - (b) the person appointed may resign his office after having given 4 weeks notice in writing to the authority of his intention to do so;
  - (c) any such appointment terminates when the authority is notified of the appointment of a person mentioned in point 23 paragraph (2).
- (6) Anything required by an authority's scheme to be done by or to any person who is for the time being unable to act may be done by or to the persons mentioned in point 23 paragraph (2) above or by or to the person appointed or treated as appointed under this paragraph and the receipt of any such person so appointed shall be a good discharge to the authority for any sum paid.
- (7) The authority must—
  - (a) inform any person making an application of the duty imposed by point 27 paragraph (1);

- (b) explain the possible consequences (including prosecution) of failing to comply with that duty; and
- (c) set out the circumstances a change in which might affect entitlement to the reduction or its amount.

**24 Date on which an application is made:**

(1) Subject to point 24 paragraph (7), the date on which an application is made is—

(a) in a case where—

- (i) an award of income support, an income-based jobseeker's allowance or an income-related employment and support allowance or an award of universal credit has been made to the applicant or his partner, and
- (ii) the application for a reduction under this scheme is made within one month of the date on which the claim for that income support, jobseeker's allowance, employment and support allowance or universal credit was received at the appropriate DWP office, the first day of entitlement to income support, an income-based jobseeker's allowance, an income-related employment and support allowance or universal credit arising from that claim;

(b) in a case where—

- (i) an applicant or his partner is a person on income support, an income-based jobseeker's allowance or an income-related employment and support allowance or has an award of universal credit,
- (ii) the applicant becomes liable for the first time to pay council tax in respect of the dwelling which he occupies as his home, and
- (iii) the application to the authority is received at the authority's offices within one month of the date of the change, the date on which the change takes place;

(c) In a case where—

- (i) the applicant is the former partner of a person who was, at the date of his death or their separation, entitled to a reduction under this scheme, and
- (ii) where the applicant makes an application for a reduction under this scheme within one month of the date of the death or the separation, the date of the death or separation;

(d) except where point 24 sub-paragraph 1(a), 1(b) or 1(f) is satisfied, in a case where a properly completed application is received within one month (or such longer period as the authority considers reasonable) of the date on which an application form was issued to the applicant following the applicant first notifying, by whatever means, the authority of an intention to make an application, the date of first notification;

(e) A claim for Council Tax Benefit in respect of which there is an award of entitlement at the end of the day of 31 March 2013, or in respect of which no decision has been made, will be treated as a claim for Council Tax Reduction from 1 April 2013. This may apply to claims for Council Tax Benefit which by 31 March 2013 have

been refused as having no entitlement but are subsequently revised so there is entitlement at 31 March 2013.

(f) In any other case, the date on which the application is received at the offices of the authority.

(2) For the purposes only of point 24 sub-paragraph (1)(a) a person who has been awarded an income-based jobseeker's allowance or an income-related employment and support allowance is to be treated as entitled to that allowance for any days which immediately precede the first day in that award and on which he would, but for regulations made under—

(a) in the case of income-based jobseeker's allowance, paragraph 4 of 227 Schedule 1 to the Jobseekers Act 1995 (waiting days); or

(b) in the case of income-related employment and support allowance, paragraph 2 of Schedule 2 to the Welfare Reform Act 2007 (waiting days), have been entitled to that allowance.

(3) Where the defect referred to in point 12 —

(a) is corrected within one month (or such longer period as the authority considers reasonable) of the date the authority last drew attention to it, the authority is to treat the application as if it had been duly made in the first instance;

(b) is not corrected within one month (or such longer period as the authority considers reasonable) of the date the authority last drew attention to it, the authority is to treat the application as if it had been duly made in the first instance where it considers it has sufficient information to decide on the application.

(4) The authority is to treat a defective application as if it had been validly made in the first instance if, in any particular case, the conditions specified in point 24 sub-paragraph (5)(a), (b) or (c) are satisfied.

(5) The conditions are that—

(a) where point 12 sub-paragraph (4)a) (incomplete form) applies, the authority receives at the offices of the authority the properly completed application or the information requested to complete it or the evidence within one month of the request, or such longer period as the authority may consider reasonable; or

(b) where point 12 sub-paragraph (4)(b) (application not on approved form or further information requested by authority) applies—

(i) the approved form sent to the applicant is received at the offices of the authority properly completed within one month of it having been sent to him; or, as the case may be,

(ii) the applicant supplies whatever information or evidence was requested under point 12 sub-paragraph (4)(b) within one month of the request, or, in either case, within such longer period as the authority may consider reasonable; or

(c) where the authority has requested further information, the authority receives at its offices the properly completed application or the information requested to complete it within one month of the request or within such longer period as the authority considers reasonable.

(6) Except in the case of an application made by a person treated as not being in Great Britain, where a person has not become liable for council tax to the authority

but it is anticipated that he will become so liable within the period of 8 weeks (the relevant period), he may apply for a reduction under this scheme at any time in that period in respect of that tax and, provided that liability arises within the relevant period, the authority is to treat the application as having been made on the day on which the liability for the tax arises.

(7) Except in the case of an application made by a person treated as not being in Great Britain, where the applicant is not entitled to a reduction under this scheme in the reduction week immediately following the date of his application but the authority is of the opinion that unless there is a change of circumstances he will be entitled to a reduction under this scheme for a period beginning not later than the thirteenth reduction week following the date on which the application is made, the authority may treat the application as made on a date in the reduction week immediately preceding the first reduction week of that period of entitlement and award a reduction accordingly.

(8) In the case of a person who has attained, or whose partner has attained the age which is 17 weeks younger than the qualifying age for state pension credit, point 24 paragraph 7 shall apply as if for the reference to the thirteenth reduction week, there was substituted a reference to the seventeenth reduction week.

## **25 Information and evidence:**

(1) Subject to point 25 paragraph (3), a person who makes an application for a reduction under this scheme must satisfy point 25 paragraph (2) in relation both to himself and to any other person in respect of whom he is making the application.

(2) This point 25 paragraph (2) is satisfied in relation to a person if—

(a) the application is accompanied by—

(i) a statement of the person's national insurance number and information or evidence establishing that that number has been allocated to the person; or

(ii) information or evidence enabling the authority to ascertain the national insurance number that has been allocated to the person; or

(b) the person has made an application for a national insurance number to be allocated to him and the application for the reduction is accompanied by—

(i) evidence of the application for a national insurance number to be so allocated; and

(ii) the information or evidence enabling it to be so allocated.

(3) Point 25 paragraph (2) does not apply—

(a) in the case of a child or young person in respect of whom an application for a reduction is made;

(b) to a person who—

(i) is a person treated as not being in Great Britain for the purposes of these Regulations;

(ii) is subject to immigration control within the meaning of section 115(9)(a) of the Immigration and Asylum Act 1999; and

(iii) has not previously been allocated a national insurance number.

(4) Subject to point 25 paragraph (5), a person who makes an application, or a person to whom a reduction under this scheme has been awarded, must furnish such certificates, documents, information and evidence in connection with the application or the award, or any question arising out of the application or the award, as may reasonably be required by that authority in order to determine that person's entitlement to, or continuing entitlement to a reduction under its scheme and must do so within one month of the authority requiring him to do so or such longer period as the authority may consider reasonable.

(5) Nothing in this paragraph requires a person to furnish any certificates, documents, information or evidence relating to a payment to which point 25 paragraph (7) applies.

(6) Where an authority makes a request under point 25 paragraph (4), it must—

(a) inform the applicant or the person to whom a reduction under its scheme has been awarded of his duty under point 27 (duty to notify change of circumstances) to notify the authority of any change of circumstances; and

(b) without prejudice to the extent of the duty owed under point 27, indicate to him either orally or by notice or by reference to some other document available to him on application and without charge, the kind of change of circumstances which must be notified.

(7) This paragraph (point 25 paragraph 7) applies to any of the following payments—

(a) a payment which is made under or by the Trusts, the Fund, the Eileen Trust, MFET Limited, the Skipton Fund, the Caxton Foundation, the London Emergencies Trust, the We Love Manchester Emergency Fund, the Windrush Compensation Scheme, the National Emergencies Trust or the London Bombings Relief Charitable Fund;

(aa) a Grenfell Tower support payment;

(b) a payment which is disregarded under point 90 paragraph (16) (payments made under certain trusts and certain other payments), other than a payment under the Independent Living Fund (2006);

(8) Where an applicant or a person to whom a reduction under this scheme has been awarded or any partner has attained the qualifying age for state pension credit and is a member of, or a person deriving entitlement to a pension under, a personal pension scheme, he must where the authority so requires furnish the following information—

(a) the name and address of the pension fund holder;

(b) such other information including any reference or policy number as is needed to enable the personal pension scheme to be identified.

## **26 Amendment and withdrawal of application:**

- (1) A person who has made an application may amend it at any time before a decision has been made on it by a notice in writing delivered or sent to the designated office.
- (2) Where the application was made by telephone in accordance with point 12 sub-paragraph 2(c) of this scheme, the amendment may also be made by telephone.
- (3) Any application amended in accordance with point 26 sub-paragraph (1) or (2) is to be treated as if it had been amended in the first instance.
- (4) A person who has made an application may withdraw it by notice to the designated office at any time before a decision has been made on it.
- (5) Where the application was made by telephone in accordance with point 12 sub-paragraph 2(c), the withdrawal may also be made by telephone.
- (6) Any notice of withdrawal given in accordance with point 26 paragraph (4) or (5) has effect when it is received.
- (7) Where a person, by telephone, amends or withdraws an application the person must (if required to do so by the authority) confirm the amendment or withdrawal by a notice in writing delivered or sent to the designated office.

## **27 Duty to notify changes of circumstances:**

- (1) Subject to point 27 paragraphs (3), and (9) an applicant (or any person acting on his behalf) must comply with point 27 paragraph (2) if there is a relevant change of circumstances at any time—
  - (a) between the making of an application and a decision being made on it, or
  - (b) after the decision is made (where the decision is that the applicant is entitled to a reduction under this scheme) including at any time while the applicant is in receipt of such a reduction.
- (2) The applicant (or any person acting on his behalf) must notify any change of circumstances which the applicant (or that person) might reasonably be expected to know might affect his entitlement to, or the amount of, a reduction under the authority's scheme (a "relevant change of circumstances") by giving notice to the authority—
  - (a) in writing; or
  - (b) by telephone—
    - (i) where the authority has published a telephone number for that purpose or for the purposes of point 12 unless the authority determines that in any particular case or class of case notification may not be given by telephone; or
    - (ii) in any case or class of case where the authority determines that notice may be given by telephone; or
  - (c) by any other means which the authority agrees to accept in any particular case, within a period of 21 days beginning with the day on which the change occurs, or as soon as reasonably practicable after the change occurs, whichever is later.
- (3) The duty imposed on a person by point 27 paragraph (1) does not extend to notifying—

- (a) changes in the amount of council tax payable to the authority;
  - (b) changes in the age of the applicant or that of any member of his family;
  - (c) in the case of an applicant in receipt of a relevant benefit, changes in circumstances which affect the amount of the benefit but not the amount of the reduction under the authority's scheme to which he is entitled, other than the cessation of that entitlement to the benefit.
- (4) For the purposes of point 27 sub-paragraph (3)(c) "relevant benefit" means income support, an income-based jobseeker's allowance or an income-related employment and support allowance or universal credit.
- (5) Notwithstanding point 27 sub-paragraph (3)(b) or (c) an applicant is required by point 27 sub-paragraph (1) to notify the authority of any change in the composition of his family arising from the fact that a person who was a member of his family is now no longer such a person because he has ceased to be a child or young person.

### **28 Decision by authority:**

An authority must make a decision on an application under its scheme within 14 days of paragraphs 4 and 7 of point 12 being satisfied, or as soon as reasonably practicable thereafter.

### **29 Notification of decision:**

- (1) An authority must notify in writing any person affected by a decision made by it under its scheme—
- (a) in the case of a decision on an application, forthwith or as soon as reasonably practicable thereafter;
  - (b) in any other case, within 14 days of that decision or as soon as reasonably practicable thereafter.
- (2) Where the decision is to award a reduction, the notification under point 29 paragraph (1) must include a statement—
- (a) informing the person affected of the duty imposed by point 27 paragraph (1);
  - (b) explaining the possible consequences (including prosecution) of failing to comply with that duty; and
  - (c) setting out the circumstances a change in which might affect entitlement to the reduction or its amount.
- (3) Where the decision is to award a reduction, the notification under point 29 paragraph (1) must include a statement as to how that entitlement is to be discharged.
- (4) In any case, the notification under point 29 paragraph (1) must inform the person affected of the procedure by which an appeal may be made and must refer the person to the provisions in the authority's scheme relating to the procedure for making an appeal.
- (5) A person affected to whom an authority sends or delivers a notification of decision may, within one month of the date of the notification of that decision request

in writing the authority to provide a written statement setting out the reasons for its decision on any matter set out in the notice.

(6) The written statement referred to in point 29 paragraph (5) must be sent to the person requesting it within 14 days or as soon as reasonably practicable thereafter.

(7) For the purposes of this paragraph a person is to be treated as a person affected by a decision of an authority under its scheme where the rights, duties or obligations of that person are affected by that decision and the person falls within point 29 paragraph (8).

(8) This paragraph applies to—

(a) the applicant;

(b) in the case of a person who is liable to pay council tax in respect of a dwelling and is unable for the time being to act—

(i) a deputy appointed by the Court of Protection with power to claim, or as the case may be, receive benefit on his behalf; or

(ii) in Scotland, a judicial factor or any guardian acting or appointed under the Adults with Incapacity (Scotland) Act 2000 who has power to apply or, as the case may be, receive benefit on the person's behalf; or

(iii) an attorney with a general power or a power to apply or, as the case may be, receive benefit, has been appointed by that person under the Powers of Attorney Act 1971, the Enduring Powers of Attorney Act 1985 or the Mental Capacity Act 2005 or otherwise,

(c) a person appointed by an authority under point 23 paragraph (3) (persons appointed to act for a person unable to act).

### **30 Payment where there is joint and several liability:**

(1) Where—

(a) a person is entitled to a reduction under this scheme in respect of his liability for the authority's council tax as it has effect in respect of a chargeable financial year;

(b) the person entitled to the reduction is jointly and severally liable for the council tax; and

(c) the authority determines that discharging his entitlement by reducing the amount of his liability to which regulation 20(2) of the Council Tax (Administration and Enforcement) Regulations 1992 refers would be inappropriate, it may make a payment to him of the amount of the reduction to which he is entitled, rounded where necessary to the nearest penny.

(2) Subject to point 30 paragraph (3) any payment made under point 30 paragraph (1) must be made to the person who is entitled to the reduction.

(3) Where a person other than a person who is entitled to a reduction under this scheme made the application and that first person is a person acting pursuant to an appointment under point 23 paragraph (3) or is treated as having been so appointed by virtue of point 23 paragraph (4), the amount of the reduction may be paid to that person.

### 31. Classes of persons entitled to a reduction under this scheme:

The classes of persons described in this section are entitled to a reduction under this scheme. A working age claimant is within class D. Entitlement shall be calculated in accordance with the following banding grid and the other rules contained within this scheme.

### 32. Estimating income and capital:

In those points, references to the applicant's income or capital include, in a case where that income or capital cannot accurately be determined, references to the applicant's estimated income or capital.

### 33. The banding scheme grid is:

	Based on weekly income								
Household type:	Single		Couples		Family 1 child		Family 2 or more children		
CTR Banding	Lower Limit	Upper Limit	Lower Limit	Upper Limit	Lower Limit	Upper Limit	Lower Limit	Upper Limit	CTRS Reduction
Band 2	£0.00	£180.00	£0.00	£250.00	£0.00	£330.00	£0.00	£500.00	75%
Band 3	£0.00	£90.00	£0.00	£130.00	£0.00	£150.00	£0.00	£260.00	75%
Band 4	£90.01	£120.00	£130.01	£170.00	£150.01	£210.00	£260.01	£340.00	55%
Band 5	£120.01	£150.00	£170.01	£210.00	£210.01	£270.00	£340.01	£420.00	35%
Band 6	£150.01	£180.00	£210.01	£250.00	£270.01	£330.00	£420.01	£500.00	15%

### 34. Further explanation in respect of the banding scheme:

A person will fall into the highest (most beneficial) band and family type which is applicable to them on that reduction week.

Any reference to a child in this grid means a child or young person who for that reduction week resides with the applicant.

The Council Tax Reduction Scheme (CTRS) reduction is based on the net Council Tax for that week after any discount(s) is applied.

There will be no Council Tax Reduction for that reduction week if the capital of the applicant and/or any partner (calculated in accordance with these scheme rules) exceeds £6000.

The CTRS reduction will be further reduced if there is a non-dependent deduction(s) calculated in accordance with these scheme rules.

A person will not be entitled for a benefit week if they are treated as a person not being in Great Britain, or for other reasons in accordance with these scheme rules they are not entitled.

A person will only fall into band 2 if they, any partner who for that reduction week resided with them, or any child or young person who for that reduction week resided with them satisfy a condition in (i) to (xi) below.

They satisfy one of the following;

- i) They are in receipt of any rate of Disability Living Allowance;
  - ii) They are in receipt of any rate of the Personal Independence Payment;
  - iii) They are registered blind or severely sight-impaired;
  - iv) They are in receipt of an Attendance Allowance;
  - v) They are in receipt of the Disability or Severe Disability Elements of Working Tax Credit;
  - vi) The applicant is in receipt of the Long Term Rate of Incapacity Benefit;
  - vii) The applicant is in receipt of a Severe Disablement Allowance;
  - viii) The applicant has been incapable of work (in accordance with, or through regulations made under the 12A of the Social Security(Contributions and Benefits) Act 1992) for a continuous period of 364 days; or where the applicant is terminally ill in accordance with 30(B)(4) of the same act a continuous period of 196 days.
  - ix) The applicant receives the Support Component of Employment and Support Allowance.
  - x) One of the benefits described here in point 34 (i) to (ix) would be payable but for hospitalisation.
  - xi) There receive a Disabled Child Element of Universal Credit in accordance with 24(2) of The Universal Credit Regulations 2013.
  - xii) A Child or young person who resides with the applicant received a Child Disability Payment in accordance with the DACYP Regulations.
  - xiii) The applicant or any partner receives an Adult Disability Payment (Scotland) or a Pension Age Disability Payment (Scotland).
- In respect of claims that fall within bands 3, 4, 5 or 6 there will be a further limitation in that the eligible Council Tax used in the assessment will be limited to a maximum property band of D when calculating entitlement. The band for each dwelling will be shown on the Valuation List in accordance with Section 23 of The Local Government Finance Act 1992.
- j) From 1 April 2025 there is no longer a band 1.
  - k) Child or children means a child or young person who reside with the applicant as members of their family, and for whom the applicant is responsible.

### **35 Further conditions of entitlement for Class D applicants:**

On any day class D consists of person who is:

- (a) who is for that day liable to pay council tax in respect of a dwelling of which he is a resident;
- (b) who, subject to point 37, is not absent from the dwelling throughout the day;
- (c) in respect of whom a maximum council tax reduction amount can be calculated;
- (d) who does not fall within a class of person not entitled to a reduction under this scheme in accordance with point 39;
- (e) whose income (if any) falls within the banding scheme in point in 33;
- (f) who has made an application for a reduction under this scheme;
- (g) who for that reduction week (Monday to Sunday) is entitled to a minimum of £3.00 Council Tax Reduction Entitlement.

**36 This rule was no longer applicable from 1 April 2025.**

**37 Periods of absence from a dwelling:**

1) A person is not absent from a dwelling in relation to any day which falls within a period of temporary absence from that dwelling.

(2) In sub-paragraph (1), a “period of temporary absence” means—

(a) a period of absence not exceeding 13 weeks, beginning with the first whole day on which a person resides in residential accommodation in Great Britain where and for so long as—

- (i) the person resides in that accommodation;
- (ii) the part of the dwelling in which he usually resided is not let or sublet; and
- (iii) that period of absence does not form part of a longer period of absence from the dwelling of more than 52 weeks,

where he has entered the accommodation for the purpose of ascertaining whether it suits his needs and with the intention of returning to the dwelling if it proves not to suit his needs;

(b) subject to sub-paragraph (2B), a period of absence within Great Britain not exceeding 13 weeks, beginning with the first whole day of absence from the dwelling, where and for so long as—

- (i) the person intends to return to the dwelling;
- (ii) the part of the dwelling in which he usually resided is not let or sublet; and
- (iii) that period is unlikely to exceed 13 weeks;
- (c) a period of absence not exceeding 52 weeks, beginning with the first whole day of that absence, where and for so long as—

- (i) the person intends to return to the dwelling;
- (ii) the part of the dwelling in which he usually resided is not let or sublet;
- (iii) the person is a person to whom sub-paragraph (3) applies; and

(iii) the period of absence is unlikely to exceed 52 weeks or, in exceptional circumstances, is unlikely substantially to exceed that period.

(d) subject to sub-paragraphs (2F), (3C), (3E), (3G) and (3I) and where sub-paragraph (2E) applies, a period of absence outside Great Britain not exceeding 4 weeks, beginning with the first day of that absence from Great Britain where and for so long as-

- (i) the person intends to return to the dwelling;
- (ii) the part of the dwelling in which he usually resides is not let or sublet; and
- (iii) the absence from Great Britain is unlikely to exceed 4 weeks;

(2A) The period of 13 weeks referred to in sub-paragraph (2)(b) shall run or continue to run during any period of absence from Great Britain.

(2B) Where-

- (a) a person returns to Great Britain after a period of absence from Great Britain (period A);
- (b) that person has been absent from the dwelling, including any absence within Great Britain, for less than 13 weeks beginning with the first day of absence from that dwelling; and
- (c) at the outset of, or during, period A, period A ceased to be treated as a period of temporary absence,

then any day that follows period A and precedes the person's return to the dwelling, shall not be treated as a period of temporary absence under sub-paragraph (2)(b).

(2C) The period of 52 weeks referred to in sub-paragraph (2)(c) shall run or continue to run during any period of absence from Great Britain.

(2D) Where-

- (a) a person returns to Great Britain after a period of absence from Great Britain (period A);
- (b) that person has been absent from the dwelling, including any absence within Great Britain, for less than 52 weeks beginning with the first day of absence from that dwelling; and
- (c) at the outset of, or during, period A, period A ceased to be treated as a period of temporary absence,

then, any day that follows period A and precedes the person's return to the dwelling, shall not be treated as a period of temporary absence under sub-paragraph (2)(c).

(2E) This sub-paragraph applies where-

- (a) a person is temporarily absent from Great Britain;
- (b) immediately before that period of absence from Great Britain, the person was not absent from the dwelling.

(2F) If the temporary absence referred to in sub-paragraph (2)(d) is in connection with the death of-

- (a) the person's partner or a child or young person for whom the person or the person's partner is responsible;
- (b) the person's close relative;
- (c) the close relative of the person's partner; or
- (d) the close relative of a child or young person for whom the person or the person's partner is responsible,

then the period of 4 weeks in the opening words of sub-paragraph (2)(d) may be extended by up to 4 further weeks if the relevant authority considers it unreasonable to expect the person to return to Great Britain within the first 4 weeks (and the reference in sub-paragraph (iii) of that paragraph to a period of 4 weeks shall, where the period is extended, be taken as referring to the period as so extended).";

(3) This sub-paragraph applies to a person who—

- (a) is a person to whom sub-paragraph (3A) applies;
- (b) is resident in a hospital or similar institution as a patient;
- (c) is undergoing, or whose partner or dependent child is undergoing medical treatment, or medically approved convalescence, in accommodation other than residential accommodation;
- (d) is following a training course;
- (e) is undertaking medically approved care of a person residing;
- (f) is undertaking the care of a child whose parent or guardian is temporarily absent from the dwelling normally occupied by that parent or guardian for the purpose of receiving medically approved care or medical treatment;
- (g) is receiving medically approved care provided in accommodation other than residential accommodation;
- (h) is a student;
- (i) is receiving care provided in residential accommodation and is not a person to whom sub-paragraph (2)(a) applies; or
- (j) has left the dwelling he resides in through fear of violence, in that dwelling, or by a person who was formerly a member of the family of the person first mentioned.

(3A) This sub-paragraph applies to a person ("p") who is-

- (a) detained in custody on remand pending trial;
- (b) detained pending sentence upon conviction; or
- (c) as a condition of bail required to reside -
  - (i) in a dwelling, other than a dwelling P occupies as P's home; or
  - (ii) in premises approved under section 13 of the Offender Management Act 2007 and who is not also detained in custody following sentence upon conviction.

(3B) This sub-paragraph applies where-

- (a) a person is temporarily absent from Great Britain;
- (b) the person is a member of Her Majesty's forces posted overseas, a mariner or a continental shelf worker;

(c) immediately before that period of absence from Great Britain, that person was not absent from that dwelling.

(3C) Where sub-paragraph (3B) applies, a period of absence from Great Britain not exceeding 26 weeks, beginning with the first day of absence from Great Britain, shall be treated as a period of temporary absence where and for so long as-

- (a) the person intends to return to the dwelling;
- (b) the part of the dwelling in which he resided is not let or sublet;
- (c) the period of absence from Great Britain is unlikely to exceed 26 weeks.

(3D) This sub-paragraph applies where-

- (a) a person is temporarily absent from Great Britain;
- (b) the person is a person described in any of sub-paragraphs (b), (c), (g) or (j) of sub-paragraph (3);
- (c) immediately before that period of absence from Great Britain, the person was not absent from the dwelling.

(3E) Where sub-paragraph (3D) applies, a period of absence from Great Britain not exceeding 26 weeks, beginning with the first day of absence from Great Britain, shall be treated as a period of temporary absence where and for so long as-

- (a) the person intends to return to the dwelling;
- (b) the part of the dwelling in which he resided is not let or sublet;
- (c) the period of absence is unlikely to exceed 26 weeks, or in exceptional circumstances, is unlikely substantially to exceed that period.

(3F) This sub-paragraph applies where-

- (a) a person is temporarily absent from Great Britain,
- (b) the person is a person described in any of paragraphs (a), (d), (e), (f), (h) or (i) of sub-paragraph (3);
- (c) immediately before that period of absence from Great Britain, the person was not absent from the dwelling.

(3G) Where sub-paragraph (3F) applies, a period of absence from Great Britain not exceeding 4 weeks, beginning with the first day of absence from Great Britain, shall be treated as a period of temporary absence where and for so long as-

- (a) the person intends to return to the dwelling;
- (b) the part of the dwelling in which he resided is not let or sublet;
- (c) the period of absence is unlikely to exceed 4 weeks, or in exceptional circumstances, is unlikely substantially to exceed that period.

(3H) This sub-paragraph applies where—

- (a) a person was present in a country or territory immediately before His Majesty's Government—
  - (i) provided public information to advise British nationals to leave that country or territory, or
  - (ii) arranged the evacuation of British nationals from that country or territory;

(b) sub-paragraphs (2)(d), (2A), (2C), (2F), (3B), (3D) or (3F) applied to the person when the public information was issued or the evacuation began;

(c) the relevant authority is satisfied that it would be unreasonable to expect the person to return, or have returned, to Great Britain; and

(d) the person did not enter that country or territory when His Majesty's Government's public information was to advise British nationals to leave that country or territory.

(3I) Where sub-paragraph (3H) applies a period of absence not exceeding 26 weeks, beginning with the first day of absence from Great Britain, shall be treated as a period of temporary absence.

(3J) Where a person is temporarily absent from Great Britain, except where the circumstances in sub-paragraph (2C) apply, the total period which is to be treated as a period of temporary absence will not exceed 26 weeks."

(4) This sub-paragraph applies to a person who is—

(a) detained in custody pending sentence upon conviction or under a sentence imposed by a court (other than a person who is detained in hospital under the provisions of the Mental Health Act 1983, or, in Scotland, under the provisions of the Mental Health (Care and Treatment) (Scotland) Act 2003 or the Criminal Procedure (Scotland) Act 1995); or in Northern Ireland under Article 4 or 12 of the Mental Health (Northern Ireland) Order 1986; and

(b) on temporary release from detention in accordance with Rules made under the provisions of the Prison Act 1952 or the Prisons (Scotland) Act 1989.

(5) Where sub-paragraph (4) applies to a person, then, for any day when he is on temporary release—

(a) if such temporary release was immediately preceded by a period of temporary absence under sub-paragraph (2)(b) or (c), he shall be treated, for the purposes of sub-paragraph (1), as if he continues to be absent from the dwelling, despite any return to the dwelling;

(b) for the purposes of sub-paragraph (3)(a), he shall be treated as if he remains in detention;

(c) if he does not fall within paragraph (a), he is not to be considered to be a person who is liable to pay council tax in respect of a dwelling of which he is a resident.

(6) In this paragraph—

**"continental shelf worker"** means a person employed, whether under a contract of service or not, in a designated area or a prescribed area in connection with any of the activities mentioned in section 11(2) of the Petroleum Act 1998;

**"designated area"** means any area which may from time to time be designated by Order in Council under the Continental Shelf Act 1964 as an area within which the rights of the United Kingdom with respect to the seabed and subsoil and their natural resources may be exercised;

**“mariner”** means a person who is employed under a contract of service either as a master or member of the crew of any ship or vessel, or in any other capacity on board any ship or vessel, where-

a) the employment in that capacity is for the purposes of that ship or vessel or its crew or any passengers or cargo or mails carried by the ship or vessel; where-

(b) the contract is entered into in the United Kingdom with a view to its performance (in whole or in part) while the ship or vessel is on its voyage;

**“medically approved”** means certified by a medical practitioner;

**"member of Her Majesty's forces posted overseas"** means a person who is a member of the regular forces or reserve forces (within the meaning of section 374 of the Armed Forces Act 2006, who is absent from the main dwelling because the person has been posted outside of Great Britain to perform the duties of Her Majesty's regular forces or reserve forces;

**“patient”** means a person who is undergoing medical or other treatment as an inpatient in any hospital or similar institution;

**"prescribed area"** means any area over which Norway or any member state (other than the United Kingdom) exercises sovereign rights for the purpose of exploring the seabed and the subsoil and exploiting their natural resources, being an area outside the territorial sea of Norway or such member State, or any other area which is from time to time specified under section 10(8) of the Petroleum Act 1998.

**“residential accommodation”** means accommodation which is provided in—

(a) a care home;

(b) an independent hospital;

(c) an Abbeyfield Home; or

(d) an establishment managed or provided by a body incorporated by Royal Charter or constituted by Act of Parliament other than a local social services authority;

**“training course”** means a course of training or instruction provided wholly or partly by or on behalf of or in pursuance of arrangements made with, or approved by or on behalf of, Skills Development Scotland, Scottish Enterprise, Highlands and Islands Enterprise, a government department or the Secretary of State.

### **38. There is no rule 38**

### **39. Classes of person excluded from this scheme:**

(1) In addition to those classes set out in points 10 and 11, the class of person set out in point 39 paragraph 2 are also excluded from this scheme.

- (2) The class of person described in this paragraph consists of any student to whom point 70 paragraph (1) applies.
- (3) In this point “student” has the meaning given by point 68 paragraph (1) of this scheme.

#### **40. Council Tax Reduction award:**

The entitlement Council Tax Reduction is contained in the banded grid within point 33 subject to other conditions of entitlement.

- (1) Deducted from the Council Tax Reduction entitlement is any non-dependent deduction which falls to be made in accordance with the scheme rules.
- (2) Where a person is jointly and severally liable for the Council Tax with one or more other people the Council Tax liability after any discounts is divided between all who are jointly and severally liable.
- (3) In respect of a couple (or polygamous marriage) the portions of Council Tax are aggregated together for the members of that couple or polygamous marriage.
- (4) A person whom for that day is a full-time student is not part of any joint and several apportionment.
- (5) The minimum entitlement is £3.00 per week.

#### **41. Non-dependant deductions:**

- (1) Subject to the following provisions of this point, the non-dependant deductions in respect of a day referred to in paragraph 15 are in respect of a non-dependant (aged not less than 18) £12.00 x 1/7 per day.
- (2) Where in respect of a day—
- (a) a person is a resident in a dwelling but is not himself liable for council tax in respect of that dwelling and that day;
- (b) other residents in that dwelling (the liable persons) have joint and several liability for council tax in respect of that dwelling and that day otherwise than by virtue of section 9 of the 1992 Act (liability of spouses and civil partners); and
- (c) the person to whom paragraph (a) refers is a non-dependant of two or more of the liable persons; the deduction in respect of that non-dependant must be apportioned equally between those liable persons.
- (3) The previous (3) is not applicable from 1 April 2026.
- (4) No deduction is to be made in respect of a non-dependant if—
- (a) although he resides with the applicant, it appears to the relevant authority that his normal home is elsewhere; or
- (b) he is a full-time student within the meaning or article 4 of, and schedule 1 to, the Council Tax (Discounts Disregards) Order 1992; or
- (c) he is not residing with the applicant because he has been a patient for a period in excess of 52 weeks, and for these purposes—
- (i) “Patient” has the meaning given in point 37 paragraph (6) of this scheme, and

(ii) where a person has been a patient for two or more distinct periods separated by one or more intervals each not exceeding 28 days, he is to be treated as having been a patient continuously for a period equal in duration to the total of those distinct periods.

(5) No deduction is to be made in respect of a non-dependant—

(a) who has attained the qualifying age for a state pension credit; or

(b) to whom Schedule 1 to the 1992 Act applies (persons disregarded for purposes of discount); but this paragraph does not apply to a non-dependant who is a student to whom paragraph 4 of that Schedule refers.

#### **42. Calculation of income and capital: applicant's family and polygamous marriages:**

(1) The income and capital of—

(a) an applicant; and

(b) any partner of that applicant,

is to be calculated in accordance with the provisions of this Part.

(2) The income and capital of any partner of the applicant is to be treated as income and capital of the applicant, and in this Part any reference to the applicant applies equally to any partner of that applicant.

(3) Where an applicant or the partner of an applicant is married polygamously to two or more members of his household—

(a) the applicant must be treated as possessing capital and income belonging to each such member; and

(b) the income and capital of that member is to be calculated in accordance with the following provisions of this Part in like manner as for the applicant.

#### **43. Circumstances in which capital and income of non-dependant is to be treated as the applicant's:**

(1) Point 43 paragraph (2) applies where it appears to the authority that a non-dependant and an applicant have entered into arrangements in order to take advantage of this scheme and the non-dependant has more capital and income than the applicant.

(2) Except where — the applicant is not a pensioner and is on income support, an income-based jobseeker's allowance or an income-related employment and support allowance, the authority will treat the applicant as possessing capital and income belonging to that non-dependant and, in such a case, any capital and income which the applicant does possess is to be disregarded.

(3) Where an applicant is treated as possessing capital and income belonging to a non-dependant under point 43 paragraph (2) the capital and income of that non-dependant will be calculated in accordance with the following provisions of this Part in like manner as for the applicant and, except where the context otherwise requires, any reference to the "applicant" is to be construed for the purposes of this Part as if it were a reference to that non-dependant.

#### **44. Calculation of income and capital: persons who have an award of universal credit:**

(1) In determining the income of an applicant—

(a) who has, or

(b) who (jointly with his partner) has,

an award of universal credit the authority must, subject to the following provisions of this paragraph, use the calculation or estimate of the amount of the income of the applicant, or the applicant and his partner jointly (as the case may be), made by the Secretary of State for the purpose of determining the award of universal credit.

(2) The authority must adjust the amount of the income referred to in point 44 paragraph (1) by multiplying the amount by 12 and dividing the product by 52.

(3) The authority may only adjust the amount of the income as adjusted in accordance with point 55 paragraph (2) so far as necessary to take into account—

(a) the amount of the award of universal credit, determined in accordance with point 44 paragraph (3);

(b) point 43 (circumstances in which income and capital of non-dependant is to be treated as applicant's), if the authority determines that the provision applies in the applicant's case;

c) there shall be deducted from the award of universal credit any Carer Element; Childcare Costs Element; Housing Costs Element; Disabled Child Element; Limited Capability for Work and Work Related Activity elements.

(d) such further reduction (if any) as the authority thinks fit under section 13A(1)(c) of the 1992 Act (power of billing authority to reduce the amount of council tax payable).

(4) The amount for the award of universal credit to be taken into account for the purposes of point 44 sub-paragraph (3)(a) is to be determined by multiplying the amount of the award of universal credit by 12 and dividing the product by 52.

(5) Point 43 (income and capital of non-dependant to be treated as applicant's) applies for the purpose of determining any adjustments which fall to be made to the figure for income under point 44 paragraph (3).

(6) In determining the capital of an applicant—

(a) who has, or

(b) who (jointly with his partner) has,

an award of universal credit, the authority must use the calculation or estimate of the capital of the applicant, or the applicant and his partner jointly (as the case may be), made by the Secretary of State for the purpose of determining the award of universal credit.

7) For clarity there shall be added back to the amount of Universal Credit payment any advance payment and any deductions. The list of deductions includes:

i) Budgeting Advance (BA)

ii) Child Support Maintenance (CSM)

iii) Conditionality Sanction (CS)

- iv) Council Tax/Community Charge Arrears (CTCCA)
- v) Court Fine (CF)
- vi) DWP Administrative Penalties (DWPAP)
- vii) DWP Civil Penalty (DWPCP)
- viii) DWP Fraud Overpayment (DWPFO)
- ix) DWP Normal Overpayment (DWPNO)
- x) Electricity arrears (EA)
- xi) Eligible Loan Arrears (ELA)
- xii) First Month Advance (FMA)
- xiii) Flat Rate Maintenance (FRM)
- xiv) Fraud Penalty (FP)
- xv) Gas Arrears (GA)
- xvi) Hardship Payment (HP)
- xvii) HB Administrative Penalties (HBAP)
- xviii) HB Civil Penalty (HBCP)
- xix) Housing Benefit Fraud Overpayment (HBFO)
- xx) Housing Benefit Normal Overpayment (HBNO)
- xxi) Integration Loan Arrears (ILA)
- xxii) Managed Non-monthly Payment (MNGNMP)
- xxiii) Managed Payment to Landlord (MPL)
- xxiv) Managed Split Payment (MNGSP)
- xxv) Manual Landlord Payment (MLP)
- xxvi) Manual Non-monthly Payment (MNLNMP)
- xxvii) Manual Split Payment (MNLSP)
- xxviii) Mortgage Interest Arrears (MIA)
- xxix) Other (OTH) – UC Full service only
- xxx) Owner Occupier Service Charge arrears (OOSCA)
- xxxii) Rent Arrears (RA)
- xxxii) Short Term Advance (STA)
- xxxiii) Social Fund (SF)
- xxxiv) Tax Credit Fraud Overpayment (TCFO)
- xxxv) Tax Credit Normal Overpayment (TCNO)
- xxxvi) Water Arrears (WA)

(8) Where the London Borough of Hillingdon has evidence that, on the balance of probabilities, the Universal Credit was not lawfully obtained, but instead was obtained as a result of fraud or dishonesty then the London Borough of Hillingdon is permitted to estimate the income and capital of the claimant independently of the Universal Credit award. The same principle would be applicable to applicants in receipt of Income Support, Income Based Jobseekers Allowance or Income Related Employment and Support Allowance.

**45. Average weekly earnings of employed earners:**

(1) where the income of an applicant consists of earnings from employment as an employed earner his average weekly earnings must be estimated by reference to his earnings from that employment—

(a) over a period immediately preceding the reduction week in which the claim is made or treated as made and being a period of—

(i) 5 weeks, if he is paid weekly; or

(ii) 2 months, if he is paid monthly; or

(b) whether or not point 45 sub-paragraph (1)(a)(i) or (ii) applies, where an applicant's earnings fluctuate, over such other period preceding the reduction week in which the claim is made or treated as made as may, in any particular case, enable his average weekly earnings to be estimated more accurately.

(2) Where the applicant has been in his employment for less than the period specified in point 45 sub-paragraph (1)(a)(i) or (ii)—

(a) if he has received any earnings for the period that he has been in that employment and those earnings are likely to represent his average weekly earnings from that employment his average weekly earnings must be estimated by reference to those earnings;

(b) in any other case, the authority must estimate the applicant's average weekly earnings.

(3) Where the amount of an applicant's earnings changes during an award the authority must estimate his average weekly earnings by reference to his likely earnings from the employment over such period as is appropriate in order that his average weekly earnings may be estimated accurately but the length of the period will not in any case exceed 52 weeks.

(4) For the purposes of this paragraph the applicant's earnings are to be calculated in accordance with points 49 and 50.

**46. Average weekly earnings of self-employed earners:**

(1) Where the income of an applicant consists of earnings from employment as a self-employed earner his average weekly earnings must be estimated by reference to his earnings from that employment over such period as is appropriate in order that his average weekly earnings may be estimated accurately but the length of the period must not in any case exceed a year.

(2) For the purposes of this paragraph the applicant's earnings must be calculated in accordance with points 51, 59 and 60 of this part.

**47. Average weekly income other than earnings:**

(1) The income of an applicant which does not consist of earnings must, except where point 47 paragraph (2) applies, be estimated over such period as is appropriate in order that his average weekly income may be estimated accurately but the length of the period must not in any case exceed 52 weeks; and nothing in this

paragraph authorises an authority to disregard any such income other than that specified in point 89.

(2) The period over which any benefit under the benefit Acts is to be taken into account is to be the period in respect of which that benefit is payable.

(3) For the purposes of this paragraph income other than earnings is to be calculated in accordance with point 52.

#### **48. Calculation of weekly income:**

(1) For the purposes of points 45 (average weekly earnings of employed earners), 47 (average weekly income other than earnings) and 57 (calculation of average weekly income from tax credits), where the period in respect of which a payment is made—

(a) does not exceed a week, the weekly amount is to be the amount of that payment;

(b) exceeds a week; the weekly amount is to be determined—

(i) in a case where that period is a month, by multiplying the amount of the payment by 12 and dividing the product by 52;

(ii) in any other case, by dividing the amount of the payment by the number equal to the number of days in the period to which it relates and multiplying the product by 7.

(2) For the purposes of point 46 (average weekly earnings of self-employed earners) the weekly amount of earnings of an applicant is to be determined by dividing his earnings over the assessment period by the number equal to the number of days in that period and multiplying the product by 7.

#### **49. Earnings of employed earners:**

(1) Subject to point 49 paragraph (2), “earnings”, in the case of employment as an employed earner of a person, any remuneration or profit derived from that employment and includes—

(a) any bonus or commission;

(b) any payment in lieu of remuneration except any periodic sum paid to an applicant on account of the termination of his employment by reason of redundancy;

(c) any payment in lieu of notice or any lump sum payment intended as compensation for the loss of employment but only in so far as it represents loss of income;

(d) any holiday pay except any payable more than 4 weeks after termination or interruption of the employment;

(e) any payment by way of a retainer;

- (f) any payment made by the applicant's employer in respect of expenses not wholly, exclusively and necessarily incurred in the performance of the duties of the employment, including any payment made by the applicant's employer in respect of—
    - (i) travelling expenses incurred by the applicant between his home and place of employment;
    - (ii) expenses incurred by the applicant under arrangements made for the care of a member of his family owing to the applicant's absence from home;
  - (g) any award of compensation made under section 112(4) or 117(3) (a) of the Employment Rights Act 1996 (remedies and compensation for unfair dismissal);
  - (h) any payment or remuneration made under section 28, 34, 64, 68 or 70 of the Employment Rights Act 1996 (right to guarantee payments, remuneration on suspension on medical or maternity grounds, complaints to employment tribunals);
  - (i) any such sum as is referred to in section 112 of the SSCBA (certain sums to be earnings for social security purposes);
  - (j) any statutory sick pay, statutory maternity pay, statutory paternity pay or statutory adoption pay, or a corresponding payment under any enactment having effect in Northern Ireland;
  - (k) any remuneration paid by or on behalf of an employer to the applicant who for the time being is on maternity leave, paternity leave or adoption leave or is absent from work because he is ill;
  - (l) the amount of any payment by way of a non-cash voucher which has been taken into account in the computation of a person's earnings in accordance with Part 5 of Schedule 3 to the Social Security (Contributions) Regulations 2001.
- (2) Earnings does not include—
- (a) subject to point 49 paragraph (3), any payment in kind;
  - (b) any payment in respect of expenses wholly, exclusively and necessarily incurred in the performance of the duties of the employment;
  - (c) any occupational pension;
  - (d) any payment in respect of expenses arising out of the applicant's participation in a service user group.
- (3) Point 49 sub-paragraph (2)(a) does not apply in respect of any non-cash voucher referred to in point 49 sub-paragraph (1)(l).

#### **50. Calculation of net earnings of employed earners:**

- (1) For the purposes of paragraph 45 (average weekly earnings of employed earners), the earnings of an applicant derived or likely to be derived from employment as an employed earner to be taken into account must, subject to point 50 paragraph (2), be his net earnings.
- (2) There is to be disregarded from an applicant's net earnings, any sum, where applicable, specified in point 88.

- (3) For the purposes of point 50 paragraph (1) net earnings must, except where point 50 paragraph (6) applies, be calculated by taking into account the gross earnings of the applicant from that employment over the assessment period, less—
- (a) any amount deducted from those earnings by way of—
    - (i) income tax;
    - (ii) primary Class 1 National Insurance contributions under the SSCBA;
  - (b) one-half of any sum paid by the applicant by way of a contribution towards an occupational pension scheme;
  - (c) one-half of the amount calculated in accordance with point 50 paragraph (5) in respect of any qualifying contribution payable by the applicant; and
  - (d) where those earnings include a payment which is payable under any enactment having effect in Northern Ireland and which corresponds to statutory sick pay, statutory maternity pay, statutory paternity pay or statutory adoption pay, any amount deducted from those earnings by way of any contributions which are payable under any enactment having effect in Northern Ireland and which correspond to primary Class 1 contributions under the SSCBA.
- (4) In this point “qualifying contribution” means any sum which is payable periodically as a contribution towards a personal pension scheme.
- (5) The amount in respect of any qualifying contribution is to be calculated by multiplying the daily amount of the qualifying contribution by the number equal to the number of days in the assessment period; and for the purposes of this paragraph the daily amount of the qualifying contribution is to be determined—
- (a) where the qualifying contribution is payable monthly, by multiplying the amount of the qualifying contribution by 12 and dividing the product by 365;
  - (b) in any other case, by dividing the amount of the qualifying contribution by the number equal to the number of days in the period to which the qualifying contribution relates.
- (6) Where the earnings of an applicant are estimated under point 45 sub-paragraph (2)(b) (average weekly earnings of employed earners), his net earnings is to be calculated by taking into account those earnings over the assessment period, less—
- (a) an amount in respect of income tax equivalent to an amount calculated by applying to those earnings the basic rate (or in the case of a Scottish taxpayer, the Scottish basic rate) of tax applicable to the assessment period less only the personal relief to which the applicant is entitled under section 257(1) of the Income and Corporation Taxes Act 1988 (personal allowances) as is appropriate to his circumstances but, if the assessment period is less than a year, the earnings to which the basic rate (or Scottish basic rate) of tax is to be applied and the amount of the personal reliefs deductible under this sub-paragraph is to be calculated on a pro rata basis;
  - (b) an amount equivalent to the amount of the primary Class 1 contributions that would be payable by him under the SSCBA in respect of those earnings if such contributions were payable; and

(c) one-half of any sum which would be payable by the applicant by way of a contribution towards an occupational or personal pension scheme, if the earnings so estimated were actual earnings.

### **51. Earnings of self-employed earners:**

(1) Subject to point 51 paragraph (2), “earnings”, in the case of employment as a self-employed earner of a person who is not a pensioner, means the gross income of the employment.

(2) “Earnings” does not include any payment to which paragraphs 31 or 32 of point 89 refers (payments in respect of a person accommodated with the applicant under arrangements made by a local authority or voluntary organisation and payments made to the applicant by a health authority, local authority or voluntary organisation in respect of persons temporarily in the applicant’s care) nor does it include any sports award.

(3) This paragraph applies to—

(a) royalties or other sums paid as a consideration for the use of, or the right to use, any copyright, design, patent or trademark; or

(b) any payment in respect of any—

(i) book registered under the Public Lending Right Scheme 1982; or

(ii) work made under any international public lending right scheme that is analogous to the Public Lending Right Scheme 1982, where the applicant is the first owner of the copyright, design, patent or trademark, or an original contributor to the book or work concerned.

(4) Where the applicant’s earnings consist of any items to which point 51 paragraph (3) applies, those earnings must be taken into account over a period equal to such number of weeks as is equal to the number obtained (and any fraction is to be treated as a corresponding fraction of a week) by dividing the earnings by—

(a) the amount of reduction under this scheme to which the applicant would have been entitled had the payment not been made, plus

(b) an amount equal to the total of the sums which would fall to be disregarded from the payment under point 88 (sums to be disregarded in the calculation of earnings) as appropriate in the applicant’s case.

### **52. Calculation of income other than earnings:**

(1) For the purposes of point 47 (average weekly income other than earnings), the income of an applicant who is not a pensioner which does not consist of earnings to be taken into account must, subject to point 52 paragraphs (2) to (8), be his gross income and any capital treated as income under point 53 (capital treated as income).

(2) There is to be disregarded from the calculation of an applicant’s gross income under point 52 paragraph (1), any sum, where applicable, specified in point 89.

(3) Where the payment of any benefit under the benefit Acts is subject to any deduction by way of recovery the amount to be taken into account under point 52 paragraph (1) must be the gross amount payable.

(4) Where the applicant or, where he is a member of a couple, his partner is receiving a contributory employment and support allowance and that benefit has been reduced under regulation 63 of the Employment and Support Allowance Regulations, the amount of that benefit to be taken into account is the amount as if it had not been reduced.

(5) Where an award of any working tax credit or child tax credit under the Tax Credits Act is subject to a deduction by way of recovery of an overpayment of working tax credit or child tax credit which arose in a previous tax year the amount to be taken into account under point 52 paragraph (1) is to be the amount of working tax credit or child tax credit awarded less the amount of that deduction.

(6) In point 52 paragraph (5), “tax year” means a period beginning with 6th April in one year and ending with 5th April in the next.

(7) Point 52 paragraphs (8) and (9) apply where—

- (a) a relevant payment has been made to a person in an academic year; and
- (b) that person abandons, or is dismissed from, his course of study before the payment to him of the final instalment of the relevant payment.

(8) Where a relevant payment is made quarterly, the amount of a relevant payment to be taken into account for the assessment period for the purposes of subparagraph (1) in respect of a person to whom point 52 paragraph (8) applies, is to be calculated by applying the formula—

$$(A - (B \times C)) / D$$

Where—

A = the total amount of the relevant payment which that person would have received had he remained a student until the last day of the academic term in which he abandoned, or was dismissed from, his course, less any deduction under point 76 paragraph (5);

B = the number of reduction weeks from the reduction week immediately following that which includes the first day of that academic year to the reduction week which includes the day on which the person abandoned, or was dismissed from, his course;

C = the weekly amount of the relevant payment, before the application of the £10 disregard, which would have been taken into account as income under point 76 paragraph (2) had the person not abandoned or been dismissed from, his course and, in the case of a person who was not entitled to a reduction under this scheme immediately before he abandoned or was dismissed from his course, had that person, at that time, been entitled to housing benefit;

D = the number of reduction weeks in the assessment period.

(9) Where a relevant payment is made by two or more instalments in a quarter, the amount of a relevant payment to be taken into account for the assessment period for the purposes of point 52 paragraph (1) in respect of a person to whom point 52 paragraph (7) applies, is to be calculated by applying the formula in point paragraph (8) but as if—

A = the total amount of relevant payments which that person received, or would have received, from the first day of the academic year to the day the person abandoned the course, or was dismissed from it, less any deduction under point 76 paragraph (5).

(10) In this point (52)—

“academic year” and “student loan” have the same meanings as in point 68;

“assessment period” means—

(a) in a case where a relevant payment is made quarterly, the period beginning with the reduction week which includes the day on which the person abandoned, or was dismissed from, his course and ending with the reduction week which includes the last day of the last quarter for which an instalment of the relevant payment was payable to that person;

(b) in a case where the relevant payment is made by two or more instalments in a quarter, the period beginning with the reduction week which includes the day on which the person abandoned, or was dismissed from, his course and ending with the reduction week which includes—

(i) the day immediately before the day on which the next instalment of the relevant payment would have been due had the payments continued; or

(ii) the last day of the last quarter for which an instalment of the relevant payment was payable to that person,

whichever of those dates is earlier;

“quarter” in relation to an assessment period means a period in that year beginning on—

(a) 1st January and ending on 31st March;

(b) 1st April and ending on 30th June;

(c) 1st July and ending on 31st August; or

(d) 1st September and ending on 31st December;

“relevant payment” means either a student loan or an amount intended for the maintenance of dependents referred to in point 71 paragraph (7) or both.

(11) For the avoidance of doubt there must be included as income to be taken into account under point 52 paragraph (1)—

(a) any payment to which point 49 paragraph (2) (payments not earnings) applies; or

(b) in the case of an applicant who is receiving support under section 95 or 98 of the Immigration and Asylum Act 1999 including support provided by virtue of regulations made under Schedule 9 to that Act, the amount of such support provided in respect of essential living needs of the applicant and his dependants (if any) as is specified in regulations made under paragraph 3 of Schedule 8 to the Immigration and Asylum Act 1999.

### **53. Capital treated as income:**

- (1) Any capital payable by instalments which are outstanding at the date on which the claim is made or treated as made, or, at the date of any subsequent revision or supersession, must, if the aggregate of the instalments outstanding and the amount of the applicant's capital otherwise calculated in accordance with these scheme rules exceeds £6,000, be treated as income.
- (2) Any payment received under an annuity is to be treated as income.
- (3) Any earnings to the extent that they are not a payment of income is to be treated as income.
- (4) Any Career Development Loan paid pursuant to section 2 of the Employment and Training Act 1973 is to be treated as income.
- (5) Where an agreement or court order provides that payments must be made to the applicant in consequence of any personal injury to the applicant and that such payments are to be made, wholly or partly, by way of periodic payments, any such periodic payments received by the applicant (but not a payment which is treated as capital by virtue of this Part), is to be treated as income.

### **54. Notional income:**

- (1) An applicant who is not a pensioner is to be treated as possessing income of which he has deprived himself for the purpose of securing entitlement to a reduction under this scheme or increasing the amount of the reduction.
- (2) Except in the case of—
  - (a) a discretionary trust;
  - (b) a trust derived from a payment made in consequence of a personal injury;
  - (c) a personal pension scheme, occupational pension scheme or a payment made by the Board of the Pension Protection Fund where the applicant has not attained the qualifying age for state pension credit;
  - (d) any sum to which point 90 sub-paragraph (46)(2)(a) of capital to be disregarded applies which is administered in the way referred to in point 90 paragraph (46)(1)(a);
  - (e) any sum to which point 90 sub-paragraph (47)(a) refers;
  - (f) rehabilitation allowance made under section 2 of the Employment and Training Act 1973;
  - (g) child tax credit;
  - (h) working tax credit, or
  - (i) any sum to which point 54 paragraph (11) applies, any income which would become available to the applicant upon application being made, but which has not been acquired by him, is to be treated as possessed by the applicant but only from the date on which it could be expected to be acquired were an application made.
- (3) Any payment of income, other than a payment of income specified in point 54 paragraph (4),  
Made—

(a) to a third party in respect of a single applicant or a member of the family (but not a member of the third party's family) must, where that payment is a payment of an occupational pension, a pension or other periodical payment made under a personal pension scheme or a payment made by the Board of the Pension Protection Fund, be treated as possessed by that single applicant or, as the case may be, by that member;

(b) to a third party in respect of a single applicant or in respect of a member of the family (but not a member of the third party's family) must, where it is not a payment referred to in point 54 sub-paragraph 3(a), be treated as possessed by that single applicant or by that member to the extent that it is used for the food, ordinary clothing or footwear, household fuel or rent of that single applicant or, as the case may be, of any member of that family or is used for any council tax or water charges for which that applicant or member is liable;

(c) to a single applicant or a member of the family in respect of a third party (but not in respect of another member of that family) must be treated as possessed by that single applicant or, as the case may be, that member of the family to the extent that it is kept or used by him or used by or on behalf of any member of the family.

(4) Point 54 paragraph (3) does not apply in respect of a payment of income made—

(a) under or by the Macfarlane Trust, the Macfarlane (Special Payments) Trust, the Macfarlane (Special Payments) (No 2) Trust, the Fund, the Eileen Trust, MFET Limited, the Skipton Fund, the Caxton Foundation, the Scottish Infected Blood Support Scheme, an approved blood scheme, the London Emergencies Trust, the We Love Manchester Emergency Fund or the Independent Living Fund (2006);

(b) pursuant to section 19(1)(a) of the Coal Industry Act 1994 (concessionary coal);

(c) pursuant to section 2 of the Employment and Training Act 1973 in respect of a person's participation—

(i) in an employment programme specified in regulation 75(1)(a)(ii) of the Jobseeker's Allowance Regulations 1996;

(ii) in a training scheme specified in regulation 75(1)(b)(ii) of those Regulations;

(iii) in the Intense Activity Period specified in regulation 75(1)(a)(iv) of those Regulations;

(iv) in a qualifying course within the meaning specified in regulation 17A(7) of those Regulations; or

(v) in the Flexible New Deal specified in regulation 75(1)(a)(v) of those Regulations;

(d) in respect of a person's participation in the Work for Your Benefit Pilot Scheme;

(e) in respect of a person's participation in the Mandatory Work Activity Scheme;

(f) in respect of an applicant's participation in the Employment, Skills and Enterprise Scheme;

(g) under an occupational pension scheme, in respect of a pension or other periodical payment made under a personal pension scheme or a payment made by the Board of the Pension Protection Fund where—

- (i) a bankruptcy order has been made in respect of the person in respect of whom the payment has been made or, in Scotland, the estate of that person is subject to sequestration or a judicial factor has been appointed on that person's estate under section 41 of the Solicitors (Scotland) Act 1980;
- (ii) the payment is made to the trustee in bankruptcy or any other person acting on behalf of the creditors; and
- (iii) the person referred to in point 54 sub-paragraph (4)(g)(i) and any member of his family does not possess, or is not treated as possessing, any other income apart from that payment.

(5) Where an applicant is in receipt of any benefit under the benefit Acts and the rate of that benefit is altered with effect from a date on or after 1st April in any year but not more than 14 days thereafter, the authority must treat the applicant as possessing such benefit at the altered rate from either 1st April or the first Monday in April in that year, whichever date the authority selects, to the date on which the altered rate is to take effect.

(6) Subject to point 54 paragraph (7), where—

- (a) an applicant performs a service for another person; and
- (b) that person makes no payment of earnings or pays less than that paid for a comparable employment in the area, the authority must treat the applicant as possessing such earnings (if any) as is reasonable for that employment unless the applicant satisfies the authority that the means of that person are insufficient for him to pay or to pay more for the service.

(7) Point 54 paragraph (6) does not apply—

- (a) to an applicant who is engaged by a charitable or voluntary organisation or who is a volunteer if the authority is satisfied in any of those cases that it is reasonable for him to provide those services free of charge; or
- (b) in a case where the service is performed in connection with—
  - (i) the applicant's participation in an employment or training programme in accordance with regulation 19(1)(q) of the Jobseeker's Allowance Regulations 1996, other than where the service is performed in connection with the applicant's participation in the Intense Activity Period specified in regulation 75(1)(a)(iv) of those Regulations; or
  - (ii) the applicant's or the applicant's partner's participation in an employment or training programme as defined in regulation 19(3) of those Regulations for which a training allowance is not payable or, where such an allowance is payable, it is payable for the sole purpose of reimbursement of travelling or meal expenses to the person participating in that programme; or
- (c) to an applicant who is participating in a work placement approved by the Secretary of State (or a person providing services to the Secretary of State) before the placement starts.

(8) In point 54 sub-paragraph (7)(c) “work placement” means practical work experience which is not undertaken in expectation of payment.

(9) Where an applicant is treated as possessing any income under any of point 54 sub-paragraphs (1) to (8), the foregoing provisions of this part apply for the purposes of calculating the amount of that income as if a payment had actually been made and as if it were actual income which he does possess.

(10) Where an applicant is treated as possessing any earnings under point 54 paragraph (6) the foregoing provisions of this Part apply for the purposes of calculating the amount of those earnings as if a payment had actually been made and as if they were actual earnings which he does possess except that point 50 paragraph (3) (calculation of net earnings of employed earners ) do not apply and his net earnings are to be calculated by taking into account those earnings which he is treated as possessing, less—

(a) an amount in respect of income tax equivalent to an amount calculated by applying to those earnings the basic rate of tax applicable to the assessment period less only the personal relief to which the applicant is entitled under section 257(1) of the Income and Corporation Taxes Act 1988 (personal allowances) as is appropriate to his circumstances; but, if the assessment period is less than a year, the earnings to which the basic rate of tax is to be applied and the amount of the personal relief deductible under this sub-paragraph is to be calculated on a pro rata basis;

(b) an amount equivalent to the amount of the primary Class 1 contributions that would be payable by him under the Act in respect of those earnings if such contributions were payable; and

(c) one-half of any sum payable by the applicant by way of a contribution towards an occupational or personal pension scheme.

(11) Point 54 paragraphs (1), (2), (3) and (6) do not apply in respect of any amount of income other than earnings, or earnings of an employed earner, arising out of the applicant’s participation in a service user group.

## **55. Calculation of income on a weekly basis:**

(1) Subject to point 58 (disregard of changes in tax, etc), the income of an applicant is to be calculated on a weekly basis—

(a) by estimating the amount which is likely to be his average weekly income in accordance with this Part;

(b) deducting from point 55 sub-paragraph (1)(a) any relevant child care charges to which point 56 (treatment of child care charges) applies from any earnings which form part of the average weekly income or, in a case where the conditions in point 55 paragraph (2) are met, from those earnings plus whichever credit specified in point 55 sub-paragraph (2)(b) is appropriate, up to a maximum deduction in respect of the applicant’s family of whichever of the sums specified in point 55 paragraph (3) applies in his case.

(2) The conditions of this paragraph are that—

- (a) the applicant's earnings which form part of his average weekly income are less than the lower of either his relevant childcare charges or whichever of the deductions specified in point 55 paragraph (3) otherwise applies in his case; and
- (b) that applicant or, if he is a member of a couple either the applicant or his partner, is in receipt of either working tax credit or child tax credit.
- (3) The maximum deduction to which paragraph (1)(b) above refers is to be—
  - (a) where the applicant's family includes only one child in respect of whom relevant childcare charges are paid, £175.00 per week;
  - (b) where the applicant's family includes more than one child in respect of whom relevant childcare charges are paid, £300 per week.
- (4) For the purposes of paragraph (1) "income" includes capital treated as income under point 53 (capital treated as income) and income which the applicant is treated as possessing under point 54 (notional income).

#### **56. Treatment of childcare charges:**

- (1) This point (56) applies where an applicant (within the meaning of this point) is incurring relevant childcare charges and—
  - (a) is a lone parent and is engaged in remunerative work;
  - (b) is a member of a couple both of whom are engaged in remunerative work; or
  - (c) is a member of a couple where one member is engaged in remunerative work and the other—
    - (i) is incapacitated;
    - (ii) is an in-patient in hospital; or
    - (iii) is in prison (whether serving a custodial sentence or remanded in custody awaiting trial or sentence).
- (2) For the purposes of point 56 paragraph (1) and subject to point 56 paragraph (4), a person to whom point 56 paragraph (3) applies must be treated as engaged in remunerative work for a period not exceeding 28 weeks during which he—
  - (a) is paid statutory sick pay;
  - (b) is paid short-term incapacity benefit at the lower rate under sections 30A to 30E of the SSCBA;
  - (c) is paid an employment and support allowance;
  - (d) is paid income support on the grounds of incapacity for work under regulation 4ZA of, and paragraph 7 or 14 of Schedule 1B to, the Income Support (General) Regulations 1987; or
  - (e) is credited with earnings on the grounds of incapacity for work or limited capability for work under regulation 8B of the Social Security (Credits) Regulations 1975.
- (3) This paragraph (point 56 paragraph (3)) applies to a person who was engaged in remunerative work immediately before—

- (a) the first day of the period in respect of which he was first paid statutory sick pay, short-term incapacity benefit, an employment and support allowance or income support on the grounds of incapacity for work; or
- (b) the first day of the period in respect of which earnings are credited, as the case may be.
- (4) In a case to which point 56 sub-paragraph (2)(d) or (e) applies, the period of 28 weeks begins on the day on which the person is first paid income support or on the first day of the period in respect of which earnings are credited, as the case may be.
- (5) Relevant childcare charges are those charges for care to which point 56 paragraphs (6) and (7) apply and is to be calculated on a weekly basis in accordance with point 56 paragraph (10).
- (6) The charges are paid by the applicant for care which is provided—
  - (a) in the case of any child of the applicant's family who is not disabled, in respect of the period beginning on that child's date of birth and ending on the day preceding the first Monday in September following that child's fifteenth birthday; or
  - (b) in the case of any child of the applicant's family who is disabled, in respect of the period beginning on that person's date of birth and ending on the day preceding the first Monday in September following that person's sixteenth birthday.
- (7) The charges are paid for care which is provided by one or more of the care providers listed in point 56 paragraph (8) and are not paid—
  - (a) in respect of the child's compulsory education;
  - (b) by an applicant to a partner or by a partner to an applicant in respect of any child for whom either or any of them is responsible in accordance with point 6 (circumstances in which a person is treated as responsible or not responsible for another); or
  - (c) in respect of care provided by a relative of the child wholly or mainly in the child's home.
- (8) The care to which point 56 paragraph (7) refers may be provided—
  - (a) out of school hours, by a school on school premises or by a local authority—
    - (i) for children who are not disabled in respect of the period beginning on their eighth birthday and ending on the day preceding the first Monday in September following their fifteenth birthday; or
    - (ii) for children who are disabled in respect of the period beginning on their eighth birthday and ending on the day preceding the first Monday in September following their sixteenth birthday; or
  - (b) by a childcare provider approved in accordance with the Tax Credit (New Category of Child Care Provider) Regulations 1999; or
  - (c) by persons registered under Part 2 of the Children and Families (Wales) Measure 2010; or
  - (ci) by persons registered under Part 10A of the Children act 1989; or
  - (d) by a person who is excepted from registration under Part 2 of the Children and Families (Wales) Measure 2010 because the childcare that person provides is in a

school or establishment referred to in article 11, 12 or 14 of the Child Minding and Day Care Exceptions (Wales) Order 2010; or

(e) by—

(i) persons registered under section 59(1) of the Public Services Reform (Scotland) Act 2010; or

(ii) local authorities registered under section 83(1) of that Act, where the care provided is child minding or day care of children within the meaning of that Act; or

(f) by a person prescribed in regulations made pursuant to section 12(4) of the Tax Credits Act 2002; or

(g) by a person who is registered under Chapter 2 or 3 of Part 3 of the Childcare Act 2006; or

(h) by any of the schools mentioned in section 34(2) of the Childcare Act 2006 in circumstances where the requirement to register under Chapter 2 of Part 3 of that Act does not apply by virtue of section 34(2) of that Act; or

(i) by any of the schools mentioned in section 53(2) of the Childcare Act 2006 in circumstances where the requirement to register under Chapter 3 of Part 3 of that Act does not apply by virtue of section 53(2) of that Act; or

(j) by any of the establishments mentioned in section 18(5) of the Childcare Act 2006 in circumstances where the care is not included in the meaning of “childcare” for the purposes of Part 1 and Part 3 of that Act by virtue of that subsection; or

(k) by a foster parent or kinship carer under the Fostering Services Regulations 2002, the Fostering Services (Wales) Regulations 2003 or the Looked After Children (Scotland) Regulations 2009 in relation to a child other than one whom the foster parent is fostering or kinship carer is looking after; or

(l) by a domiciliary care worker under the Domiciliary Care Agencies Regulations 2002; or

(m) by a person who is not a relative of the child wholly or mainly in the child’s home.

(9) In point 56 paragraphs (6) and point 56 sub-paragraph (8)(a), “the first Monday in September” means the Monday which first occurs in the month of September in any year.

(10) Relevant childcare charges must be estimated over such period, not exceeding a year, as is appropriate in order that the average weekly charge may be estimated accurately having regard to information as to the amount of that charge provided by the childminder or person providing the care.

(11) For the purposes of point 56 sub-paragraph (1)(c) the other member of a couple is incapacitated where—

(a) the applicant is not a pensioner; the applicant’s applicable amount includes a disability premium on account of the other member’s incapacity or the support component or the work-related activity component on account of his having limited capability for work;

(b) the applicant is not a pensioner, the applicant’s applicable amount would include a disability premium on account of the other member’s incapacity but for that

other member being treated as capable of work by virtue of a determination made in accordance with regulations made under section 171E of the SSCBA;

(c) the applicant's applicable amount would include the support component or the work-related activity component on account of the other member having limited capability for work but for that other member being treated as not having limited capability for work by virtue of a determination made in accordance with the Employment and Support Allowance Regulations 2008;

(d) the applicant is, or is treated as, incapable of work and has been so incapable, or has been so treated as incapable, of work in accordance with the provisions of, and regulations made under, Part 12A of the SSCBA (incapacity for work) for a continuous period of not less than 196 days; and for this purpose any two or more separate periods separated by a break of not more than 56 days must be treated as one continuous period;

(e) the applicant has, or is treated as having, limited capability for work and has had, or been treated as having, limited capability for work in accordance with the Employment and Support Allowance Regulations for a continuous period of not less than 196 days and for this purpose any two or more separate periods separated by a break of not more than 84 days must be treated as one continuous period;

(f) There is payable in respect of him one or more of the following pensions or allowances—

(i) long-term incapacity benefit or short-term incapacity benefit at the higher rate under Schedule 4 to the SSCBA;

(ii) attendance allowance under section 64 of the SSCBA;

(iii) severe disablement allowance under section 68 of the SSCBA;

(iv) disability living allowance under section 71 of the SSCBA;

(v) personal independence payment under Part 4 of the Welfare Reform Act 2012;

(vi) (via) Scottish Adult Disability Living Allowance;

(vii) increase of disablement pension under section 104 of the SSCBA;

(viii) a pension increase paid as part of a war disablement pension or under an industrial injuries scheme which is analogous to an allowance or increase of disablement pension under point 56 sub-paragraphs (f)(ii), (f)(iv), or (f)(v) above;

(ix) main phase employment and support allowance;

(x) an Adult Disability Payment (Scotland);

(xi) a pension age disability payment (Scotland);

(g) a pension or allowance to which sub-paragraphs (f)(ii), (f)(iv), (f)(v), (f)(vi) or (f)(vii) of paragraph 11 (point 56) above refers was payable on account of his incapacity but has ceased to be payable in consequence of his becoming a patient, which in this paragraph means a person (other than a person who is serving a sentence of imprisonment or detention in a youth custody institution) who is regarded as receiving free in-patient treatment within the meaning of regulation 2(4) and (5) of the Social Security (Hospital In-Patients) Regulations 2005;

(h) sub-paragraph (f) or (g) (of this point and paragraph) would apply to him if the legislative provisions referred to in those paragraphs were provisions under any corresponding enactment having effect in Northern Ireland; or

(i) he has an invalid carriage or other vehicle provided to him by the Secretary of State under section 5(2)(a) of and Schedule 2 to the National Health Service Act 1977 or under section 46 of the National Health Service (Scotland) Act 1978 or provided by the Department of Health, Social Services and Public Safety in Northern Ireland under Article 30(1) of the Health and Personal Social Services (Northern Ireland) Order 1972.

(12) For the purposes of point 56 paragraph (11), once sub-paragraph (11)(d) applies to the applicant, if he then ceases, for a period of 56 days or less, to be incapable, or to be treated as incapable, of work, that paragraph shall, on his again becoming so incapable, or so treated as incapable, of work at the end of that period, immediately thereafter apply to him for so long as he remains incapable, or is treated as remaining incapable, of work.

(13) For the purposes of point 56 paragraph (11), once sub-paragraph (11)(e) applies to the applicant, if he then ceases, for a period of 84 days or less, to have, or to be treated as having, limited capability for work, that paragraph is, on his again having, or being treated as having, limited capability for work at the end of that period, immediately thereafter apply to him for so long as he has, or is treated as having, limited capability for work.

(14) For the purposes of point 56 paragraph (6) and point 56 sub-paragraph (8)(a), a person is disabled if he is a person—

(a) in respect of whom disability living allowance or personal independence payment is payable, or has ceased to be payable solely because he is a patient;

(b) who is registered as blind in a register compiled under section 29 of the National Assistance Act 1948 (welfare services) or, in Scotland, has been certified as blind and in consequence he is registered as blind in a register maintained by or on behalf of a council constituted under section 2 of the Local Government (Scotland) Act 1994; or

(c) who ceased to be registered as blind in such a register within the period beginning 28 weeks before the first Monday in September following that person's fifteenth birthday and ending on the day preceding that person's sixteenth birthday.

d) A pension age disability payment was payable on account of his incapacity but has ceased to be payable in accordance with regulation 20 of the Disability Assistance for Older People (Scotland) Regulations 2024.

e) an adult disability payment was payable on account of his incapacity but has ceased to be payable in accordance with regulation 28 of the DAWAP Regulations.

(f) Scottish Adult Disability Living Allowance was payable on account of his incapacity but has ceased to be payable in accordance with regulation 23 (effect of admission to hospital on ongoing entitlement to Scottish Adult Disability Living Allowance) of the Disability Assistance (Scottish Adult Disability Living Allowance) Regulations 2025;

(15) For the purposes of point 56 paragraph (1) a woman on maternity leave, paternity leave or adoption leave is to be treated as if she is engaged in remunerative work for the period specified in point 56 paragraph (16) (“the relevant period”) provided that—

(a) in the week before the period of maternity leave, paternity leave or adoption leave began she was in remunerative work;

(b) the applicant is incurring relevant childcare charges within the meaning of point 56 paragraph (5); and

(c) she is entitled to either statutory maternity pay under section 164 of the SSCBA, statutory paternity pay by virtue of section 171ZA or 171ZB of that Act, statutory adoption pay by of section 171ZL of that Act, maternity allowance under section 35 of that Act or qualifying support.

(16) For the purposes of point 56 paragraph (15) the relevant period begins on the day on which the person’s maternity, paternity leave or adoption leave commences and ends on—

(a) the date that leave ends;

(b) if no childcare element of working tax credit is in payment on the date that entitlement to maternity allowance, qualifying support (if relevant), statutory maternity pay, statutory paternity pay or statutory adoption pay ends, the date that entitlement ends; or

(c) if a childcare element of working tax credit is in payment on the date that entitlement to maternity allowance or qualifying support, statutory maternity pay or statutory adoption pay ends, the date that entitlement to that award of the childcare element of the working tax credit ends, whichever occurs first.

(17) In point 56 paragraphs (15) and (16)—

(a) “qualifying support” means income support to which that person is entitled by virtue of paragraph 14B of Schedule 1B to the Income Support (General) Regulations; and

(b) “childcare element” of working tax credit means the element of working tax credit prescribed under section 12 of the Tax Credits Act (child care element).

(18) In this paragraph “applicant” does not include an applicant –

(a) who has, or

(b) who (jointly with his partner) has, an award of universal credit.

## **57. Calculation of average weekly income from tax credits:**

(1) This paragraph applies where an applicant receives a tax credit.

(2) Where this paragraph applies, the period over which a tax credit is to be taken into account must be the period set out in point 57 paragraph (3).

(3) Where the instalment in respect of which payment of a tax credit is made is—

(a) a daily instalment, the period is 1 day, being the day in respect of which the instalment is paid;

- (b) a weekly instalment, the period is 7 days, ending on the day on which the instalment is due to be paid;
  - (c) a two-weekly instalment, the period is 14 days, commencing 6 days before the day on which the instalment is due to be paid;
  - (d) a four-weekly instalment, the period is 28 days, ending on the day on which the instalment is due to be paid.
- (4) For the purposes of this paragraph “tax credit” means child tax credit or working tax credit.

**58. Disregard of changes in tax, contributions etc:**

In calculating the applicant’s income the authority may disregard any legislative change—

- (a) in the basic (or in the case of a Scottish taxpayer, the Scottish basic rate) or other rates of income tax;
- (b) in the amount of any personal tax reliefs under Chapters 2, 3 and 3A of part 3 of the Income Tax Act 2007;
- (c) in the rates of social security contributions payable under the SSCBA or in the lower earnings limit or upper earnings limit for Class 1 contributions under that Act, the lower or upper limits applicable to Class 4 contributions under that Act or the amount specified in section 11(4) of that Act (small earnings exception in relation to Class 2 contributions);
- (d) in the amount of tax payable as a result of an increase in the weekly rate of Category A, B, C or D retirement pension or any addition thereto or any graduated pension payable under the SSCBA;
- (e) in the maximum rate of child tax credit or working tax credit, for a period not exceeding 30 reduction weeks beginning with the benefit week immediately following the date from which the change is effective.

**59. Calculation of net profit of self-employed earners:**

- (1) For the purposes of point 46 (average weekly earnings of self-employed earners) the earnings of an applicant to be taken into account shall be—
- (a) in the case of a self-employed earner who is engaged in employment on his own account, the net profit derived from that employment;
  - (b) in the case of a self-employed earner whose employment is carried on in partnership or is that of a share fisherman within the meaning of the Social Security (Mariners' Benefits) Regulations 1975, his share of the net profit derived from that employment, less—
    - (i) an amount in respect of income tax and of social security contributions payable under the Act calculated in accordance with point 60 (deduction of tax and contributions for self-employed earners); and
    - (ii) one-half of the amount calculated in accordance with point 59 paragraph (11) in respect of any qualifying premium.

- (2) There shall be disregarded from a claimant's net profit, any sum, where applicable, specified in point 88.
- (3) For the purposes of point 59 sub-paragraph (1)(a) the net profit of the employment shall, except where point 59 paragraph (9) applies, be calculated by taking into account the earnings of the employment over the assessment period less—
- (a) subject to point 59 paragraphs (5) to (7), any expenses wholly and exclusively incurred in that period for the purposes of that employment;
  - (b) an amount in respect of—
    - (i) income tax; and
    - (ii) social security contributions payable under the Act, calculated in accordance with point 60 (deduction of tax and contributions for self-employed earners); and
  - (c) one-half of the amount calculated in accordance with point 59 paragraph (11) in respect of any qualifying premium.
- (4) For the purposes of point 59 sub-paragraph (1)(b) the net profit of the employment shall be calculated by taking into account the earnings of the employment over the assessment period less, subject to point 59 paragraphs (5) to (7), any expenses wholly and exclusively incurred in that period for the purposes of the employment.
- (5) Subject to point 59 paragraph (6), no deduction shall be made under point 59 sub paragraph (3)(a) or point 59 paragraph (4), in respect of—
- (a) any capital expenditure;
  - (b) the depreciation of any capital asset;
  - (c) any sum employed or intended to be employed in the setting up or expansion of the employment;
  - (d) any loss incurred before the beginning of the assessment period;
  - (e) the repayment of capital on any loan taken out for the purposes of the employment;
  - (f) any expenses incurred in providing business entertainment; and
  - (g) any debts, except bad debts proved to be such, but this sub-paragraph shall not apply to any expenses incurred in the recovery of a debt.
- (6) A deduction shall be made under point 59 sub paragraph (3)(a) or point 59 paragraph (4) in respect of the repayment of capital on any loan used for—
- (a) the replacement in the course of business of equipment or machinery; and
  - (b) the repair of an existing business asset except to the extent that any sum is payable under an insurance policy for its repair.
- (7) The authority shall refuse to make a deduction in respect of any expenses under point 59 sub paragraph (3)(a) or point 59 paragraph (4) where it is not satisfied given the nature and the amount of the expense that it has been reasonably incurred.
- (8) For the avoidance of doubt—
- (a) a deduction shall not be made under point 59 sub paragraph (3)(a) or point 59 paragraph (4) in respect of any sum unless it has been expended for the purposes of the business;

- (b) a deduction shall be made thereunder in respect of—
  - (i) the excess of any value added tax paid over value added tax received in the assessment period;
  - (ii) any income expended in the repair of an existing business asset except to the extent that any sum is payable under an insurance policy for its repair;
  - (iii) any payment of interest on a loan taken out for the purposes of the employment.
- (9) Where a claimant is engaged in employment as a child minder the net profit of the employment shall be one-third of the earnings of that employment, less—
  - (a) an amount in respect of—
    - (i) income tax; and
    - (ii) social security contributions payable under the SSCBA.
 (calculated in accordance with point 60 (deduction of tax and contributions for self-employed earners); and
- (b) one-half of the amount calculated in accordance with point 59 paragraph (11) in respect of any qualifying premium.
- (10) For the avoidance of doubt where a claimant is engaged in employment as a self-employed earner and he is also engaged in one or more other employments as a self-employed or employed earner any loss incurred in any one of his employments shall not be offset against his earnings in any other of his employments.
- (11) The amount in respect of any qualifying premium shall be calculated by multiplying the daily amount of the qualifying premium by the number equal to the number of days in the assessment period; and for the purposes of this sub-paragraph the daily amount of the qualifying premium shall be determined—
  - (a) where the qualifying premium is payable monthly, by multiplying the amount of the qualifying premium by 12 and dividing the product by 365;
  - (b) in any other case, by dividing the amount of the qualifying premium by the number equal to the number of days in the period to which the qualifying premium relates.
- (12) In this sub-paragraph, “qualifying premium” means any premium which is payable periodically in respect of a retirement annuity contract or a personal pension scheme and is so payable on or after the date of claim.
- (13) Where an applicant is in receipt of Universal Credit the self-employed income shall be that estimated by the Department of Work and Pensions in the Universal Credit assessment.

**60. Calculation of deduction of tax and contributions of self-employed earners:**

- (1) The amount to be deducted in respect of income tax under point 59 sub-paragraphs(1)(b)(i), (3)(b)(i) or (9)(a)(i) (calculation of net profit of self-employed earners) must be calculated—
  - (a) on the basis of the amount of chargeable income, and
  - (b) as if that income were assessable to income tax at the basic rate (or in the case of a Scottish taxpayer, the Scottish basic rate) of tax applicable to the

assessment period less only the personal relief to which the applicant is entitled under section 257(1) of the Income and Corporation Taxes Act 1988 (personal allowances) as is appropriate to his circumstances.

(2) But, if the assessment period is less than a year, the earnings to which the basic rate (or the Scottish basic rate) of tax is to be applied and the amount of the personal reliefs deductible under this paragraph must be calculated on a pro rata basis.

(3) The amount to be deducted in respect of social security contributions under point 59 sub-paragraphs (1)(b)(i), (3)(b)(ii) or (9)(a)(ii) is the total of—

(a) the amount of Class 2 contributions payable under section 11(1) or, as the case may be, 11(3) of the SSCBA at the rate applicable to the assessment period except where the applicant's chargeable income is less than the amount specified in section 11(4) of that Act (small earnings exception) for the tax year applicable to the assessment period; but if the assessment period is less than a year, the amount specified for that tax year must be reduced pro rata; and

(b) the amount of Class 4 contributions (if any) which would be payable under section 15 of the SSCBA (Class 4 contributions recoverable under the Income Tax Acts) at the percentage rate applicable to the assessment period on so much of the chargeable income as exceeds the lower limit but does not exceed the upper limit of profits and gains applicable for the tax year applicable to the assessment period; but if the assessment period is less than a year, those limits must be reduced pro rata.

(4) In this point "chargeable income" means—

(a) except where point 60 sub-paragraph (4)(b) applies, the earnings derived from the employment less any expenses deducted under sub-paragraph (3)(a) or, as the case may be, paragraph (5) of point 59;

(b) in the case of employment as a childminder, one-third of the earnings of that employment.

#### **61. Calculation of capital:**

(1) The capital of an applicant to be taken into account must be, subject to point 61 paragraph (2), the whole of his capital calculated in accordance with these rules and any income treated as capital under point 62 (income treated as capital.)

(2) There must be disregarded from the calculation of an applicant's capital under point 61 paragraph (1), any capital, where applicable, specified in point 90.

(3) The capital of a child or young person who is a member of the family of an applicant must not be treated as capital of the applicant.

#### **62. Income treated as capital:**

(1) Any bounty derived from employment to which schedule 4 point 8 of the Housing Benefit Regulations 2006 applies (part-time firefighters, auxiliary coastguards, part-time lifeboat operators, and members of the territorial reserve force) and paid at intervals of at least one year is to be treated as capital.

- (2) Any amount by way of a refund of income tax deducted from profits or emoluments chargeable to income tax under Schedule D or E is to be treated as capital.
- (3) Any holiday pay which is not earnings under sub-paragraph 49(1)(d) (earnings of employed earners) is to be treated as capital.
- (4) Except any income derived from capital disregarded under paragraphs 4, 5, 7, 27 to 30, 46 and 47 of point 90, any income derived from capital is to be treated as capital but only from the date it is normally due to be credited to the applicant's account.
- (5) In the case of employment as an employed earner, any advance of earnings or any loan made by the applicant's employer is to be treated as capital.
- (6) Any charitable or voluntary payment which is not made or due to be made at regular intervals, other than a payment which is made under or by the Trusts, the Fund, the Eileen Trust, MFET Limited, the Skipton Fund, the Caxton Foundation, the Independent Living Fund (2006), the Scottish Infected Blood Support Scheme, an approved blood scheme, the London Emergencies Trust, the We Love Manchester Emergency Fund, a Grenfell Tower Support Payment, the National Emergencies Trust, or the London Bombings Charitable Relief Fund, is to be treated as capital.
- (7) There is to be treated as capital the gross receipts of any commercial activity carried on by a person in respect of which assistance is received under the self-employment route, but only in so far as those receipts were payable into a special account during the period in which that person was receiving such assistance.
- (8) Any arrears of subsistence allowance which are paid to an applicant as a lump sum must be treated as capital.
- (9) Any arrears of working tax credit or child tax credit must be treated as capital.

### **63. Calculation of capital in the United Kingdom:**

Capital which an applicant possesses in the United Kingdom is to be calculated at its current market or surrender value less—

- (a) where there would be expenses attributable to the sale, 10 per cent; and
- (b) the amount of any encumbrance secured on it.

### **64. Calculation of capital outside the United Kingdom:**

Capital which an applicant possesses in a country outside the United Kingdom will be calculated—

- (a) in a case where there is no prohibition in that country against the transfer to the United Kingdom of an amount equal to its current market or surrender value in that country, at that value;

(b) in a case where there is such a prohibition, at the price which it would realise if sold in the United Kingdom to a willing buyer, less, where there would be expenses attributable to sale, 10 percent and the amount of any encumbrances secured on it.

### **65. Notional capital:**

(1) An applicant is to be treated as possessing capital of which he has deprived himself for the purpose of securing entitlement to a reduction under this scheme or increasing the amount of that reduction except to the extent that that capital is reduced in accordance with point 66 (diminishing notional capital rule).

(2) Except in the case of—

(a) a discretionary trust; or

(b) a trust derived from a payment made in consequence of a personal injury; or

(c) any loan which would be obtained only if secured against capital disregarded under point 90; or

(d) a personal pension scheme, occupational pension scheme or a payment made by the Board of the Pension Protection Fund; or

(e) any sum to which sub-paragraph 46(2)(a) of point 90 (capital to be disregarded) applies which is administered in the way referred to in sub-paragraph 46(1)(a) of point 90; or

(f) any sum to which sub-paragraph 47(a) of point 90 refers; or

(g) child tax credit; or

(h) working tax credit,

any capital which would become available to the applicant upon application being made, but which has not been acquired by him, is to be treated as possessed by him but only from the date on which it could be expected to be acquired were an application made.

(3) Any payment of capital, other than a payment of capital specified in point 65 paragraph (4), made—

(a) to a third party in respect of a single applicant or a member of the family (but not a member of the third party's family) must, where that payment is a payment of an occupational pension, a pension or other periodical payment made under a personal pension scheme or a payment made by the Board of the Pension Protection Fund, be treated as possessed by that single applicant or, as the case may be, by that member;

(b) to a third party in respect of a single applicant or in respect of a member of the family (but not a member of the third party's family) must, where it is not a payment referred to in point 65 sub-paragraph (3)(a), be treated as possessed by that single applicant or by that member to the extent that it is used for the food, ordinary clothing or footwear, household fuel or rent of that single applicant or, as the case may be, of any member of that family or is used for any council tax or water charges for which that applicant or member is liable;

(c) to a single applicant or a member of the family in respect of a third party (but not in respect of another member of the family) must be treated as possessed by that

single applicant or, as the case may be, that member of the family to the extent that it is kept or used by him or used by or on behalf of any member of the family.

(4) Point 65 paragraph (3) does not apply in respect of a payment of capital made—

(a) under or by any of the Trusts, the Fund, the Eileen Trust, MFET Limited, the Independent Living Fund (2006), the Skipton Fund, the Caxton Foundation, the Scottish Infected Blood Support Scheme, an approved blood scheme, the London Emergencies Trust, the We Love Manchester Emergency Fund or the London Bombings Relief Charitable Fund;

(b) pursuant to section 2 of the Employment and Training Act 1973 in respect of a person's participation—

(i) in an employment programme specified in regulation 75(1)(a)(ii) of the Jobseeker's Allowance Regulations 1996;

(ii) in a training scheme specified in regulation 75(1)(b)(ii) of those Regulations;

(iii) in the Intense Activity Period specified in regulation 75(1)(a)(iv) of those Regulations;

(iv) in a qualifying course within the meaning specified in regulation 17A (7) of those Regulations; or

(v) in the Flexible New Deal specified in regulation 75(1)(a)(v) of those Regulations;

(c) in respect of a person's participation in the Work for Your Benefit Pilot Scheme;

(d) in respect of a person's participation in the Mandatory Work Activity Scheme;

(e) in respect of an applicant's participation in the Employment, Skills and Enterprise Scheme;

(f) under an occupational pension scheme, in respect of a pension or other periodical payment made under a personal pension scheme or a payment made by the Board of the Pension Protection Fund where—

(i) a bankruptcy order has been made in respect of the person in respect of whom the payment has been made or, in Scotland, the estate of that person is subject to sequestration or a judicial factor has been appointed on that person's estate under section 41 of the Solicitors (Scotland) Act 1980;

(ii) the payment is made to the trustee in bankruptcy or any other person acting on behalf of the creditors; and

(iii) the person referred to in (i) and any member of his family does not possess, or is not treated as possessing, any other income apart from that payment.

(5) Where an applicant stands in relation to a company in a position analogous to that of a sole owner or partner in the business of that company, he may be treated as if he were such sole owner or partner and in such a case—

(a) the value of his holding in that company must, notwithstanding paragraph 61 (calculation of capital) be disregarded; and

(b) he must, subject to point 65 paragraph (6), be treated as possessing an amount of capital equal to the value or, as the case may be, his share of the value of the capital of that company and the foregoing provisions of these scheme rules

Chapter shall apply for the purposes of calculating that amount as if it were actual capital which he does possess.

(6) For so long as the applicant undertakes activities in the course of the business of the company, the amount which he is treated as possessing under point 65 paragraph (5) is to be disregarded.

(7) Where an applicant is treated as possessing capital under any of paragraphs of these rules the foregoing provisions contained in them apply for the purposes of calculating its amount as if it were actual capital which he does possess.

#### **66. Diminishing notional capital rule:**

(1) Where an applicant is treated as possessing capital under point 65 paragraph (1) (notional capital), the amount which he is treated as possessing—

(a) in the case of a week that is subsequent to—

(i) the relevant week in respect of which the conditions set out in point 66 paragraph (2) are satisfied; or

(ii) a week which follows that relevant week and which satisfies those conditions, shall be reduced by an amount determined under point 66 paragraph (3);

(b) in the case of a week in respect of which point 66 sub-paragraph (1)(a) does not apply but where—

(i) that week is a week subsequent to the relevant week; and

(ii) that relevant week is a week in which the condition in point 66 paragraph (4) is satisfied,

shall be reduced by the amount determined under point 66 paragraph (4).

(2) This paragraph applies to a benefit week or part-week where the claimant satisfies the conditions that—

(a) he is in receipt of a reduction under the authorities scheme; and

(b) but for point 65 paragraph (1), he would have received an additional amount of reduction in that week.

(3) In a case to which point 66 paragraph (2) applies, the amount of the reduction for the purposes of point 66 sub-paragraph (1)(a) shall be equal to the aggregate of—

(a) the additional amount to which point 66 sub-paragraph (2)(b) refers;

(b) where the claimant has also claimed housing benefit, the amount of any housing benefit or any additional amount of that benefit to which he would have been entitled in respect of the whole or part of the benefit week to which point 66 paragraph (2) refers but for the application of regulation 49(1) of the Housing Benefit Regulations (notional capital);

(c) where the claimant has also claimed income support, the amount of income support to which he would have been entitled in respect of the whole or part of the benefit week to which point 66 paragraph (2) refers but for the application of regulation 51(1) of the Income Support Regulations (a) (notional capital);

(d) where the claimant has also claimed a jobseeker's allowance, the amount of an income-based jobseeker's allowance to which he would have been entitled in

respect of the whole or part of the benefit week to which point 66 paragraph (2) refers but for the application of regulation 113 of the jobseeker's Allowance Regulations (notional capital) and

(e) where the claimant has also claimed an employment and support allowance, the amount of an income-related employment and support allowance to which he would have been entitled in respect of the whole or part of benefit week to which point 66 paragraph (2) refers but for the application of regulation 115 of the Employment and Support Allowance Regulations (notional capital).

(4) Subject to point 66 paragraph (5), for the purposes of point 66 sub-paragraph (1)(b) the condition is that the claimant would have been entitled to a reduction under the authorities scheme in the relevant week but for point 65 paragraph (1), and in such a case the amount of the reduction in notional capital shall be equal to the aggregate of —

(a) the amount of council tax reduction to which the claimant would have been entitled in the relevant week but for point 65 paragraph (1); and for the purposes of this sub-paragraph if the amount is in respect of a part-week, that amount shall be determined by dividing the amount of council tax reduction to which he would have been so entitled by the number equal to the number of days in the part-week and multiplying the quotient so obtained by 7;

(b) if the claimant would, but for regulation 49(1) of the Housing Benefit Regulations, have been entitled to housing benefit or to an additional amount of housing benefit in respect of the benefit week which includes the last day of the relevant week, the amount which is equal to—

(i) in a case where no housing benefit is payable, the amount to which he would have been entitled; or

(ii) in any other case, the amount equal to the additional amount of housing benefit to which he would have been entitled,

and, for the purposes of this sub-paragraph, if the amount is in respect of a part-week, that amount shall be determined by dividing the amount of housing benefit to which he would have been so entitled by the number equal to the number of days in the part-week and multiplying the quotient so obtained by 7;

(c) if the claimant would, but for regulation 51(1) of the Income Support Regulations, have been entitled to income support in respect of the benefit week, within the meaning of regulation 2(1) of those Regulations (interpretation), which includes the last day of the relevant week, the amount to which he would have been entitled and, for the purposes of this sub-paragraph, if the amount is in respect of a part-week, that amount shall be determined by dividing the amount of the income support to which he would have been so entitled by the number equal to the number of days in the part-week and multiplying the quotient so obtained by 7;

(d) if the claimant would, but for regulation 113 of the jobseeker's Allowance Regulations, have been entitled to an income-based jobseeker's allowance in respect of the benefit week, within the meaning of regulation 1(3) of those Regulations (interpretation), which includes the last day of the relevant week, the amount to which he would have been entitled and, for the purposes of this sub-

paragraph, if the amount is in respect of a part-week, that amount shall be determined by dividing the amount of the income-based jobseeker's allowance to which he would have been so entitled by the number equal to the number of days in the part-week and multiplying the quotient so obtained by 7

(e) if the claimant would, but for regulation 115 of the Employment and Support Allowance Regulations, have been entitled to an income-related employment and support allowance in respect of the benefit week, within the meaning of regulation 2(1) of those Regulations (interpretation), which includes the last day of the relevant week, the amount to which he would have been entitled and, for the purposes of this sub-paragraph, if the amount is in respect of a part-week, that amount must be determined by dividing the amount of the income-related employment and support allowance to which he would have been so entitled by the number equal to the number of days in that part-week and multiplying the quotient so obtained by 7.

(5) The amount determined under point 66 paragraph (4) shall be re-determined under that paragraph if the claimant makes a further claim for council tax reduction under the authority's scheme and the conditions in point 66 paragraph (6) are satisfied, and in such a case—

(a) sub-paragraphs (a) to (d) of paragraph (4) of point 66 shall apply as if for the words "relevant week" there were substituted the words "relevant subsequent week"; and

(b) subject to point 66 paragraph (7), the amount as re-determined shall have effect from the first week following the relevant subsequent week in question.

(6) The conditions are that—

(a) a further claim is made 26 or more weeks after—

(i) the date on which the claimant made a claim for council tax reduction under the authority's scheme in respect of which he was first treated as possessing the capital in question under point 65 paragraph (1);

(ii) in a case where there has been at least one re-determination in accordance with point 66 paragraph (5), the date on which he last made a claim for council tax reduction under the authority's scheme which resulted in the weekly amount being re-determined, or

(iii) the date on which he last ceased to be entitled to council tax reduction under the authority's scheme, whichever last occurred; and

(b) the claimant would have been entitled to council tax reduction under the authority's scheme but for point 65 paragraph (1).

(7) The amount as re-determined pursuant to point 66 paragraph (5) shall not have effect if it is less than the amount which applied in that case immediately before the re-determination and in such a case the higher amount shall continue to have effect.

(8) For the purposes of this paragraph—

(a) "part-week"—

(i) in point 66 sub-paragraph (4)(a) means a period of less than a week for which council tax reduction under the authority's scheme is allowed;

- (ii) in point 66 sub-paragraph (4)(b) means a period of less than a week for which housing benefit is payable;
  - (iii) in point 66 sub-paragraph (4)(c), (d) and (e) means—
    - (aa) a period of less than a week which is the whole period for which income support, an income-related employment and support allowance or, as the case may be, an income-based jobseeker’s allowance is payable; and
    - (bb) any other period of less than a week for which it is payable;
    - (c) "relevant week" means the benefit week or part-week in which the capital in question of which the claimant has deprived himself within the meaning of point 65 paragraph (1)—
      - (i) was first taken into account for the purpose of determining his entitlement to council tax reduction under the authority’s scheme; or
      - (ii) was taken into account on a subsequent occasion for the purpose of determining or redetermining his entitlement to council tax reduction under the authority’s scheme on that subsequent occasion and that determination or re-determination resulted in his beginning to receive, or ceasing to receive, council tax reduction under the authority’s scheme;
- and where more than one benefit week is identified by reference to heads (i) and (ii) of this sub-paragraph the later or latest such benefit week or, as the case may be, the later or latest such part week;
- (c) "relevant subsequent week" means the benefit week or part-week which includes the day on which the further claim or, if more than one further claim has been made, the last such claim was made.

**67. Capital jointly held:**

Except where an applicant possesses capital which is disregarded under point 65 paragraph (5) (notional capital), where an applicant and one or more persons are beneficially entitled in possession to any capital asset they must be treated as if each of them were entitled in possession to the whole beneficial interest therein in an equal share and the foregoing provisions of this Chapter apply for the purposes of calculating the amount of capital which the applicant is treated as possessing as if it were actual capital which the applicant does possess.

**68. Interpretation:**

(1) In this scheme in respect of points 68 to 82 inclusive—  
 “academic year” means the period of twelve months beginning on 1st January, 1st April, 1st July or 1st September according to whether the course in question begins in the winter, the spring, the summer or the autumn respectively but if students are required to begin attending the course during August or September and to continue

attending through the autumn, the academic year of the course is to be considered to begin in the autumn rather than the summer;

“access funds” means—

(a) grants made under section 68 of the Further and Higher Education Act 1992 for the purpose of providing funds on a discretionary basis to be paid to students;

(b) grants made under sections 73(a) and (c) and 74(1) of the Education (Scotland) Act 1980;

(c) grants made under Article 30 of the Education and Libraries (Northern Ireland) Order 1993 or grants, loans or other payments made under Article 5 of the Further Education (Northern Ireland) Order 1997 in each case being grants, or grants, loans or other payments as the case may be, for the purpose of assisting students in financial difficulties;

(d) discretionary payments, known as “learner support funds”, which are made available to students in further education by institutions out of funds provided by the Young People’s Learning Agency for England under sections 61 and 62 of the Apprenticeships, Skills, Children and Learning Act 2009 or the Chief Executive of Skills Funding under sections 100 and 101 of that Act; or

(e) financial Contingency Funds made available by the Welsh Ministers;

“college of further education” means a college of further education within the meaning of Part 1 of the Further and Higher Education (Scotland) Act 1992;

“contribution” means—

(a) any contribution in respect of the income of a student or any person which the Secretary of State, the Scottish Ministers or an education authority takes into account in ascertaining the amount of a student’s grant or student loan; or

(b) any sums, which in determining the amount of a student’s allowance or bursary in Scotland under the Education (Scotland) Act 1980, the Scottish Ministers or education authority takes into account being sums which the Scottish Ministers or education authority considers that it is reasonable for the following persons to contribute towards the holder’s expenses—

(i) the holder of the allowance or bursary;

(ii) the holder’s parents;

(iii) the holder’s parent’s spouse, civil partner or a person ordinarily living with the holder’s parent as if he or she were the spouse or civil partner of that parent; or

(iv) the holder’s spouse or civil partner;

“course of study” means any course of study, whether or not it is a sandwich course and whether or not a grant is made for attending or undertaking it;

“covenant income” means the gross income payable to a full-time student under a Deed of Covenant by his parent;

“education authority” means a government department, a local authority as defined in section 579 of the Education Act 1996 (interpretation), a local education authority as defined in section 123 of the Local Government (Scotland) Act 1973, an education and library board established under Article 3 of the Education and Libraries (Northern Ireland) Order 1986, any body which is a research council for the purposes of the Science and Technology Act 1965 or any analogous government department,

authority, board or body, of the Channel Islands, Isle of Man or any other country outside Great Britain;

“full-time course of study” means a full-time course of study which—

- (a) is not funded in whole or in part by the Young People’s Learning Agency for England, the Chief Executive of Skills Funding or by the Welsh Ministers or a full-time course of study which is not funded in whole or in part by the Scottish Ministers at a college of further education or a full-time course of study which is a course of higher education and is funded in whole or in part by the Scottish Ministers;
- (b) is funded in whole or in part by the Young People’s Learning Agency for England, the Chief Executive of Skills Funding or by the Welsh Ministers if it involves more than 16 guided learning hours per week for the student in question, according to the number of guided learning hours per week for that student set out—
  - (i) in the case of a course funded by the Young People’s Learning Agency for England or the Chief Executive of Skills Funding, in the student’s learning agreement signed on behalf of the establishment which is funded by either of those bodies for the delivery of that course; or
  - (ii) in the case of a course funded by the Welsh Ministers, in a document signed on behalf of the establishment which is funded by that Council for the delivery of that course; or
- (c) is not higher education and is funded in whole or in part by the Scottish Ministers at a college of further education and involves—
  - (i) more than 16 hours per week of classroom-based or workshop-based programmed learning under the direct guidance of teaching staff according to the number of hours set out in a document signed on behalf of the college; or
  - (ii) 16 hours or less per week of classroom-based or workshop-based programmed learning under the direct guidance of teaching staff and additional hours using structured learning packages supported by the teaching staff where the combined total of hours exceeds 21 hours per week, according to the number of hours set out in a document signed on behalf of the college;

“full-time student” means a person attending or undertaking a full-time course of study and includes a student on a sandwich course;

“grant” (except in the definition of “access funds”) means any kind of educational grant or award and includes any scholarship, studentship, exhibition, allowance or bursary but does not include a payment from access funds or any payment to which paragraph 51 of point 90 applies;

“grant income” means—

- (a) any income by way of a grant;
- (b) any contribution whether or not it is paid;

“higher education” means higher education within the meaning of Part 2 of the Further and Higher Education (Scotland) Act 1992;

“last day of the course” means—

- (a) in the case of a qualifying course, the date on which the last day of that course falls or the date on which the final examination relating to that course is completed, whichever is the later;

(b) in any other case, the date on which the last day of the final academic term falls in respect of the course in which the student is enrolled;

“period of study” means—

(a) in the case of a course of study for one year or less, the period beginning with the start of the course and ending with the last day of the course;

(b) in the case of a course of study for more than one year, in the first or, as the case may be, any subsequent year of the course, other than the final year of the course, the period beginning with the start of the course or, as the case may be, that year’s start and ending with either—

(i) the day before the start of the next year of the course in a case where the student’s grant or loan is assessed at a rate appropriate to his studying throughout the year or, if he does not have a grant or loan, where a loan would have been assessed at such a rate had he had one; or

(ii) in any other case, the day before the start of the normal summer vacation appropriate to his course;

(c) in the final year of a course of study of more than one year, the period beginning with that year’s start and ending with the last day of the course;

“periods of experience” means periods of work experience which form part of a sandwich course;

“qualifying course” means a qualifying course as defined for the purposes of Parts 2 and 4 of the Jobseeker’s Allowance Regulations ;

“sandwich course” has the meaning prescribed in regulation 2(9) of the Education (Student Support) Regulations 2008, regulation 4(2) of the Education (Student Loans) (Scotland) Regulations 2007 or regulation 2(8) of the Education (Student Support) Regulations (Northern Ireland) 2007, as the case may be;

“standard maintenance grant” means—

(a) except where paragraph (b) or (c) applies, in the case of a student attending or undertaking a course of study at the University of London or an establishment within the area comprising the City of London and the Metropolitan Police District, the amount specified for the time being in paragraph 2(2)(a) of Schedule 2 to the Education (Mandatory Awards) Regulations 2003 (“the 2003 Regulations”) for such a student;

(b) except where point 68 sub-paragraph (c) below applies, in the case of a student residing at his parent’s home, the amount specified in point 68 paragraph 3 thereof;

(c) in the case of a student receiving an allowance or bursary under the Education (Scotland) Act 1980, the amount of money specified as “standard maintenance allowance” for the relevant year appropriate for the student set out in the Student Support in Scotland Guide issued by the Student Awards Agency for Scotland, or its nearest equivalent in the case of a bursary provided by a college of further education or a local education authority;

(d) in any other case, the amount specified in paragraph 2(2) of Schedule 2 to the 2003 Regulations other than in sub-paragraph (a) or (b) thereof;

“student” means a person, other than a person in receipt of a training allowance, who is attending or undertaking—

- (a) a course of study at an educational establishment; or
- (b) a qualifying course;

“student loan” means a loan towards a student’s maintenance pursuant to any regulations made under section 22 of the Teaching and Higher Education Act 1998, section 73 of the Education (Scotland) Act 1980 or Article 3 of the Education (Student Support) (Northern Ireland) Order 1998 and includes, in Scotland, a young student’s bursary paid under regulation 4(1)(c) of the Students’ Allowances (Scotland) Regulations 2007.

(2) For the purposes of the definition of “full-time student” in point 68 paragraph (1), a person must be regarded as attending or, as the case may be, undertaking a full-time course of study or as being on a sandwich course—

(a) subject to point 68 paragraph (3), in the case of a person attending or undertaking a part of a modular course which would be a full-time course of study for the purposes of these rules, for the period beginning on the day on which that part of the course starts and ending—

(i) on the last day on which he is registered with the educational establishment as attending or undertaking that part as a full-time course of study; or

(ii) on such earlier date (if any) as he finally abandons the course or is dismissed from it;

(b) in any other case, throughout the period beginning on the date on which he starts attending or undertaking the course and ending on the last day of the course or on such earlier date (if any) as he finally abandons it or is dismissed from it.

(3) For the purposes of sub-paragraph (a) of paragraph (2) of point 68, the period referred to in that sub-paragraph includes—

(a) where a person has failed examinations or has failed successfully to complete a module relating to a period when he was attending or undertaking a part of the course as a full-time course of study, any period in respect of which he attends or undertakes the course for the purpose of retaking those examinations or that module;

(b) any period of vacation within the period specified in that paragraph or immediately following that period except where the person has registered with the educational establishment to attend or undertake the final module in the course and the vacation immediately follows the last day on which he is required to attend or undertake the course.

(4) In paragraph (2) of point 68, “modular course” means a course of study which consists of two or more modules, the successful completion of a specified number of which is required before a person is considered by the educational establishment to have completed the course.

## **69. Treatment of students:**

This scheme has effect in relation to students subject to point 39 (Classes of person excluded from this scheme) and the following provisions of these rules.

**70. Students who are excluded from entitlement to a council tax reduction under this scheme:**

(1) Subject to point 70 paragraphs (2) and (6), for the purposes of point 39 (Classes of person excluded from this scheme), this paragraph applies to full-time students and students who are persons treated as not being in Great Britain.

(2) point 70 paragraph (1) does not apply to a student—

(a) who is a person on income support, an income-based jobseeker's allowance or an income-related employment and support allowance;

(b) who is a lone parent;

(c) whose applicable amount would, but for this regulation, include the disability premium or severe disability premium;

(d) whose applicable amount would include the disability premium but for his being treated as capable of work by virtue of a determination made in accordance with regulations made under section 171E of the SSCBA;

(e) who is, or is treated as, incapable of work and has been so incapable, or has been so treated as incapable, of work in accordance with the provisions of, and regulations made under, Part 12A of the SSCBA (incapacity for work) for a continuous period of not less than 196 days; and for this purpose any two or more separate periods separated by a break of not more than 56 days must be treated as one continuous period;

(f) who has, or is treated as having, limited capability for work and has had, or been treated as having, limited capability for work in accordance with the Employment and Support Allowance Regulations 2008 for a continuous period of not less than 196 days, and for this purpose any two or more separate periods separated by a break of not more than 84 days must be treated as one continuous period;

(g) who has a partner who is also a full-time student, if he or that partner is treated as responsible for a child or young person;

(h) who is a single applicant with whom a child is placed by a local authority or voluntary organisation within the meaning of the Children Act 1989 or, in Scotland, boarded out within the meaning of the Social Work (Scotland) Act 1968;

(i) who is—

(i) aged under 21 and whose course of study is not a course of higher education, or

(ii) a qualifying young person or child within the meaning of section 142 of the SSCBA (child and qualifying young person);

(j) in respect of whom—

(i) a supplementary requirement has been determined under paragraph 9 of Part 2 of Schedule 2 to the Education (Mandatory Awards) Regulations 2003;

(ii) an allowance, or as the case may be, bursary has been granted which includes a sum under paragraph (1)(d) of regulation 4 of the Students' Allowances (Scotland) Regulations 1999 or, as the case may be, under paragraph (1)(d) of

regulation 4 of the Education Authority (Bursaries) (Scotland) Regulations 1995, in respect of expenses incurred;

(iii) a payment has been made under section 2 of the Education Act 1962 or under or by virtue of regulations made under the Teaching and Higher Education Act 1998;

(iv) a grant has been made under regulation 13 of the Education (Student Support) Regulations 2005 or under regulation 13 of the Education (Student Support) Regulations (Northern Ireland) 2000; or

(v) a supplementary requirement has been determined under paragraph 9 of Schedule 6 to the Students Awards Regulations (Northern Ireland) 1999 or a payment has been made under Article 50(3) of the Education and Libraries (Northern Ireland) Order 1986, on account of his disability by reason of deafness.

(3) For the purposes of point 70 sub-paragraph (2)(i)(i) the student must have begun, or been enrolled or accepted onto, the course before attaining the age of 19.

(4) For the purposes of point 70 paragraph (2), once point 70 sub-paragraph (2)(e) applies to a full-time student, if he then ceases, for a period of 56 days or less, to be incapable, or to be treated as incapable, of work, that sub-paragraph must, on his again becoming so incapable, or so treated as incapable, of work at the end of that period, immediately thereafter apply to him for so long as he remains incapable or is treated as remaining incapable, of work.

(5) In point 70 sub-paragraph (2)(i) the reference to a course of higher education is a reference to a course of any description mentioned in Schedule 6 to the Education Reform Act 1988.

(6) A full-time student to whom sub-paragraph (i) of paragraph (2) of point 70 applies must be treated as satisfying that sub-paragraph from the date on which he made a request for the supplementary requirement, allowance, bursary or payment as the case may be.

(7) Point 70 paragraph (1) does not apply to a full-time student for the period specified in point 70 paragraph (8) if—

(a) at any time during an academic year, with the consent of the relevant educational establishment, he ceases to attend or undertake a course because he is—

(i) engaged in caring for another person; or

(ii) ill;

(b) he has subsequently ceased to be engaged in caring for that person or, as the case may be, he has subsequently recovered from that illness; and

(c) he is not eligible for a grant or a student loan in respect of the period specified in point 70 paragraph (8).

(8) The period specified for the purposes of point 70 paragraph (7) is the period, not exceeding one year, beginning on the day on which he ceased to be engaged in caring for that person or, as the case may be, the day on which he recovered from that illness and ending on the day before—

(a) the day on which he resumes attending or undertaking the course; or

(b) the day from which the relevant educational establishment has agreed that he may resume attending or undertaking the course, whichever shall first occur.

## **71. Calculation of grant income:**

- (1) The amount of a student's grant income to be taken into account must, subject to point 71 paragraphs (2) and (3), be the whole of his grant income.
- (2) There must be excluded from a student's grant income any payment—
  - (a) intended to meet tuition fees or examination fees;
  - (b) in respect of the student's disability;
  - (c) intended to meet additional expenditure connected with term time residential study away from the student's educational establishment;
  - (d) on account of the student maintaining a home at a place other than that at which he resides during his course;
  - (e) on account of any other person but only if that person is residing outside the United Kingdom and there is no applicable amount in respect of him;
  - (f) intended to meet the cost of books and equipment;
  - (g) intended to meet travel expenses incurred as a result of his attendance on the course;
  - (h) intended for the childcare costs of a child dependant;
  - (i) of higher education bursary for care leavers made under Part 3 of the Children Act 1989.
- (3) Where a student does not have a student loan and is not treated as possessing such a loan, there must be excluded from the student's grant income—
  - (a) the sum of £303 per academic year in respect of travel costs; and
  - (b) the sum of £390 per academic year towards the costs of books and equipment, whether or not any such costs are incurred.
- (4) There must also be excluded from a student's grant income the grant for dependents known as the parents' learning allowance paid pursuant to regulations made under Article 3 of the Education (Student Support) (Northern Ireland) Order 1998 or section 22 of the Teaching and Higher Education Act 1998.
- (5) Subject to point 71 paragraphs (6) and (7), a student's grant income must be apportioned—
  - (a) subject to point 71 paragraph (8), in a case where it is attributable to the period of study, equally between the weeks in that period beginning with the reduction week, the first day of which coincides with, or immediately follows, the first day of the period of study and ending with the reduction week, the last day of which coincides with, or immediately precedes, the last day of the period of study;
  - (b) in any other case, equally between the weeks in the period beginning with the reduction week, the first day of which coincides with, or immediately follows, the first day of the period for which it is payable and ending with the reduction week, the last day of which coincides with, or immediately precedes, the last day of the period for which it is payable.
- (6) Any grant in respect of dependants paid under section 63(6) of the Health Services and Public Health Act 1968 (grants in respect of the provision of instruction to officers of hospital authorities) and any amount intended for the maintenance of

dependants under Part 3 of Schedule 2 to the Education (Mandatory Awards) Regulations 2003 must be apportioned equally over the period of 52 weeks or, if there are 53 reduction weeks (including part-weeks) in the year, 53.

(7) In a case where a student is in receipt of a student loan or where he could have acquired a student loan by taking reasonable steps but had not done so, any amount intended for the maintenance of dependants to which neither sub-paragraph (6) nor point 75 paragraph (2) (other amounts to be disregarded) applies, must be apportioned over the same period as the student's loan is apportioned or, as the case may be, would have been apportioned.

(8) In the case of a student on a sandwich course, any periods of experience within the period of study must be excluded and the student's grant income must be apportioned equally between the weeks in the period beginning with the reduction week, the first day of which immediately follows the last day of the period of experience and ending with the reduction week, the last day of which coincides with, or immediately precedes, the last day of the period of study.

(9) The figures stated in point 71 paragraph 3 in respect of travel costs, books and equipment will be updated at the same time and to the same rate as is used in the Housing Benefit scheme. The current rate used for housing benefit will apply if it is different to what is stated in point 71 paragraph 3.

## **72. Calculation of covenant income where a contribution is assessed:**

(1) Where a student is in receipt of income by way of a grant during a period of study and a contribution has been assessed, the amount of his covenant income to be taken into account for that period and any summer vacation immediately following must be the whole amount of the covenant income less, subject to sub-paragraph (3), the amount of the contribution.

(2) The weekly amount of the student's covenant must be determined—

(a) by dividing the amount of income which falls to be taken into account under point 72 paragraph (1) by 52 or 53, whichever is reasonable in the circumstances; and

(b) by disregarding £5 from the resulting amount.

(3) For the purposes of point 72 paragraph (1), the contribution must be treated as increased by the amount (if any) by which the amount excluded under paragraph 48(2)(g) (calculation of grant income) falls short of the amount specified in paragraph 7(2) of Schedule 2 to the Education (Mandatory Awards) Regulations 2003 (travel expenditure).

## **73. Covenant income where no grant income or no contribution is assessed:**

(1) Where a student is not in receipt of income by way of a grant the amount of his covenant income must be calculated as follows—

- (a) any sums intended for any expenditure specified in point 71 sub-paragraphs (2)(a) to (e) (calculation of grant income) necessary as a result of his attendance on the course must be disregarded;
  - (b) any covenant income, up to the amount of the standard maintenance grant, which is not so disregarded, must be apportioned equally between the weeks of the period of study;
  - (c) there must be disregarded from the amount so apportioned the amount which would have been disregarded under point 71 sub-paragraph (2)(f) and point 71 paragraph (3) (calculation of grant income) had the student been in receipt of the standard maintenance grant; and
  - (d) the balance, if any, must be divided by 52 or 53 whichever is reasonable in the circumstances and treated as weekly income of which £5 must be disregarded.
- (2) Where a student is in receipt of income by way of a grant and no contribution has been assessed, the amount of his covenanted income must be calculated in accordance with sub-paragraphs (a) to (d) of paragraph (1) of point 73, except that—
- (a) the value of the standard maintenance grant must be abated by the amount of such grant income less an amount equal to the amount of any sums disregarded under point 71 sub-paragraphs (2)(a) to (2)(e); and
  - (b) the amount to be disregarded under point 73 sub-paragraph (1)(c) must be abated by an amount equal to the amount of any sums disregarded under point 71 sub-paragraphs (2)(f) and (2)(g), and point 71 paragraph (3).

#### **74. Relationship with amounts to be disregarded:**

- (1) No part of a student's covenant income or grant income shall be disregarded under paragraph 19 of point 89.

#### **75. Other amounts to be disregarded**

- (1) For the purposes of ascertaining income other than grant income, covenant income and loans treated as income in accordance with point 76 (treatment of student loans), any amounts intended for any expenditure specified in paragraph point 71 paragraph (2) (calculation of grant income), necessary as a result of his attendance on the course shall be disregarded.
- (2) But point 75 paragraph (1) applies only if, and to the extent that, the necessary expenditure exceeds or is likely to exceed the amount of the sums disregarded under point 71 paragraphs (2) or (3), point 72 paragraph (3), point 73 sub-paragraphs (1)(a) or 1(c), or point 76 paragraph (5) (calculation of grant income, covenant income and treatment of student loans) on like expenditure.

## **76. Treatment of student loans:**

(1) A student loan is to be treated as income.

(2) In calculating the weekly amount of the loan to be taken into account as income—

(a) in respect of a course that is of a single academic year's duration or less, a loan which is payable in respect of that period is to be apportioned equally between the weeks in the period beginning with—

(i) except in a case where point 76 sub-paragraph (2)(a)(ii) applies, the reduction week, the first day of which coincides with, or immediately follows, the first day of the single academic year;

(ii) where the student is required to start attending the course in August or where the course is less than an academic year's duration, the reduction week, the first day of which coincides with, or immediately follows, the first day of the course, and ending with the reduction week, the last day of which coincides with, or immediately precedes, the last day of the course;

(b) in respect of an academic year of a course which starts other than on 1st September, a loan which is payable in respect of that academic year is to be apportioned equally between the weeks in the period—

(i) beginning with the reduction week, the first day of which coincides with or immediately follows, the first day of that academic year, and

(ii) ending with the reduction week, the last day of which coincides with or immediately precedes, the last day of that academic year, but excluding any reduction weeks falling entirely within the quarter during which, in the opinion of the authority, the longest of any vacation is taken and for the purposes of this paragraph, "quarter" shall have the same meaning as for the purposes of the Education (Student Support) Regulations 2005;

(c) in respect of the final academic year of a course (not being a course of a single year's duration), a loan which is payable in respect of that final academic year is to be apportioned equally between the weeks in the period beginning with—

(i) except in a case where point 76 sub-paragraph (2)(c)(ii) applies, the reduction week, the first day of which coincides with, or immediately follows, the first day of that academic year;

(ii) where the final academic year starts on 1st September, the reduction week, the first day of which coincides with, or immediately follows, the earlier of 1st September or the first day of the autumn term, and ending with the reduction week, the last day of which coincides with, or immediately precedes, the last day of the course;

(d) in any other case, the loan is to be apportioned equally between the weeks in the period beginning with the earlier of—

(i) the first day of the first reduction week in September; or

(ii) the reduction week, the first day of which coincides with, or immediately follows the first day of the autumn term,

and ending with the reduction week, the last day of which coincides with, or immediately precedes, the last day of June, and, in all cases, from the weekly amount so apportioned there shall be disregarded £10.

(3) A student is to be treated as possessing a student loan in respect of an academic year where—

- (a) a student loan has been made to him in respect of that year; or
- (b) he could acquire such a loan in respect of that year by taking reasonable steps to do so.

(4) Where a student is treated as possessing a student loan under point 76 paragraph (3), the amount of the student loan to be taken into account as income must be, subject to point 76 paragraph (5)—

(a) in the case of a student to whom a student loan is made in respect of an academic year, a sum equal to—

(i) the maximum student loan he is able to acquire in respect of that year by taking reasonable steps to do so; and

(ii) any contribution whether or not it has been paid to him;

(b) in the case of a student to whom a student loan is not made in respect of an academic year, the maximum student loan that would be made to the student if—

(i) he took all reasonable steps to obtain the maximum student loan he is able to acquire in respect of that year; and

(ii) no deduction in that loan was made by virtue of the application of a means test.

(5) There must be deducted from the amount of income taken into account under point 76 paragraph (4)—

(a) the sum of £303 per academic year in respect of travel costs; and

(b) the sum of £390 per academic year towards the cost of books and equipment, whether or not any such costs are incurred.

(6) The figures stated in point 76 paragraph 5 in respect of travel costs, books and equipment will be uprated at the same time and to the same rate as is used in the Housing Benefit scheme. The current rate used for housing benefit will apply if it is different to what is stated in point 76 paragraph 3.

### **77. Treatment of fee loans:**

A loan for fees, known as a fee loan or a fee contribution loan, made pursuant to regulations under Article 3 of the Education (Student Support)(Northern Ireland) Order 1998, section 22 of the Teaching and Higher Education Act 1998 or section 72(f) of the Education (Scotland) Act 1980, shall be disregarded as income.

### **78. Treatment of payments from access funds:**

(1) this paragraph applies to payments from access funds that are not payments to which point 62 paragraphs (2) or (3) (income treated as capital) applies.

- (2) A payment from access funds, other than a payment to which sub-paragraph (3) applies, must be disregarded as income.
- (3) Subject to paragraph (4) of this point (78) and paragraph 40 of point 89—
- (a) any payments from access funds which are intended and used for an item of food, ordinary clothing or footwear, household fuel, or rent of a single applicant or, as the case may be, of the applicant or any other member of his family, and
- (b) any payments from access funds which are used for any council tax or water charges for which that applicant or member is liable, must be disregarded as income to the extent of £20 per week.
- (4) Where a payment from access funds is made—
- (a) on or after 1st September or the first day of the course, whichever first occurs, but before receipt of any student loan in respect of that year and that payment is intended for the purpose of bridging the period until receipt of the student loan; or
- (b) before the first day of the course to a person in anticipation of that person becoming a student, that payment must be disregarded as income.

#### **79 Disregard of contribution:**

Where the applicant or his partner is a student and, for the purposes of assessing a contribution to the student's grant or student loan, the other partner's income has been taken into account, an amount equal to that contribution must be disregarded for the purposes of assessing that other partner's income.

#### **80. Further disregard of student's income:**

Where any part of a student's income has already been taken into account for the purposes of assessing his entitlement to a grant or student loan, the amount taken into account must be disregarded in assessing that student's income.

#### **81. Income treated as capital:**

- (1) Any amount by way of a refund of tax deducted from a student's covenant income must be treated as capital.
- (2) An amount paid from access funds as a single lump sum must be treated as capital.
- (3) An amount paid from access funds as a single lump sum which is intended and used for an item other than food, ordinary clothing or footwear, household fuel or rent, or which is used for an item other than any council tax or water charges for which that applicant or member is liable, must be disregarded as capital but only for a period of 52 weeks from the date of the payment.

**82. Disregard of changes occurring during summer vacation:**

In calculating a student's income the authority must disregard any change in the standard maintenance grant, occurring in the recognised summer vacation appropriate to the student's course, if that vacation does not form part of his period of study from the date on which the change occurred to the end of that vacation.

**83. Date on which entitlement begins:**

(1) Subject to point 83 paragraphs (2) or (3), any person to whom or in respect of whom an application for a reduction under this scheme is made and who is otherwise entitled to that reduction shall be so entitled from the reduction week following the date on which that application is made or is treated as made under points 24 or 85.

(2) Where a person is otherwise entitled to a reduction under this scheme and becomes liable for the first time for the authority's council tax in respect of a dwelling of which he is a resident in the reduction week in which his application is made or is treated as made, he shall be so entitled from that reduction week.

(3) An applicant shall be entitled to Council Tax Reduction from the benefit week in which the first day in of respect of which his claim is made falls, where-

(a) he is otherwise entitled to Council Tax Reduction;

(b) point 83 paragraph (2) does not apply to him; and

(c) he becomes liable in that reduction week to pay Council Tax, which falls due on a daily basis, in respect of accommodation listed in point 83 paragraph (4) which he occupies as his home.

(4) The accommodation referred to in point 83 sub-paragraph 3(c) is-

(a) a hostel;

(b) board and lodging accommodation where the payments are to an authority under section 206(2) of the Housing Act 1996 or section 35(2)(b) of the Housing (Scotland) Act 1987; or

(d) accommodation outside the authority's Housing revenue Account which the authority holds on a lease granted for a term not exceeding 10 years.

(5) In this part -

"board and lodging accommodation" means -

(a) accommodation provided to a person or, if he is a member of a family, to him or any other member of his family, for a charge which is inclusive of the provision of that accommodation and at least some cooked or prepared meals which both are cooked and prepared (by a person other than a person to whom the accommodation is provided or by a member of his family) and are consumed in that accommodation or associated premises; or

(b) accommodation provided to a person in a hotel, guest house, lodging house or similar establishment,

but it does not include accommodation in a care home, an Abbeyfield Home, an independent hospital or a hostel; and

"Housing Revenue Account" has the same meaning as for the purposes of part viii of the Social Security Administration Act 1992.

#### **84. Date on which a change of circumstances is to take effect:**

- (1) Except in cases where point 58 (disregard of changes in tax, contributions, etc) applies and subject to the following provisions of this paragraph a change of circumstances which affects entitlement to, or the amount of, a reduction under this scheme ("change of circumstances"), takes effect from the first day of the reduction week following the date on which the change actually occurs.
- (2) Where that change is cessation of entitlement to any benefit under the benefit Acts, the date on which the change actually occurs shall be the day immediately following the last day of entitlement to that benefit.
- (3) Subject to point 84 paragraph (4), where the change of circumstances is a change in the amount of council tax payable, it takes effect from the day on which it actually occurs.
- (4) Where the change of circumstances is a change in the amount a person is liable to pay in respect of council tax in consequence of regulations under section 13 of the 1992 Act (reduced amounts of council tax) or changes in the discount to which a dwelling may be subject under sections 11 or 11A (discounts) of that Act, it takes effect from the day on which the change in amount has effect.
- (5) Where the change of circumstances is the applicant's acquisition of a partner, the change takes effect on the day on which the acquisition takes place.
- (6) Where the change of circumstances is the death of an applicant's partner or their separation, it takes effect on the day the death or separation occurs.
- (7) If two or more changes of circumstances occurring in the same reduction week would, but for this paragraph, take effect in different reduction weeks in accordance with point 84 paragraphs (1) to (6) they take effect from the day to which the appropriate point 84 paragraph from (2) to (6) above refers, or, where more than one day is concerned, from the earlier day.
- 8) Where the change of circumstances is that income, or an increase in the amount of income, other than a benefit or an increase in the amount of a benefit under the SSCBA, is paid in respect of a past period and there was no entitlement to income of that amount during that period, the change of circumstances takes effect from the first day on which such income, had it been paid in that period at intervals appropriate to that income, would have fallen to be taken into account for the purposes of the authorities scheme.
- (9) Without prejudice to point 84 paragraph (8), where the change of circumstances is the payment of income, or arrears of income, in respect of a past period, the change of circumstances takes effect from the first day on which such income, had it been timeously paid in that period at intervals appropriate to that income, would have fallen to be taken into account for the purposes of the authority's scheme.
- (10) Point 84 paragraph (11) applies if—
  - (a) the applicant or the applicant's partner has attained the age of 65; and
  - (b) either—

- (i) a non-dependant took up residence in the applicant's dwelling; or
- (ii) there has been a change of circumstances in respect of a non-dependant so that the amount of the deduction which falls to be made under point 8 (non-dependent deductions) increased.

(11) Where this sub-paragraph applies, the change of circumstances referred to in point 84 sub-paragraph (10)(b) takes effect from the effective date.

(12) In point 84 paragraph (11), but subject to point 84 paragraph (13), "the effective date" means—

(a) where more than one change of a kind referred to in point 84 sub-paragraph (10)(b) relating to the same non-dependant has occurred since—

(i) the date on which the applicant's entitlement to a reduction under the authority's scheme first began;

or

(ii) the date which was the last effective date in respect of such a change, whichever is the later, the date which falls 26 weeks after the date on which the first such change occurred;

(b) where paragraph (a) does not apply, the date which falls 26 weeks after the date on which the change referred to in point 84 sub-paragraph (10)(b) occurred.

(13) If in any particular case the date determined under point 84 paragraph (12) is not the first day of a reduction week, the effective date in that case is the first day of the next reduction week to commence after the date determined under that sub-paragraph.

### **85. Backdating of applications:**

(1) Where an applicant—

(a) makes an application under this scheme which includes (or which he subsequently requests should include) a period before the application is made; and

(b) from a day in that period, up to the date he made the application (or subsequently requested that the application should include a past period), the applicant had continuous good cause for failing to make an application (or request that the application should include that period), the application is to be treated as made on the date determined in accordance with point 85 paragraph (2).

(2) That date is the latest of—

(a) the first day from which the applicant had continuous good cause;

(b) the day one month before the date the claim was made;

(c) the day one month before the date when the applicant requested that the application should include a past period.

**86. Procedure for applying for a discretionary reduction under section 13A(1)(c) of the 1992 Act:**

(1) An application to an authority for a reduction under section 13A(1)(c)(a) of the 1992 Act may be made—

- (a) in writing,
- (b) by means of an electronic communication in accordance with these scheme rules, or
- (c) where the authority has published a telephone number for the purpose of receiving such applications, by telephone.

(2) Where—

- (a) the authority has made a determination under section 13A(1)(c) in relation to a class of case in which liability is to be reduced; and
- (b) a person in that class would otherwise be entitled to a reduction under its scheme, that person's application for a reduction under the authority's scheme may also be treated as an application for a reduction under section 13A(1)(c).

**87. Sanctioned Universal Credit:**

Notwithstanding these rules no applicant shall receive additional Council Tax Reduction as a result of a reduction in Universal Credit imposed due to a sanction. The applicant shall be treated as receiving their unsanctioned rate of Universal Credit.

**88. Sums disregarded in the calculation of earnings:**

(1) One weekly deduction from the employed or self-employed earnings of an applicant and/or their partner of £25 per week shall be made for each week when earnings are included as an income in assessing a Council Tax Reduction award. It will not be made from the earnings of an applicant in receipt of Universal Credit.

(2) For clarity this is one deduction per claim.

(3) Where the earnings are less than £25 per week then the amount earned will be disregarded.

(4) Where an applicant is on income support, an income-based jobseeker's allowance or an income-related employment and support allowance, the whole of his earnings.

(5) Any earnings derived from employment which are payable in a country outside the United Kingdom for such period during which there is a prohibition against the transfer to the United Kingdom of those earnings.

(6) Where a payment of earnings is made in a currency other than Sterling, any banking charge or commission payable in converting that payment into Sterling.

(7) Any earnings of a child or young person.

**89. Sums disregarded in the calculation of income other than earnings:**

- (1). Any payment made to the applicant in respect of any childcare, travel or other expenses incurred, or to be incurred, by him in respect of his participation in the Work for Your Benefit Pilot Scheme.
- (2). Any payment made to the applicant in respect of any travel or other expenses incurred, or to be incurred, by him in respect of his participation in the Mandatory Work Activity Scheme.
- (3). Any payment made to the applicant in respect of any travel or other expenses incurred, or to be incurred, by him in respect of his participation in the Employment, Skills and Enterprise Scheme.
- (4). Any amount paid by way of tax on income which is to be taken into account under point 52 (calculation of income other than earnings).
- (5). Any payment in respect of any expenses incurred or to be incurred by an applicant who is—
  - (a) engaged by a charitable or voluntary organisation, or
  - (b) a volunteer,if he otherwise derives no remuneration or profit from the employment and is not to be treated as possessing any earnings under point 54 paragraph (5) (notional income).
- (6). Any payment in respect of expenses arising out of the applicant's participation in a service user group.
- (7). In the case of employment as an employed earner, any payment in respect of expenses wholly, exclusively and necessarily incurred in the performance of the duties of the employment.
- (8). Where an applicant is on income support, an income-based jobseeker's allowance, Universal Credit without earned income, or an income-related employment and support allowance, the whole of his income.
- (9). Where the applicant is a member of a joint-claim couple for the purposes of the Jobseekers Act and his partner is on an income-based jobseeker's allowance, the whole of the applicant's income.
- (10). Where the applicant, or the person who was the partner of the applicant on 31st March 2003, was entitled on that date to income support or an income-based jobseeker's allowance but ceased to be so entitled on or before 5th April 2003 by virtue only of Regulation 13 of the Housing Benefit (General) Amendment (No 3) Regulations 1999 as in force at that date, the whole of his income.
- (11). Any disability living allowance, personal independence payment, adult disability payment (as defined in point 1), or child disability payment (as defined in point 1), or pension age disability payment (Scotland).
- (12). Any concessionary payment made to compensate for the non-payment of—
  - (a) any payment specified in paragraphs 11 or 14 of point 89;
  - (b) income support;
  - (c) an income-based jobseeker's allowance;
  - (d) an income-related employment and support allowance;
  - (e) an adult disability payment;

- (f) Scottish Adult Disability Living Allowance
- (g) a child disability payment.
- (13). Any mobility supplement under article 20 of the Naval, Military and Air Forces Etc (Disablement and Death) Service Pensions Order 2006 (including such a supplement by virtue of any other scheme or order) or under article 25A of the Personal Injuries (Civilians) Scheme 1983 or any payment intended to compensate for the non-payment of such a supplement.
- (14). Any attendance allowance.
- (15). Any payment to the applicant as holder of the Victoria Cross or of the George Cross or any analogous payment.
- (16). (1) Any payment—
  - (a) by way of an education maintenance allowance made pursuant to—
    - (i) regulations made under section 518 of the Education Act 1996 (payment of school expenses; grant of scholarships etc);
    - (ii) regulations made under section 49 or 73(f) of the Education (Scotland) Act 1980 (power to assist persons to take advantage of educational facilities);
    - (iii) directions made under section 73ZA of the Education (Scotland) Act 1980 and paid under section 12(2)(c) of the Further and Higher Education (Scotland) Act 1992;
  - (b) corresponding to such an education maintenance allowance, made pursuant to—
    - (i) section 14 or section 181 of the Education Act 2002 (power of Secretary of State and National Assembly for Wales to give financial assistance for purposes related to education or childcare, and allowances in respect of education or training);
    - or
    - (ii) regulations made under section 181 of that Act; or
    - (c) in England, by way of financial assistance made pursuant to section 14 of the Education Act 2002.
- (2) Any payment, other than a payment to which sub-paragraph (16)(1) of point 89 applies, made pursuant to—
  - (a) regulations made under section 518 of the Education Act 1996;
  - (b) regulations made under section 49 of the Education (Scotland) Act 1980; or
  - (c) directions made under section 73ZA of the Education (Scotland) Act 1980 and paid under section 12(2)(c) of the Further and Higher Education (Scotland) Act 1992, in respect of a course of study attended by a child or a young person or a person who is in receipt of an education maintenance allowance or other payment made pursuant to any provision specified in sub-paragraph (16)(1) of point 89.
- (17). Any payment made to the applicant by way of a repayment under regulation 11(2) of the Education (Teacher Student Loans) (Repayment etc) Regulations 2002.
- (18). (1) Any payment made pursuant to section 2 of the 1973 Act or section 2 of the Enterprise and New Towns (Scotland) Act 1990 except a payment—
  - (a) made as a substitute for income support, a jobseeker's allowance, incapacity benefit, severe disablement allowance or an employment and support allowance;

(b) of an allowance referred to in section 2(3) of the Employment and Training Act 1973 or section 2(5) of the Enterprise and New Towns (Scotland) Act 1990; or

(c) intended to meet the cost of living expenses which relate to any one or more of the items specified in point 89 sub-paragraph (18)(2) whilst an applicant is participating in an education, training or other scheme to help him enhance his employment prospects unless the payment is a Career Development Loan paid pursuant to section 2 of the 1973 Act and the period of education or training or the scheme, which is supported by that loan, has been completed.

(2) The items specified in this sub-paragraph for the purposes of sub-paragraph (1)(c) are food, ordinary clothing or footwear, household fuel or rent of the applicant or, where the applicant is a member of a family, any other member of his family, or any council tax or water charges for which that applicant or member is liable.

(19). (1) Subject to sub-paragraph (19)(2) of point 89, any of the following payments—

(a) a charitable payment;

(b) a voluntary payment;

(c) a payment (not falling within paragraph (a) or (b) above) from a trust whose funds are derived from a payment made in consequence of any personal injury to the applicant;

(d) a payment under an annuity purchased—

(i) pursuant to any agreement or court order to make payments to the applicant; or

(ii) from funds derived from a payment made, in consequence of any personal injury to the applicant; or

(e) a payment (not falling within paragraphs (a) to (d)) received by virtue of any agreement or court order to make payments to the applicant in consequence of any personal injury to the applicant.

(2) Point 89 sub-paragraph (19)(1) shall not apply to a payment which is made or due to be made by—

(a) a former partner of the applicant, or a former partner of any member of the applicant's family; or

(b) the parent of a child or young person where that child or young person is a member of the applicant's family.

(20). Subject to point 89 paragraph 40, the total of any of the following, namely—

(a) a war disablement pension (except insofar as such a pension falls to be disregarded under point 89 paragraphs 13 or 14);

(b) a war widow's pension or war widower's pension;

(c) a pension payable to a person as a widow, widower or surviving civil partner under any power of Her Majesty otherwise than under an enactment to make provision about pensions for or in respect of persons who have been disabled or have died in consequence of service as members of the armed forces of the Crown;

(d) a guaranteed income payment and, if the amount of that payment has been abated to less than £10 by a pension or payment falling within article 31(1)(a) or (b) of the Armed Forces and Reserve Forces (Compensation Scheme) Order 2005, so

much of that pension or payment as would not, in aggregate with the amount of any guaranteed income payment disregarded, exceed £10;

(e) a payment made to compensate for the non-payment of such a pension or payment as is mentioned in any of the preceding sub-paragraphs;

(f) a pension paid by the government of a country outside Great Britain which is analogous to any of the pensions or payments mentioned in point 89 sub-paragraphs (20)(a) to (20)(d) above;

(g) pension paid to victims of National Socialist persecution.

(21). Subject to point 89 paragraph 40, £15 of any—

(a) widowed mother's allowance paid pursuant to section 37 of the Act

(b) widowed parent's allowance paid pursuant to section 39A of the Act.

(22). (1) Any income derived from capital to which the applicant is or is treated under point 67 (capital jointly held) as beneficially entitled but, subject to sub-paragraph (2), not income derived from capital disregarded under paragraphs 4, 5, 7, 9, 15 or 27 to 30 of point 90.

(2) Income derived from capital disregarded under paragraphs 5, 7 or 27 to 30 of point 90 but only to the extent of—

(a) any mortgage repayments made in respect of the dwelling or premises in the period during which that income accrued; or

(b) any council tax or water charges which the applicant is liable to pay in respect of the dwelling or premises and which are paid in the period during which that income accrued.

(3) The definition of "water charges" in point 1 of this scheme applies to point 89 sub-paragraph (22)(2) of this paragraph with the omission of the words "in so far as such charges are in respect of the dwelling which a person occupies as his home".

(23). Where the applicant makes a parental contribution in respect of a student attending a course at an establishment in the United Kingdom or undergoing education in the United Kingdom, which contribution has been assessed for the purposes of calculating—

(a) under, or pursuant to regulations made under powers conferred by, sections 1 or 2 of the Education Act 1962 or section 22 of the Teaching and Higher Education Act 1998, that student's award;

(b) under regulations made in exercise of the powers conferred by section 49 of the Education (Scotland) Act 1980, that student's bursary, scholarship, or other allowance under that section or under regulations made in exercise of the powers conferred by section 73 of that Act of 1980, any payment to that student under that section; or

(c) the student's student loan, an amount equal to the weekly amount of that parental contribution, but only in respect of the period for which that contribution is assessed as being payable.

(24). (1) Where the applicant is the parent of a student aged under 25 in advanced education who either—

(a) is not in receipt of any award, grant or student loan in respect of that education; or

(b) is in receipt of an award under section 2 of the Education Act 1962 (discretionary awards) or an award bestowed by virtue of the Teaching and Higher Education Act 1998, or regulations made thereunder, or a bursary, scholarship or other allowance under section 49(1) of the Education (Scotland) Act 1980, or a payment under section 73 of that Act of 1980, and the applicant makes payments by way of a contribution towards the student's maintenance, other than a parental contribution falling within paragraph 23 of point 89, an amount specified in point 89 sub-paragraph (24)(2) in respect of each week during the student's term.

(2) For the purposes of point 90 sub-paragraph (24)(1), the amount shall be equal to—

(a) the weekly amount of the payments; or

(b) the amount by way of a personal allowance for a single applicant under 25 less the weekly amount of any award, bursary, scholarship, allowance or payment referred to in point 89 sub-paragraph (24)(1)(b), whichever is less.

25. Any payment made to the applicant by a child or young person or a non-dependant.

26. Where the applicant occupies a dwelling as his home and the dwelling is also occupied by a person other than one to whom paragraphs 25 or 27 of point 89 refers and there is a contractual liability to make payments to the applicant in respect of the occupation of the dwelling by that person or a member of his family—

(a) where the aggregate of any payments made in respect of any one week in respect of the occupation of the dwelling by that person or a member of his family, or by that person and a member of his family, is less than £20, the whole of that amount; or

(b) where the aggregate of any such payments is £20 or more per week, £20.

27. (1) Where the applicant occupies a dwelling as his home and he provides in that dwelling board and lodging accommodation, an amount, in respect of each person for which such accommodation is provided for the whole or any part of a week, equal to—

(a) where the aggregate of any payments made in respect of any one week in respect of such accommodation provided to such person does not exceed £20, 100 per cent of such payments;

(b) where the aggregate of any such payments exceeds £20, £20 and 50 per cent of the excess over £20.

(2) In point 89 paragraph 27 "board and lodging accommodation" means accommodation provided to a person or, if he is a member of a family, to him or any other member of his family, for a charge which is inclusive of the provision of that accommodation and at least some cooked or prepared meals which both are cooked or prepared (by a person other than the person to whom the accommodation is provided or a member of his family) and are consumed in that accommodation or associated premises.

28. (1) Any income in kind, except where point 52 sub-paragraph (11)(b) of this scheme (provision of support under section 95 or 98 of the Immigration and Asylum Act in the calculation of income other than earnings) applies.
- (2) The reference in point 89 paragraph (28) to “income in kind” does not include a payment to a third party made in respect of the applicant which is used by the third party to provide benefits in kind to the applicant.
29. Any income which is payable in a country outside the United Kingdom for such period during which there is a prohibition against the transfer to the United Kingdom of that income.
30. (1) any payment made to the applicant in respect of a person who is a member of his family—
- (a) pursuant to regulations under section 2(6)(b), 3 or 4 of the Adoption and Children Act 2002 or in accordance or with a scheme approved by the Scottish Ministers under section 51A of the Adoption (Scotland) Act 1978 (schemes for payments of allowances to adopters) or in accordance with an adoption allowance scheme made under section 71 of the Adoption and Children (Scotland) Act 2007 (adoption allowances schemes);
  - (b) which is a payment made by a local authority in pursuance of section 15(1) of, and paragraph 15 of Schedule 1 to the Children Act 1989 (local authority contribution to a child’s maintenance where the child is living with a person as a result of a residence order) or in Scotland section 50 of the Children Act 1975 (payments towards maintenance of children);
  - (c) which is a payment made by an authority, as defined in Article 2 of the Children Order, in pursuance of Article 15 of, and paragraph 17 of Schedule 1 to, that Order (contribution by an authority to child’s maintenance);
  - (d) in accordance with regulations made pursuant to section 14F of the Children Act 1989 (special guardianship support services);
- (2) Any payment, other than a payment to which sub-paragraph (1)(a) applies, made to the applicant pursuant to regulations under section 2(6)(b), 3 or 4 of the Adoption and Children Act 2002.
31. Any payment made to the applicant with whom a person is accommodated by virtue of arrangements made—
- (a) by a local authority under—
    - (i) section 23(2)(a) of the Children Act 1989 (provision of accommodation and maintenance for a child whom they are looking after),
    - (ii) section 26 of the Children (Scotland) Act 1995 (manner of provision of accommodation to child looked after by local authority), or
    - (iii) regulations 33 or 51 of the Looked After Children (Scotland) Regulations 2009 (fostering and kinship care allowances and fostering allowances); or
  - (b) by a voluntary organisation under section 59(1)(a) of the Children Act 1989 (provision of accommodation by voluntary organisations).
32. Any payment made to the applicant or his partner for a person (“the person concerned”), who is not normally a member of the applicant’s household but is temporarily in his care, by—

- (a) a health authority;
- (b) a local authority but excluding payments of housing benefit made in respect of the person concerned;
- (c) a voluntary organisation;
- (d) the person concerned pursuant to section 26(3A) of the National Assistance Act 1948;
- (e) a primary care trust established under section 16A of the National Health Service Act 1977 or established by an order made under section 18(2)(c) of the National Health Service Act 2006; or
- (f) a Local Health Board established under section 16BA of the National Health Service Act 1977 or established by an order made under section 11 of the National Health Service (Wales) Act 2006.

33. Any payment made by a local authority in accordance with section 17, 23B, 23C or 24A of the Children Act 1989 or, as the case may be, section 12 of the Social Work (Scotland) Act 1968 or section 22, 29 or 30 of the Children (Scotland) Act 1995 (provision of services for children and their families and advice and assistance to certain children).

34. (1) Subject to point 89 sub-paragraph (34)(2), any payment (or part of a payment) made by a local authority in accordance with section 23C of the Children Act 1989 or section 29 of the Children (Scotland) Act 1995 (local authorities' duty to promote welfare of children and powers to grant financial assistance to persons in, or formerly in, their care) to a person ("A") which A passes on to the applicant.
- (2) Sub-paragraph (1) applies only where A—
- (a) was formerly in the applicant's care, and
  - (b) is aged 18 or over, and
  - (c) continues to live with the applicant.

35. (1) Subject to point 89 sub-paragraph (35)(2), any payment received under an insurance policy taken out to insure against the risk of being unable to maintain repayments—
- (a) on a loan which is secured on the dwelling which the applicant occupies as his home; or
  - (b) under a regulated agreement as defined for the purposes of the Consumer Credit Act 1974 or under a hire-purchase agreement or a conditional sale agreement as defined for the purposes of Part 3 of the Hire-Purchase Act 1964.
- (2) A payment referred to in point 89 sub-paragraph (35)(1) shall only be disregarded to the extent that the payment received under that policy does not exceed the amounts, calculated on a weekly basis, which are used to—
- (a) maintain the repayments referred to in point 89 sub-paragraph (35)(1)(a) or, as the case may be, point 89 (35)(1)(b); and
  - (b) meet any amount due by way of premiums on—
    - (i) that policy; or
    - (ii) in a case to which sub-paragraph point 89 sub-paragraph (35)(1)(a) applies, an insurance policy taken out to insure against loss or damage to any building or part

of a building which is occupied by the applicant as his home and which is required as a condition of the loan referred to in point 89 sub-paragraph (35)(1)(a).

36. Any payment of income which by virtue of point 62 of this scheme (income treated as capital) is to be treated as capital.

37. Any payment under Part 10 of the SSCBA (Christmas bonus for pensioners).

38. Where a payment of income is made in a currency other than sterling, any banking charge or commission payable in converting that payment into sterling.

39. The total of an applicant's income or, if he is a member of a family, the family's income and the income of any person which he is treated as possessing under point 42 paragraph (2) (calculation of income and capital of members of applicant's family and of a polygamous marriage) to be disregarded under point 72 sub-paragraph (2)(b) and point 73 sub-paragraph (1)(d) of this scheme (calculation of covenant income where a contribution assessed, covenant income where no grant income or no contribution is assessed), point 76 paragraph (2) of this scheme (treatment of student loans), point 78 paragraph (3) of this scheme (treatment of payments from access funds) and paragraph 21 of point 89 shall in no case exceed £20 per week.

40. (1) Any payment made under or by any of the Trusts, the Fund, the Eileen Trust, MFET Limited, the Skipton Fund, the Caxton Foundation the Scottish Infected Blood Support Scheme, an approved blood scheme, the London Emergencies Trust, the National Emergencies Trust, a Grenfell Tower Support payment, the We Love Manchester Emergency Fund or the Independent Living Fund (2006).

(2) Any payment by or on behalf of a person who is suffering or who suffered from haemophilia or who is or was a qualifying person, which derives from a payment made under or by any of the Trusts to which point 89 sub-paragraph (40)(1) refers and which is made to or for the benefit of—

(a) that person's partner or former partner from whom he is not, or where that person has died was not, estranged or divorced or with whom he has formed a civil partnership that has not been dissolved or, where that person has died, had not been dissolved at the time of that person's death;

(b) any child who is a member of that person's family or who was such a member and who is a member of the applicant's family; or

(c) any young person who is a member of that person's family or who was such a member and who is a member of the applicant's family.

(3) Any payment by or on behalf of the partner or former partner of a person who is suffering or who suffered from haemophilia or who is or was a qualifying person provided that the partner or former partner and that person are not, or if either of them has died were not, estranged or divorced or, where the partner or former partner and that person have formed a civil partnership, the civil partnership has not been dissolved or, if either of them has died, had not been dissolved at the time of the death, which derives from a payment made under or by any of the Trusts to which point 89 sub-paragraph (40)(1) refers and which is made to or for the benefit of—

(a) the person who is suffering from haemophilia or who is a qualifying person;

(b) any child who is a member of that person's family or who was such a member and who is a member of the applicant's family; or

(c) any young person who is a member of that person's family or who was such a member and who is a member of the applicant's family.

(4) Any payment by a person who is suffering from haemophilia or who is a qualifying person, which derives from a payment under or by any of the Trusts to which point 89 sub-paragraph (40)(1) refers, where—

(a) that person has no partner or former partner from whom he is not estranged or divorced or with whom he has formed a civil partnership that has not been dissolved, nor any child or young person who is or had been a member of that person's family; and

(b) the payment is made either—

(i) to that person's parent or step-parent, or

(ii) where that person at the date of the payment is a child, a young person or a student, who has not completed his full-time education and has no parent or step-parent, to his guardian, but only for a period from the date of the payment until the end of two years from that person's death.

(5) Any payment out of the estate of a person who suffered from haemophilia or who was a qualifying person, which derives from a payment under or by any of the Trusts to which point 89 sub-paragraph (40)(1) refers, where—

(a) that person at the date of his death (the relevant date) had no partner or former partner from whom he was not estranged or divorced or with whom he has formed a civil partnership that has not been dissolved, nor any child or young person who was or had been a member of his family; and

(b) the payment is made either—

(i) to that person's parent or step-parent, or

(ii) where that person at the relevant date was a child, a young person or a student, who had not completed his full-time education and had no parent or step-parent, to his guardian, but only for a period of two years from the relevant date.

(6) In the case of a person to whom or for whose benefit a payment referred to in this paragraph is made, any income which derives from any payment of income or capital made under or deriving from any of the Trusts.

(7) For the purposes of point 89 sub-paragraphs (40)(2) to (40)(6), any reference to the Trusts shall be construed as including a reference to the Fund, the Eileen Trust, MFET Limited, the Skipton Fund, the Caxton Foundation the Scottish Infected Blood Support Scheme, an approved blood scheme, the London Emergencies Trust, the We Love Manchester Emergency Fund and the London Bombings Relief Charitable Fund.

41. Any housing benefit.

42. Any payment made by the Secretary of State to compensate for the loss (in whole or in part) of entitlement to housing benefit.

43. Any payment to a juror or witness in respect of attendance at a court other than compensation for loss of earnings or for the loss of a benefit payable under the benefit Acts.

44. Any payment in consequence of a reduction of council tax under section 13A(1)(c) of the 1992 Act (reduction of liability for council tax).
45. (1) Any payment or repayment made—
- (a) as respects England, under regulation 5, 6 or 12 of the National Health Service (Travel Expenses and Remission of Charges) Regulations 2003 (travelling expenses and health service supplies);
  - (b) as respects Wales, under regulation 5, 6 or 11 of the National Health Service (Travelling Expenses and Remission of Charges) (Wales) Regulations 2007 (travelling expenses and health service supplies);
  - (c) as respects Scotland, under regulation 3, 5 or 11 of the National Health Service (Travelling Expenses and Remission of Charges) (Scotland) (No 2) Regulations 2003 (travelling expenses and health service supplies).
- (2) Any payment or repayment made by the Secretary of State for Health, the Scottish Ministers or the Welsh Ministers which is analogous to a payment or repayment mentioned in point 89 sub-paragraph (45)(1).
46. Any payment made to such persons entitled to receive benefits as may be determined by or under a scheme made pursuant to section 13 of the Social Security Act 1988 in lieu of vouchers or similar arrangements in connection with the provision of those benefits (including payments made in place of healthy start vouchers, milk tokens or the supply of vitamins).
47. Any payment made by either the Secretary of State for Justice or by the Scottish Ministers under a scheme established to assist relatives and other persons to visit persons in custody.
48. (1) Where an applicant's applicable amount includes an amount by way of family premium, £15 of any payment of maintenance, other than child maintenance, whether under a court order or not, which is made or due to be made by the applicant's former partner, or the applicant's partner's former partner.
- (2) For the purpose of point 89 sub-paragraph (48)(1) where more than one maintenance payment falls to be taken into account in any week, all such payments shall be aggregated and treated as if they were a single payment.
- (3) A payment made by the Secretary of State in lieu of maintenance shall, for the purpose of point 89 sub-paragraph (48)(1), be treated as a payment of maintenance made by a person specified in point 89 sub-paragraph (48)(1).
49. (1) Any payment of child maintenance made or derived from a liable relative where the child or young person in respect of whom the payment is made is a member of the applicant's family, except where the person making the payment is the applicant or the applicant's partner.
- (2) In point 89 sub-paragraph (49)(1)—
- "child maintenance" means any payment towards the maintenance of a child or young person, including any payment made voluntarily and payments made under—
- (a) The Child Support Act 1991;
  - (b) The Child Support (Northern Ireland) Order 1991;
  - (c) a court order;
  - (d) a consent order;

(e) a maintenance agreement registered for execution in the Books of Council and Session or the sheriff court books;

“liable relative” means a person listed in regulation 54 (interpretation) of the Income Support (General) Regulations 1987, other than a person falling within subparagraph (d) of that definition.

50. Any payment (other than a training allowance) made, whether by the Secretary of State or any other person, under the Disabled Persons (Employment) Act 1944 to assist disabled persons to obtain or retain employment despite their disability.

51. Any guardian’s allowance.

52. (1) If the applicant is in receipt of any benefit under Part 2, 3 or 5 of the SSCBA, any increase in the rate of that benefit arising under Part 4 (increases for dependants) or section 106(a) (unemployability supplement) of that Act, where the dependant in respect of whom the increase is paid is not a member of the applicant’s family.

(2) If the applicant is in receipt of any pension or allowance under Part 2 or 3 of the Naval, Military and Air Forces Etc (Disablement and Death) Service Pensions Order 2006, any increase in the rate of that pension or allowance under that Order, where the dependant in respect of whom the increase is paid is not a member of the applicant’s family.

53. Any supplementary pension under article 23(2) of the Naval, Military and Air Forces Etc (Disablement and Death) Service Pensions Order 2006 (pensions to surviving spouses and surviving civil partners) and any analogous payment made by the Secretary of State for Defence to any person who is not a person entitled under that Order.

54. In the case of a pension awarded at the supplementary rate under article 27(3) of the Personal Injuries (Civilians) Scheme 1983 (pensions to widows, widowers or surviving civil partners), the sum specified in paragraph 1(c) of Schedule 4 to that Scheme.

55. (1) Any payment which is—

(a) made under any of the Dispensing Instruments to a widow, widower or surviving civil partner of a person—

(i) whose death was attributable to service in a capacity analogous to service as a member of the armed forces of the Crown; and

(ii) whose service in such capacity terminated before 31st March 1973; and

(b) equal to the amount specified in article 23(2) of the Naval, Military and Air Forces Etc (Disablement and Death) Service Pensions Order 2006.

(2) In this paragraph “the Dispensing Instruments” means the Order in Council of 19th December 1881, the Royal Warrant of 27th October 1884 and the Order by His Majesty of 14th January 1922 (exceptional grants of pay, non-effective pay and allowances).

56. Any council tax benefit to which the applicant is entitled for any period prior to 1st April 2013.

57. Any payment made under section 12B of the Social Work (Scotland) Act 1968, or under sections 12A to 12D of the National Health Service Act 2006 (direct payments for health care) or under regulations made under section 57 of the Health and Social Care Act 2001 (direct payments).

58. (1) Subject to point 89 sub-paragraph (58)(2), in respect of a person who is receiving, or who has received, assistance under the self-employment route, any payment to that person—

(a) to meet expenses wholly and necessarily incurred whilst carrying on the commercial activity;

(b) which is used or intended to be used to maintain repayments on a loan taken out by that person for the purpose of establishing or carrying on the commercial activity, in respect of which such assistance is or was received.

(2) Point 89 sub-paragraph (58)(1) shall apply only in respect of payments which are paid to that person from the special account as defined for the purposes of Chapter 4A of Part 8 of the Jobseekers Allowance Regulations.

59. (1) Any payment of a sports award except to the extent that it has been made in respect of any one or more of the items specified in point 89 sub-paragraph (59)(2).

(2) The items specified for the purposes of point 89 sub-paragraph (59)(1) are food, ordinary clothing or footwear, household fuel or rent of the applicant or where the applicant is a member of a family, any other member of his family, or any council tax or water charges for which that applicant or member is liable.

(3) For the purposes of point 89 sub-paragraph (59)(2) “food” does not include vitamins, minerals or other special dietary supplements intended to enhance the performance of the person in the sport in respect of which the award was made.

60. Where the amount of subsistence allowance paid to a person in a reduction week exceeds the amount of income-based jobseeker’s allowance that person would have received in that reduction week had it been payable to him, less 50p, that excess amount.

61. In the case of an applicant participating in an employment zone programme, any discretionary payment made by an employment zone contractor to the applicant, being a fee, grant, loan or otherwise.

62. Any discretionary housing payment paid pursuant to regulation 2(1) of the Discretionary Financial Assistance Regulations 2001.

63. (1) Any payment made by a local authority or by the Welsh Ministers, to or on behalf of the applicant or his partner relating to a service which is provided to develop or sustain the capacity of the applicant or his partner to live independently in his accommodation.

(2) For the purposes of point 89 sub-paragraph (63)(1) “local authority” includes, in England, a county council.

64. Any payment of child benefit.

65. Any payments to a claimant made under section 49 of the Children and Families Act 2014 (personal budgets and direct payments).

66. Any bereavement support payment under section 30 of the Pensions Act 2014 (bereavement support payment) except any such payment which is disregarded as capital.

67. Any Carer's Allowance paid in accordance with section 70 of the Social Security Contributions and Benefits Act 1992. Any payment made as a result of the Carer's Assistance (Carer Support payment)(Scotland) Regulations 2023.

68. Any support component where the applicant or partner receive contribution based Employment and Support Allowance in accordance with the Welfare Reform Act 2007 and associated secondary legislation.

69. In respect of a Universal Credit award the Limited Capability for Work Element, Carer Element; Childcare Costs Element; Housing Costs Element; Disabled Child Element as contained within regulation 24(2) of The Universal Credit Regulations 2013.

### **90. Capital disregarded:**

1. Any payment made to the applicant in respect of any childcare, travel or other expenses incurred, or to be incurred, by him in respect of his participation in the Work for Your Benefit Scheme but only for 52 weeks beginning with the date of receipt of the payment.

2. Any payment made to the applicant in respect of any travel or other expenses incurred, or to be incurred, by him in respect of his participation in the Mandatory Work Activity Scheme but only for 52 weeks beginning with the date of receipt of the payment.

3. Any payment made to the applicant in respect of any travel or other expenses incurred, or to be incurred, by him in respect of his participation in the Employment, Skills and Enterprise Scheme but only for 52 weeks beginning with the date of receipt of the payment.

4. The dwelling together with any garage, garden and outbuildings, normally occupied by the applicant as his home including any premises not so occupied which it is impracticable or unreasonable to sell separately, but, notwithstanding point 42 of this scheme (calculation of income and capital of members of applicant's family and of a polygamous marriage), only one dwelling shall be disregarded under this paragraph.

5. Any premises acquired for occupation by the applicant which he intends to occupy as his home within 26 weeks of the date of acquisition or such longer period as is reasonable in the circumstances to enable the applicant to obtain possession and commence occupation of the premises.

6. Any sum directly attributable to the proceeds of sale of any premises formerly occupied by the applicant as his home which is to be used for the purchase of other premises intended for such occupation within 26 weeks of the date of sale or such longer period as is reasonable in the circumstances to enable the applicant to complete the purchase.

7. Any premises occupied in whole or in part—

(a) by a partner or relative of a single applicant or any member of the family as his home where that person has attained the qualifying age for state pension credit or is incapacitated;

(b) by the former partner of the applicant as his home; but this provision shall not apply where the former partner is a person from whom the applicant is estranged or divorced or with whom he had formed a civil partnership that has been dissolved.

8. Any future interest in property of any kind, other than land or premises in respect of which the applicant has granted a subsisting lease or tenancy, including sub-leases or sub-tenancies.

9. (1) The assets of any business owned in whole or in part by the applicant and for the purposes of which he is engaged as a self-employed earner, or if he has ceased to be so engaged, for such period as may be reasonable in the circumstances to allow for disposal of any such asset.

(2) The assets of any business owned in whole or in part by the applicant where—

(a) he is not engaged as a self-employed earner in that business by reason of some disease or bodily or mental disablement; but

(b) he intends to become engaged or, as the case may be, re-engaged as a self-employed earner in that business as soon as he recovers or is able to become engaged or re-engaged in that business, for a period of 26 weeks from the date on which the application for a reduction under this scheme is made, or is treated as made, or, if it is unreasonable to expect him to become engaged or re-engaged in that business within that period, for such longer period as is reasonable in the circumstances to enable him to become so engaged or re-engaged.

(3) In the case of a person who is receiving assistance under the self-employment route, the assets acquired by that person for the purpose of establishing or carrying on the commercial activity in respect of which such assistance is being received.

(4) In the case of a person who has ceased carrying on the commercial activity in respect of which assistance was received as specified in point 90 sub-paragraph (9)(3), the assets relating to that activity for such period as may be reasonable in the circumstances to allow for disposal of any such asset.

10. Subject to point 90 sub-paragraph (10)(2), any arrears of, or any concessionary payment made to compensate for arrears due to the non-payment of—

(a) any payment specified in paragraphs 11, 13 or 14 of point 89;

(b) an income-related benefit under Part 7 of the Act;

(c) an income-based jobseeker's allowance;

(d) any discretionary housing payment paid pursuant to regulation 2(1) of the Discretionary Financial Assistance Regulations 2001;

(e) working tax credit and child tax credit;

(f) an income-related employment and support allowance;

(g) Universal Credit;

(h) bereavement support payment under section 30 of the Pensions Act 2014;

but only for a period of 52 weeks from the date of the receipt of arrears or of the concessionary payment.

(2) In a case where the total of any arrears and, if appropriate, any concessionary payment referred to in point 90 sub-paragraph (10)(1) relating to one of the specified payments, benefits or allowances amounts to £5,000 or more (referred to in this sub-paragraph and in point 90 sub-paragraph (10)(3) as “the relevant sum”) and is—

(a) paid in order to rectify or to compensate for, an official error as defined in regulation 1(2) of the Decisions and Appeals Regulations 2001; and

(b) received by the applicant in full on or after 14th October 2001,

point 90 sub-paragraph (10)(1) shall have effect in relation to such arrears or concessionary payment either for a period of 52 weeks from the date of receipt, or, if the relevant sum is received in its entirety during the period of an award of a reduction under this scheme, for the remainder of that period if that is a longer period.

(3) For the purposes of point 90 sub-paragraph (10)(2), “the period of an award of a reduction under this scheme” means—

(a) the award in which the relevant sum is first received (or the first part thereof where it is paid in more than one instalment); and

(b) where that award is followed by one or more further awards which, or each of which, begins immediately after the end of the previous award, such further award provided that for that further award the applicant—

(i) is the person who received the relevant sum; or

(ii) is the partner of the person who received the relevant sum, or was that person’s partner at the date of his death.

11. Any sum—

(a) paid to the applicant in consequence of damage to, or loss of the home or any personal possession and intended for its repair or replacement; or

(b) acquired by the applicant (whether as a loan or otherwise) on the express condition that it is to be used for effecting essential repairs or improvement to the home, which is to be used for the intended purpose, for a period of 26 weeks from the date on which it was so paid or acquired or such longer period as is reasonable in the circumstances to effect the repairs, replacement or improvement.

12. Any sum—

(a) deposited with a housing association as defined in section 1(1) of the Housing Associations Act 1985 as a condition of occupying the home;

(b) which was so deposited and which is to be used for the purchase of another home, for the period of 26 weeks or such longer period as may be reasonable in the circumstances to enable the applicant to complete the purchase.

13. Any personal possessions except those which have been acquired by the applicant with the intention of reducing his capital in order to secure entitlement to a reduction under this scheme or to increase the amount of that reduction.

14. The value of the right to receive any income under an annuity or the surrender value (if any) of such an annuity.

15. Where the funds of a trust are derived from a payment made in consequence of any personal injury to the applicant or applicant's partner, the value of the trust fund and the value of the right to receive any payment under that trust.
16. (1) Any payment made to the applicant or the applicant's partner in consequence of any personal injury to the applicant or, as the case may be, the applicant's partner.
- (2) But point 90 sub-paragraph (16)(1)—
- (a) applies only for the period of 52 weeks beginning with the day on which the applicant first receives any payment in consequence of that personal injury;
- (b) does not apply to any subsequent payment made to him in consequence of that injury (whether it is made by the same person or another);
- (c) ceases to apply to the payment or any part of the payment from the day on which the applicant no longer possesses it;
- (d) does not apply to any payment from a trust where the funds of the trust are derived from a payment made in consequence of any personal injury to the applicant.
- (3) For the purposes of point 90 sub-paragraph (16)(2)(c), the circumstances in which an applicant no longer possesses a payment or a part of it include where the applicant has used a payment or part of it to purchase an asset.
- (4) References in point 90 sub-paragraphs (16)(2) and (16)(3) to the applicant are to be construed as including references to his partner (where applicable).
17. The value of the right to receive any income under a life interest or from a life rent.
18. The value of the right to receive any income which is disregarded under paragraph 8 of point 88 or paragraph 29 of point 89.
19. The surrender value of any policy of life insurance.
20. Where any payment of capital falls to be made by instalments, the value of the right to receive any outstanding instalments.
21. Any payment made by a local authority in accordance with section 17, 23B, 23C or 24A of the Children Act 1989 or, as the case may be, section 12 of the Social Work (Scotland) Act 1968 or sections 22, 29 or 30 of the Children (Scotland) Act 1995 (provision of services for children and their families and advice and assistance to certain children).
22. (1) Subject to point 90 sub-paragraph (22)(2), any payment (or part of a payment) made by a local authority in accordance with section 23C of the Children Act 1989 or section 29 of the Children (Scotland) Act 1995 (local authorities' duty to promote welfare of children and powers to grant financial assistance to persons in, or formerly in, their care) to a person ("A") which A passes on to the applicant.
- (2) Point 90 sub-paragraph (22)(1) applies only where A—
- (a) was formerly in the applicant's care, and
- (b) is aged 18 or over, and
- (c) continues to live with the applicant.
23. Any refund of tax which falls to be deducted under section 369 of the Income and Corporation Taxes Act 1988 (deduction of tax from certain loan interest) on a

payment of relevant loan interest for the purpose of acquiring an interest in the home or carrying out repairs or improvements to the home.

24. Any capital which by virtue of points 53 or 76 (capital treated as income, treatment of student loans) is to be treated as income.

25. Where any payment of capital is made in a currency other than sterling, any banking charge or commission payable in converting that payment into sterling.

26. (1) Any payment made under or by the Trusts, the Fund, the Eileen Trust, MFET Limited, the Independent Living Fund (2006), the Skipton Fund, the Scottish Infected Blood Support Scheme, an approved blood scheme, the London Emergencies Trust, the National Emergencies Trust, the Victims of Overseas Terrorism Compensation Scheme, Grenfell Tower Support payment, the We Love Manchester Emergency Fund the Caxton Foundation or the London Bombings Relief Charitable Fund.

(b)the Independent Living Fund (2006).

(1A) Any Grenfell Tower support payment.

(1B) Any payment made by the Child Migrants Trust (registered charity number 1171479) under the scheme for former British child migrants.

(1C) Any historical child abuse payment.

(1D) Any Windrush payment.

(1E) Any Post Office compensation payment.

(1F) Any vaccine damage payment.

(1G) Any payment out of the estate of a person, which derives from a payment to meet the recommendation of the Infected Blood Inquiry in its interim report published on 29th July 2022 made under or by the Scottish Infected Blood Support Scheme or an approved blood support scheme to the estate of the person, where the payment is made to the person's son, daughter, step-son or step-daughter.

(1H) Any payment out of the estate of a person, which derives from a payment made under or by the Scottish Infected Blood Support Scheme or an approved Blood Support Scheme or an approved blood scheme to the estate of the person as a result of that person having been infected from contaminated blood products.

(1I) Any LGBT Financial Recognition Scheme payment.

(1J) Any miscarriage of justice compensation payment.;

(2) Any payment by or on behalf of a person who is suffering or who suffered from haemophilia or who is or was a qualifying person, which derives from a payment made under or by any of the Trusts or from a Grenfell Tower support payment, a historical child abuse payment or a Windrush payment, a Post Office compensation payment or vaccine damage payment, an LGBT Financial Recognition Scheme payment or a miscarriage of justice compensation payment and which is made to or for the benefit of that person's partner or former partner—

(a) from whom he is not, or where that person has died was not, estranged or divorced, or

(b) with whom he has formed a civil partnership that has not been dissolved or, where that person has died, had not been dissolved at the time of that person's death.

(3) Any payment by or on behalf of the partner or former partner of a person who is suffering or who suffered from haemophilia or who is or was a qualifying person which derives from a payment made under or by any of the Trusts or from a Grenfell Tower support payment, a historical child abuse payment or a Windrush payment, a Post Office compensation payment or vaccine damage payment, an LGBT Financial Recognition Scheme payment or a miscarriage of justice compensation payment and which is made to or for the benefit of the person who is suffering from haemophilia or who is a qualifying person.

(4) Point 90 sub-paragraph (26)(3) does not apply if—

(a) the partner or former partner and that person are not, or if either of them has died were not, estranged or divorced, or

(b) where the partner or former partner and that person have formed a civil partnership, the civil partnership has not been dissolved or, if either of them has died, had not been dissolved at the time of the death.

(5) Any payment by a person who is suffering from haemophilia or who is a qualifying person, which derives from a payment under or by any of the Trusts or from a Grenfell Tower support payment, a historical child abuse payment or a Windrush payment, a Post Office compensation payment or a vaccine damage payment, an LGBT Financial Recognition Scheme payment or a miscarriage of justice compensation payment —

(a) that person has no partner or former partner from whom he is not estranged or divorced or with whom he has formed a civil partnership that has not been dissolved, nor any child who is or had been a member of that person's household; and

(b) the payment is made either—

(i) to that person's parent or step-parent; or

(ii) where that person at the date of the payment is a child or a student who has not completed his full-time education and has no parent or step-parent, to any person standing in the place of his parent,

but only for a period from the date of the payment until the end of two years from that person's death.

(6) Any payment out of the estate of a person who suffered from haemophilia or who was a qualifying person, which derives from a payment under or by any of the Trusts or from a Grenfell Tower support payment, a historical child abuse payment or a Windrush payment, a Post Office compensation payment or a vaccine damage payment, an LGBT Financial Recognition Scheme payment or a miscarriage of justice compensation payment where—

(a) that person at the date of his death (“the relevant date”) had no partner or former partner from whom he was not estranged or divorced or with whom he had formed a civil partnership that had not been dissolved, nor any child who was or had been a member of his household; and

(b) the payment is made either—

(i) to that person’s parent or step-parent; or

(ii) where that person at the relevant date was a child or a student who had not completed his full-time education and had no parent or step-parent, to any person standing in place of his parent,

but only for a period of two years from the relevant date.

(7) In the case of a person to whom or for whose benefit a payment referred to in this paragraph is made, any capital resource which derives from—

(a) any payment of income or capital made under or deriving from any of the Trusts; or

(b) a Grenfell Tower support payment, a historical child abuse payment or a Windrush payment, a Post Office compensation payment or a vaccine damage payment.

27. (1) Where an applicant has ceased to occupy what was formerly the dwelling occupied as the home following his estrangement or divorce from, or dissolution of his civil partnership with, his former partner, that dwelling for a period of 26 weeks from the date on which he ceased to occupy that dwelling or, where the dwelling is occupied as the home by the former partner who is a lone parent, for so long as it is so occupied.

(2) In this paragraph “dwelling” includes any garage, garden and outbuildings, which were formerly occupied by the applicant as his home and any premises not so occupied which it is impracticable or unreasonable to sell separately, in particular, in Scotland, any croft land on which the dwelling is situated.

28. Any premises where the applicant is taking reasonable steps to dispose of those premises, for a period of 26 weeks from the date on which he first took such steps, or such longer period as is reasonable in the circumstances to enable him to dispose of those premises.

29. Any premises which the applicant intends to occupy as his home, and in respect of which he is taking steps to obtain possession and has sought legal advice, or has commenced legal proceedings, with a view to obtaining possession, for a period of 26 weeks from the date on which he first sought such advice or first commenced such proceedings whichever is the earlier, or such longer period as is reasonable in the circumstances to enable him to obtain possession and commence occupation of those premises.

30. Any premises which the applicant intends to occupy as his home to which essential repairs or alterations are required in order to render them fit for such occupation, for a period of 26 weeks from the date on which the applicant first takes

steps to effect those repairs or alterations, or such longer period as is necessary to enable those repairs or alterations to be carried out.

31. Any payment made by the Secretary of State to compensate for the loss (in whole or in part) of entitlement to housing benefit.

32. The value of the right to receive an occupational or personal pension.

33. The value of any funds held under a personal pension scheme.

34. The value of the right to receive any rent except where the applicant has a reversionary interest in the property in respect of which rent is due.

35. Any payment in kind made by a charity or under or by the Trusts, the Fund, MFET Limited, the Skipton Fund, the Caxton Foundation or the Independent Living Fund (2006).

36. Any payment made pursuant to section 2 of the 1973 Act or section 2 of the Enterprise and New Towns (Scotland) Act 1990, but only for the period of 52 weeks beginning on the date of receipt of the payment.

37. Any payment in consequence of a reduction of council tax under section 13A(1)(c) of the Local Government Finance Act 1992 (reduction of liability for council tax) or section 80 of the Local Government Finance Act 1992 (reduced amounts), but only for a period of 52 weeks from the date of the receipt of the payment.

38. Any grant made in accordance with a scheme made under section 129 of the Housing Act 1988 or section 66 of the Housing (Scotland) Act 1988 (schemes for payments to assist local housing authority and local authority tenants to obtain other accommodation) which is to be used—

(a) to purchase premises intended for occupation as his home; or

(b) to carry out repairs or alterations which are required to render premises fit for occupation as his home, for a period of 26 weeks from the date on which he received such a grant or such longer period as is reasonable in the circumstances to enable the purchase, repairs or alterations to be completed and the applicant to commence occupation of those premises as his home.

39. Any arrears of supplementary pension which is disregarded under paragraph 53 of point 89 (sums to be disregarded in the calculation of income other than earnings) or of any amount which is disregarded under paragraphs 54 or 55 of point 89, but only for a period of 52 weeks from the date of receipt of the arrears.

40. (1) Any payment or repayment made—

(a) as respects England, under regulation 5, 6 or 12 of the National Health Service (Travel Expenses and Remission of Charges) Regulations 2003 (travelling expenses and health service supplies);

(b) as respects Wales, under regulation 5, 6 or 11 of the National Health Service (Travelling Expenses and Remission of Charges) (Wales) Regulations 2007 (travelling expenses and health service supplies);

(c) as respects Scotland, under regulation 3, 5 or 11 of the National Health Service (Travelling Expenses and Remission of Charges) (Scotland) (No 2) Regulations 2003 (travelling expenses and health service supplies), but only for a period of 52 weeks from the date of receipt of the payment or repayment.

(2) Any payment or repayment made by the Secretary of State for Health, the Scottish Ministers or the Welsh Ministers which is analogous to a payment or repayment mentioned in point 90 sub-paragraph (40)(1), but only for a period of 52 weeks from the date of receipt of the payment or repayment.

41. Any payment made to such persons entitled to receive benefits as may be determined by or under a scheme made pursuant to section 13 of the Social Security Act 1988 in lieu of vouchers or similar arrangements in connection with the provision of those benefits (including payments made in place of healthy start vouchers, milk tokens or the supply of vitamins), but only for a period of 52 weeks from the date of receipt of the payment.

42. Any payment made under Part 8A of the SSCBA (entitlement to health in pregnancy grant).

43. Any payment made either by the Secretary of State for Justice or by Scottish Ministers under a scheme established to assist relatives and other persons to visit persons in custody, but only for a period of 52 weeks from the date of the receipt of the payment.

44. Any payment (other than a training allowance) made, whether by the Secretary of State or any other person, under the Disabled Persons (Employment) Act 1944 to assist disabled persons to obtain or retain employment despite their disability.

45. Any payment made by a local authority under section 3 of the Disabled Persons (Employment) Act 1958 to homeworkers assisted under the Blind Homeworkers' Scheme.

46. (1) Any sum of capital to which point 90 sub-paragraph (46)(2) applies and—  
(a) which is administered on behalf of a person by the High Court or the County Court under Rule 21.11(1) of the Civil Procedure Rules 1998 or by the Court of Protection;

(b) which can only be disposed of by order or direction of any such court; or  
(c) where the person concerned is under the age of 18, which can only be disposed of by order or direction prior to that person attaining age 18.

(2) This sub-paragraph applies to a sum of capital which is derived from—

(a) an award of damages for a personal injury to that person; or

(b) compensation for the death of one or both parents where the person concerned is under the age of 18.

47. Any sum of capital administered on behalf of a person in accordance with an order made under section 13 of the Children (Scotland) Act 1995, or under Rule 36.14 of the Ordinary Cause Rules 1993 or under Rule 128 of those Rules, where such sum derives from—

(a) award of damages for a personal injury to that person; or

(b) compensation for the death of one or both parents where the person concerned is under the age of 18.

48. Any payment to the applicant as holder of the Victoria Cross or George Cross.

49. In the case of a person who is receiving, or who has received, assistance under the self-employment route, any sum of capital which is acquired by that person

for the purpose of establishing or carrying on the commercial activity in respect of which such assistance is or was received but only for a period of 52 weeks from the date on which that sum was acquired.

50. (1) Any payment of a sports award for a period of 26 weeks from the date of receipt of that payment except to the extent that it has been made in respect of any one or more of the items specified in point 90 sub-paragraph (50)(2).

(2) The items specified for the purposes of point 90 sub-paragraph (50)(1) are food, ordinary clothing or footwear, household fuel or rent of the applicant or, where the applicant is a member of a family, any other member of his family, or any council tax or water charges for which that applicant or member is liable.

(3) For the purposes of point 90 sub-paragraph (50)(2) “food” does not include vitamins, minerals or other special dietary supplements intended to enhance the performance of the person in the sport in respect of which the award was made.

51. (1) Any payment—

(a) by way of an education maintenance allowance made pursuant to—

(i) regulations made under section 518 of the Education Act 1996;

(ii) regulations made under section 49 or 73(f) of the Education (Scotland) Act 1980;

(iii) directions made under section 73ZA of the Education (Scotland) Act 1980 and paid under section 12(2)(c) of the Further and Higher Education (Scotland) Act 1992;

(b) corresponding to such an education maintenance allowance, made pursuant to—

(i) section 14 or section 181 of the Education Act 2002 (power of Secretary of State and National Assembly for Wales to give financial assistance for purposes related to education or childcare, and allowances in respect of education or training); or

(ii) regulations made under section 181 of that Act; or

(c) in England, by way of financial assistance made pursuant to section 14 of the Education Act 2002.

(2) Any payment, other than a payment to which point 90 sub-paragraph (51)(1) applies, made pursuant to—

(a) regulations made under section 518 of the Education Act 1996;

(b) regulations made under section 49 of the Education (Scotland) Act 1980; or

(c) directions made under section 73ZA of the Education (Scotland) Act 1980 and paid under section 12(2)(c) of the Further and Higher Education (Scotland) Act 1992,] in respect of a course of study attended by a child or a young person or a

person who is in receipt of an education maintenance allowance or other payment made pursuant to any provision specified in point 90 sub-paragraph (51)(1).

52. In the case of an applicant participating in an employment zone programme, any discretionary payment made by an employment zone contractor to the applicant, being a fee, grant, loan or otherwise, but only for the period of 52 weeks from the date of receipt of the payment.

53. Any arrears of subsistence allowance paid as a lump sum but only for the period of 52 weeks from the date of receipt of the payment.

54. Where an ex-gratia payment of £10,000 has been made by the Secretary of State on or after 1st February 2001 in consequence of the imprisonment or interment of—

- (a) the applicant;
- (b) the applicant's partner;
- (c) the applicant's deceased spouse or deceased civil partner; or
- (d) the applicant's partner's deceased spouse or deceased civil partner, by the Japanese during the Second World War, £10,000.

55. (1) Subject to point 90 sub-paragraph (55)(2), the amount of any trust payment made to an applicant or a member of an applicant's family who is—

- (a) a diagnosed person;
- (b) the diagnosed person's partner or the person who was the diagnosed person's partner at the date of the diagnosed person's death;
- (c) a parent of a diagnosed person, a person acting in place of the diagnosed person's parents or a person who was so acting at the date of the diagnosed person's death; or
- (d) a member of the diagnosed person's family (other than his partner) or a person who was a member of the diagnosed person's family (other than his partner) at the date of the diagnosed person's death.

(2) Where a trust payment is made to—

- (a) a person referred to in point 90 sub-paragraph (55)(1)(a) or (55)(1)(b), that sub-paragraph shall apply for the period beginning on the date on which the trust payment is made and ending on the date on which that person dies;
- (b) a person referred to in point 90 sub-paragraph (55)(1)(c), that sub-paragraph shall apply for the period beginning on the date on which the trust payment is made and ending two years after that date;
- (c) a person referred to in point 90 sub-paragraph (55)(1)(d), that sub-paragraph shall apply for the period beginning on the date on which the trust payment is made and ending—
  - (i) two years after that date; or
  - (ii) on the day before the day on which that person—
    - (aa) ceases receiving full-time education; or
    - (bb) attains the age of 20,whichever is the latest.

(3) Subject to point 90 sub-paragraph (55)(4), the amount of any payment by a person to whom a trust payment has been made or of any payment out of the estate of a person to whom a trust payment has been made, which is made to an applicant or a member of an applicant's family who is—

- (a) the diagnosed person's partner or the person who was the diagnosed person's partner at the date of the diagnosed person's death;
- (b) a parent of a diagnosed person, a person acting in place of the diagnosed person's parents or a person who was so acting at the date of the diagnosed person's death; or

(c) a member of the diagnosed person's family (other than his partner) or a person who was a member of the diagnosed person's family (other than his partner) at the date of the diagnosed person's death, but only to the extent that such payments do not exceed the total amount of any trust payments made to that person.

(4) Where a payment as referred to in point 90 sub-paragraph (55)(3) is made to—

(a) a person referred to in point 90 sub-paragraph (55)(3)(a), that sub-paragraph shall apply for the period beginning on the date on which that payment is made and ending on the date on which that person dies;

(b) a person referred to in point 90 sub-paragraph (55)(3)(b), that sub-paragraph shall apply for the period beginning on the date on which that payment is made and ending two years after that date; or

(c) a person referred to in point 90 sub-paragraph (55)(3)(c), that sub-paragraph shall apply for the period beginning on the date on which that payment is made and ending—

(i) two years after that date; or

(ii) On the day before the day on which that person—

(aa) ceases receiving full-time education; or

(bb) attains the age of 20,

whichever is the latest.

(5) In this paragraph, a reference to a person—

(a) being the diagnosed person's partner;

(b) being a member of a diagnosed person's family;

(c) acting in place of the diagnosed person's parents,

at the date of the diagnosed person's death shall include a person who would have been such a person or a person who would have been so acting, but for the diagnosed person residing in a care home, an Abbeyfield Home or an independent hospital on that date.

(6) In this sub-paragraph—

“diagnosed person” means a person who has been diagnosed as suffering from, or who, after his death, has been diagnosed as having suffered from, variant Creutzfeld-Jakob disease;

“relevant trust” means a trust established out of funds provided by the Secretary of State in respect of persons who suffered, or who are suffering, from variant Creutzfeld-Jakob disease for the benefit of persons eligible for payments in accordance with its provisions;

“trust payment” means a payment under a relevant trust.

56. The amount of any payment, other than a war pension, to compensate for the fact that the applicant, the applicant's partner, the applicant's deceased spouse or deceased civil partner or the applicant's partner's deceased spouse or deceased civil partner—

(a) was a slave labourer or a forced labourer;

(b) had suffered property loss or had suffered personal injury; or

(c) was a parent of a child who had died,

during the Second World War.

57. (1) Any payment made by a local authority, or by the Welsh Ministers, to or on behalf, of the applicant or his partner relating to a service which is provided to develop or sustain the capacity of the applicant or his partner to live independently in his accommodation.

(2) For the purposes of point 90 sub-paragraph (57)(1) “local authority” includes in England a county council.

62. Any payment made under regulations made under section 57 of the Health and Social Care Act 2001 or under section 12B of the Social Work (Scotland) Act 1968, or under sections 12A to 12D of the National Health Service Act 2006 (direct payments for health care).

63. Any payment made to the applicant pursuant to regulations under section 2(6)(b), 3 or 4 of the Adoption and Children Act 2002.

64. Any payment made to the applicant in accordance with regulations made pursuant to section 14F of the Children Act 1989 (special guardianship support services).

65. Any payments to a claimant made under section 49 of the Children and Families Act 2014 (personal budgets and direct payments)

66. Any bereavement support payment in respect of the rate set out in regulation 3(2) or (5) of the Bereavement Support Payment Regulations 2017 (rate of bereavement support payment), but only for a period of 52 weeks from the date of receipt of the payment.

67. Any historical child abuse payment.

68. Any Windrush payment.

69. Any payment of a widowed parent’s allowance made pursuant to section 39A of the SSCBA (widowed parent’s allowance)—

(a) to the survivor of a cohabiting partnership (within the meaning in section 39A(7) of the SSCBA) who is entitled to a widowed parent’s allowance for a period before 9th February 2023<sup>(11)</sup>, and

(b) in respect of any period of time during the period ending with the day before the survivor makes the claim for a widowed parent’s allowance,

but only for a period of 52 weeks beginning with the date of receipt of the payment or 1st April 2024, whichever is later.

70—(1) A payment of bereavement support payment in respect of the rate set out in regulation 3(2) or (5) of the Bereavement Support Payment Regulations 2017 (rate of bereavement support payment)<sup>(12)</sup>, but only for the period of 52 weeks from the date of receipt of the payment.

(2) Where bereavement support payment under section 30 of the Pensions Act 2014 is paid to the survivor of a cohabiting partnership (within the meaning of section 30(6B) of that Act) in respect of a death occurring before 9th February 2023, any amount of that payment which is—

(a) in respect of the rate set out in regulation 3(1) of the Bereavement Support Payment Regulations 2017, and  
(b) paid as a lump sum for more than one monthly recurrence of the day of the month on which their cohabiting partner died,  
but only for a period of 52 weeks beginning with the date of receipt of the payment or 1st April 2024, whichever is later.

**91. Cases where a relevant authority may suspend:**

- (1) A relevant authority may suspend, in whole or in part—
  - (a) any reduction (by way of council tax reduction) in the amount that a person is or will become liable to pay in respect of council tax, in the circumstances prescribed in point 91 paragraph (2).
  - (2) The prescribed circumstances are where—
    - (a) it appears to the relevant authority that an issue arises whether—
      - (i) the conditions for entitlement to council tax reduction are or were fulfilled; or
      - (ii) a decision as to an award of such a reduction should be revised or superseded;
    - (b) an appeal is pending against—
      - (i) a decision of a valuation tribunal, a high court or a court; or
      - (ii) a decision given by a court in a different case, and it appears to the relevant authority that if the appeal were to be determined in a particular way an issue would arise whether the award of council tax reduction in the case itself ought to be revised or superseded; or
  - (3) an issue arises whether an excess payment of council tax reduction in accordance with this scheme has occurred.
  - (4) A reduction is to be regarded as suspended for the purposes of this scheme once a letter is sent to the applicant notifying them it is suspended.
  - (5) Revision means a previous decision is changed from the date it took effect from. Supersession means a previous decision is changed from a later date.

**92. Making or restoring of reductions suspended:**

- (1) Subject to point 92 paragraph (2), the prescribed circumstances for the purposes of this reduction scheme (the subsequent making, or restoring, of any or all of the payments or reductions so suspended) are—
  - (a) where the relevant authority is satisfied that the reduction so suspended is properly payable and no outstanding issues remain to be resolved;
  - (b) an appeal is no longer pending and the reduction suspended remains payable following the determination of that appeal.
- (2) Where any of the circumstances in point 91 paragraph (1) is satisfied, the relevant authority shall, so far as practicable, make the reduction, or as the case may

be, restore the reduction within 14 days of the decision to make or restore that reduction.

**93. Suspension for failure to furnish information etc.:**

- (1) The relevant authority may suspend in whole or in part—
  - (a) any payment of council tax reduction;
  - (b) any reduction (by way of council tax reduction) in the amount that a person is or will become liable to pay in respect of council tax, in relation to persons who fail to comply with the information requirements as defined in point 25 (information and evidence).
- (2) For the purposes of this sub-paragraph the prescribed persons are—
  - (a) a person in respect of whom a reduction has been suspended under point 91 (cases where a relevant authority may suspend);
  - (b) a person who has made an application for a reduction of the relevant authority to be revised or superseded;
  - (c) a person in respect of whom a question has arisen in connection with his award of reduction and who fails to comply with the requirement under paragraph 25 to furnish information or evidence needed for a determination whether a decision on an award should be revised or superseded.
- (3) The relevant authority shall notify any person to whom point 93 paragraph (2) refers of the requirements.
- (4) A person to whom point 91 paragraph (2) refers must—
  - (a) furnish the information or evidence needed within a period of—
    - (i) one month beginning with the date on which the notification under point 91 paragraph (3) was sent to him; or
    - (ii) such longer period as the relevant authority considers necessary in order to enable him to comply with the requirement; or
  - (b) satisfy the relevant authority within the period provided for in sub-paragraph (4)(a) that—
    - (i) the information or evidence so required does not exist; or
    - (ii) it is not possible for him to obtain the information or evidence so required.
- (5) Where a person satisfies the requirements in point 91 paragraph (4), the relevant authority shall, so far as practicable, make, or as the case may be restore, the payment within 14 days of the decision to make or restore that payment.

**94. Termination in cases of a failure to furnish information:**

- (1) An applicant in respect of whom payment of a reduction has been suspended—
  - (a) under point 91 (cases where a relevant authority may suspend) and who subsequently fails to comply with an information requirement; or
  - (b) under point 93 (suspension for failure to furnish information etc) for failing to comply with such a requirement, shall cease to be entitled to the benefit from the

date on which the payments or reduction were so suspended, or such earlier date on which entitlement to reduction ceases.

(2) Point 94 paragraph (1) does not apply—

(a) subject to sub-paragraph (b), before the end of the period under point 93 paragraph (4) of this part for the provision of information

(b) where payment of a reduction has been suspended in part under point 91 or point 93.

### **95. Meaning of excess reduction:**

(1) In this Part "excess reduction" means any amount which has been allowed by way of council tax reduction and to which there was no entitlement under this scheme (whether on the initial decision or as subsequently revised or superseded or further revised or superseded) and includes any excess which arises by reason of—

(a) a reduction in the amount a person is liable to pay in respect of council tax in consequence of—

(i) regulations made under section 13(a) of the 1992 Act (reduction in the amount of a person's council tax); or

(ii) any discount to which that tax is subject by virtue of section 11 or 79 of that Act;

(b) a substitution under sections 31 of the 1992 Act (substituted amounts) of a lesser amount for an amount of council tax previously set by the relevant authority under section 30 of that Act (amount set for council tax).

### **96. Recoverable excess reduction:**

(1) Any excess reduction, except reduction to which point 96 sub-paragraph (2) applies, shall be recoverable.

(2) Subject to point 96 paragraphs (4) and (5) and excepting any excess reduction arising in consequence of a reduction in tax or substitution to which point 95 refers, this paragraph applies to excess reduction allowed in consequence of an official error, where the applicant or a person acting on his behalf or any other person to whom the excess reduction is allowed could not, at the time the reduction was allowed or upon the receipt of any notice relating to the allowance of that reduction, reasonably have been expected to realise that it was excess reduction.

(3) In point 96 paragraph (2), "excess reduction allowed in consequence of an official error" means an over-allowance caused by a mistake made whether in the form of an act or omission by—

(a) the relevant authority;

(b) an officer or person acting for that authority;

(4) point 96 paragraph (2) shall not apply with respect to excess reduction to which point 95 sub-paragraphs 1(a) and 1(b) refer.

(5) Where in consequence of an official error a person has been awarded excess benefit, upon the award being revised or superseded any excess benefit which

remains credited to him by the relevant authority in respect of a period after the date of the revision or supersession, shall be recoverable.

**97. Authority by which recovery may be made:**

The relevant billing authority which allowed the recoverable excess reduction may recover it.

**98. Person from whom recovery may be sought:**

Recoverable excess reduction shall be due from the applicant or the person to whom the excess reduction was allowed.

**99. Methods of recovery:**

(1) Without prejudice to any other method of recovery a relevant authority may recover any recoverable excess reduction by any of the methods specified in point 99 paragraphs (2) and (3) or any combination of those methods.

(2) Excess benefit may be recovered—

(a) by payment by or on behalf of the applicant or the person to whom the excess reduction was allowed; or

(b) by an addition being made by the relevant authority to the amount payable in respect of the council tax concerned. It may be recovered in accordance with legislation governing the recovery of council tax.

**100. Further provision as to recovery of excess reduction:**

In addition to the methods for recovery of excess reduction which are specified in this scheme, any sum or part of a sum which is due from the person concerned and which is not paid within 21 days of his being notified of the amount that is due, shall be recoverable in a court of competent jurisdiction by the authority to which the excess reduction is due.

**101. Diminution of capital:**

(1) Where in the case of recoverable excess reduction, in consequence of a misrepresentation or failure to disclose a material fact (in either case whether fraudulent or otherwise) as to an applicant's capital, or an error, other than one to which point 95 paragraph 2 refers, as to the amount of an applicant's capital, the excess reduction was in respect of a period ("the excess reduction period") of more than 13 reduction weeks, the relevant authority shall, for the purpose only of calculating the amount of excess—

- (a) at the end of the first 13 reduction weeks of the excess reduction period, treat the amount of the capital as having been reduced by the amount of excess council tax reduction allowed during those 13 weeks;
  - (b) at the end of each subsequent period of 13 reduction weeks, if any, of the excess reduction period, treat the amount of that capital as having been further reduced by the amount of excess council tax reduction allowed during the immediately preceding 13 reduction weeks.
- (2) Capital shall not be treated as reduced over any period other than 13 reduction weeks or in any circumstances other than those, for which point 101 paragraph (1) provides.

**102. Sums to be deducted in calculated recoverable excess reduction:**

- (1) In calculating the amount of recoverable excess reduction, the relevant authority shall deduct any amount of council tax reduction which should have been determined to be payable to the person from whom the excess reduction is recoverable or their partner in respect of the whole or part of the overpayment period—
- (a) on the basis of the claim as presented to the authority;
  - (b) on the basis of the claim as it would have appeared had any misrepresentation or non-disclosure been remedied before the decision; or
  - (c) on the basis of the claim as it would have appeared if any change of circumstances had been notified at the time that change occurred.
- (2) In calculating the amount of recoverable excess reduction, the relevant authority may deduct so much of any payment of council tax in respect of the excess reduction period which exceeds the amount, if any, which the claimant was liable to pay for that period under the original erroneous decision.

## Section 2 - Useful Guidance and Information

(Not

the scheme rules)

### 103. Data Protection:

Council Tax Reduction data is administered in accordance with The Data Protection Act 2018 and UKGDPR. This act incorporated the General Data Protection Regulation (GDPR) into United Kingdom Law.

Please click on this link to find out further details about Data Protection within the London Borough of Hillingdon: <https://www.hillingdon.gov.uk/article/2477/Data-protection-and-GDPR>

Please click on this link to see the Privacy Notice that includes Council Tax Reduction, please click on this link and then click on the Benefits link:

<https://www.hillingdon.gov.uk/privacy>

### 104. Complaints:

You cannot complain about a Council Tax Reduction decision because the decision can be appealed to and independently reviewed by the Valuation Tribunal Service. However, if you wish to complain about perceived poor service in administering a Council Tax Reduction claim then this link provides further details on the complaints procedure: <https://hillingdon.gov.uk/complaints>

### 105. Contact Details for the Valuation Tribunal England (for Appeals):

The Valuation Tribunal England is the independent body that reviews disputed Council Tax Reduction decisions. Below is a link to their website with details of how to appeal.

<https://www.valuationtribunal.gov.uk/>

### 106. Fraud:

(1) In order to protect the finances of the London Borough of Hillingdon, and also protect the interests of Council Tax payers and other residents or service users we will undertake actions allowed by law to:

a) prevent and detect fraudulent claims and actions in respect of Council Tax Reduction;

- b) Carry out investigations fairly, professionally and in accordance with the law; and
- c) ensure that sanctions are applied in line with the Council's Prosecutions and Sanctions policy.

(2) The London Borough of Hillingdon believes it is important to minimise the opportunity for fraud and;

- a) will implement rigorous procedures for the verification of claims for Council Tax Reduction;
- b) will actively tackle fraud where it occurs in accordance with this scheme;
- c) will cooperate with the Department for Work and Pensions (DWP), Her Majesty's Revenue and Customs (HMRC), and take part in joint working including prosecutions; and
- d) will seek to recover the over-allowed Council Tax Reduction.

(3) The London Borough of Hillingdon shall put in place such administrative policies, procedures and processes as are necessary to ensure that the actions outlined within this Fraud section can be carried out successfully. In particular we will undertake actions provided by the Council Tax Reduction Schemes (Detection of Fraud and Enforcement)(England) Regulations 2013.

(4) To report fraud affecting Council Tax Reduction or any other services of the London Borough of Hillingdon, or to obtain further information then please click on this link: [Reporting fraud or corruption - Hillingdon Council](#)

#### **107. How to claim Council Tax Reduction:**

We encourage people to claim Council Tax Reduction online although if requested will send a paper claim form. To claim online please click on this link <https://hillington.gov.uk/article/2412/How-to-apply>

#### **108. Examples of a change of circumstances that I need to report:**

These are examples of the type of changes that need to be reported. It is not an exhaustive list, and it does not diminish the general duty on the recipient of a Council Tax Reduction to report any change that may affect entitlement.

The examples are-

You need to tell us if you, your partner, your non-dependant or dependant child:

- start or stop receiving benefit payments
- start or stop receiving pension payments
- start or stop receiving tax credits
- start or stop working
- become a full-time student
- leave school or education
- have a change to the amount of income ie wage increase/decrease
- have a change to the amount of savings, if you and your partners savings total more than £6,000
- are going to be away from your property for four weeks or more (you need to let us know before you go away). Please see the rules on [temporary absence from your home](#)
- have someone move in or out of your household
- move home

We will normally need to see evidence of the change. You will need to upload a scanned image or digital photo of your documents to your change in circumstances form

#### **109. How to report a change in circumstances:**

Changes of circumstances can be reported in a number of ways including online (preferred choice), by email and by post. This link gives some examples of what a change in circumstances is, and enables a Council Tax Reduction recipient to report a change in circumstances: <https://www.hillingdon.gov.uk/article/2414/Changes-in-circumstances>

#### **110. Further details about Council Tax Reduction within the London Borough of Hillingdon**

For further details on Council Tax Reduction within the London Borough of Hillingdon then please click on this link: <https://www.hillingdon.gov.uk/ctrapply>

#### **111. Find out more about Council Tax and other discounts and exemptions which are available:**

The following link has details of exemptions and other discounts within the London Borough of Hillingdon: <https://www.hillingdon.gov.uk/counciltax>

#### **112. The Equality Act 2010 and adjustments to enable you to claim and communicate about a claim for Council Tax Reduction:**

If you are disabled and would like us to consider reasonable adjustments in how we communicate with each other, or how we administer your claim, then please contact us with details. It would be helpful if you explained your disability, specifically use the phrase “reasonable adjustments”, how you would like to communicate and explain how the adjustments would help you. Please use the contact details below.

**113. Find out more about Council Tax and other discounts and exemptions which are available**

The following link has details of exemptions and other discounts within the London Borough of Hillingdon: [Council tax - Hillingdon Council](#) . Please then click on the Discounts, Exemptions.

**114. Contact details for the Council Tax Reduction team:**

Email Address: [benefits@hillington.gov.uk](mailto:benefits@hillington.gov.uk)

Post: LB Hillingdon Revenues and Benefits Service, PO Box 651, Darlington, DL1 9HY.

Telephone number: 0300 123 1384.