1988 No. 354

HOUSING

Housing (Improvement, Intermediate, Repairs and Special Grants) Order (Northern Ireland) 1988

Made . . . . . *4th October 1988*

Coming into operation . . *2nd January 1989*

To be laid before Parliament under paragraph 3(3) of Schedule 1 to the Northern Ireland Act 1974

The Department of the Environment, in exercise of the powers conferred upon it by Articles 52(9), 54(6), 57(3) and (7), 59(2), 62(4)(*a*) and (*b*), 66(3) and (4) and 68(3) of the Housing (Northern Ireland) Order 1983(**a**) (in this Order referred to as "the Order") and of every other power enabling it in that behalf, with the consent of the Department of Finance and Personnel to Articles 2 and 3, hereby makes the following Order:

Citation and commencement

1. This Order may be cited as the Housing (Improvement, Intermediate, Repairs and Special Grants) Order (Northern Ireland) 1988 and shall come into operation on 2nd January 1989.

Appropriate percentage

2. Article 52(4) of the Order shall be modified by the omission of sub-paragraph (*c*).

Net annual value limit on improvement and repairs grants

3. In Article 54 of the Order, paragraph (5) shall be modified as follows—

(*a*) in sub-paragraph (*a*) the words from "not" to "sub-paragraph (*b*)" shall be omitted; and

(*b*) sub-paragraph (*b*) shall be omitted.

Eligible expense limits for improvement grants

4.—(1) For the purposes of Article 57(3)(*a*) and (*b*) of the Order the amounts specified are £8,100 and £9,400 respectively.

(2) Article 57(4) of the Order shall be modified as follows—

(*a*) sub-paragraph (*c*) shall be omitted; and

(*b*) for the words "£10,200 and £11,800" there shall be substituted the words "£12,600 and £14,500".

(a) S.I. 1983/1118 (N.I. 15)

Eligible expense limits for intermediate grants

5. In Article 62(4) of the Order—

(*a*) for the purposes of sub-paragraph (*a*) the amount specified is £3,450; and

(*b*) for the purposes of sub-paragraph (*b*) the amounts specified are £345 and £1,380.

Contributory element limits for special grants

6. For the purposes of Article 66(3) and (4) of the Order the amounts specified are £10,500 and £3,450 respectively.

Eligible expense limits for repairs grants

7. For the purposes of Article 68(3) of the Order the amount specified is £5,500.

Standard amenities

8. Schedule 4 to the Order shall be modified by substituting for Part I the following Part—

"PART I

List of Amenities and Maximum Eligible Amounts

Item	*Description of Amenity*	*Maximum eligible expense*
		£
1.	A fixed bath or shower ...	450
2.	A hot and cold water supply at a fixed bath or shower ...	570
3.	A wash-hand basin ...	170
4.	A hot and cold water supply at a wash-hand basin ...	305
5.	A sink ...	450
6.	A hot and cold water supply at a sink ...	385
7.	A water closet ...	680"

Sealed with the Official Seal of the Department of the Environment on 4th October 1988.

(L.S.) *Rosemary R. Brown*
Assistant Secretary

The Department of Finance and Personnel consents to Articles 2 and 3 of the foregoing Order.

Sealed with the Official Seal of the Department of Finance and Personnel on 4th October 1988.

(L.S.) *Joan O. M. Frame*
Assistant Secretary

EXPLANATORY NOTE

(This note is not part of the Order.)

This Order modifies certain provisions relating to improvements, intermediate, repairs and special grants payable under Part III of the Housing (Northern Ireland) Order 1983 ("the Order").

Article 2 removes one of the categories of houses eligible for the higher rate of grant from those listed in Article 52(4) of the Order.

Article 3 reduces, in relation to applications for improvement grants, the relevant limit on the net annual value of houses to which Article 54(5)(*b*) of the Order applies (farmhouses) from £300 to £225.

Under Article 4(1) and (2)(*b*) the relevant limit of eligible expense (that is to say the amount of expense to be taken into account in determining the amount of grant) for improvement grants—

(*a*) is increased—

(i) from £6,600 to £8,100 for a house which is improved by the relevant works for the purposes of Article 57(3)(*a*); and

(ii) from £7,700 to £9,400 for a house which is provided by the conversion of a house or other building for the purposes of Article 57(3)(*b*);

(*b*) is increased from £10,200 (for certain houses improved by relevant works) and £11,800 (for certain houses where provided by conversion) to £12,600 and £14,500 respectively for the purposes of Article 57(4).

Article 4(2)(*a*) removes one category from the houses described in Article 57(4).

Under Article 5 the relevant limit of eligible expense to be taken into account in determining the amount of an intermediate grant—

(*a*) for the purposes of Article 62(4)(*a*) of the Order is increased from £3,000 to £3,450; and

(*b*) for the purposes of Article 62(4)(*b*) is increased by raising the amount by which the number of standard amenities is multiplied, from £300 to £345 and the maximum, from £1,200 to £1,380.

Under Article 6 the limit of contributory element to be taken into account in determining the amount of a special grant—

(*a*) is increased from £8,100 to £10,500 for the purposes of Article 66(3) (the provision of means of escape from fire); and

(*b*) is increased from £3,000 to £3,450 for the purposes of Article 66(4) (works of repair or replacement).

Under Article 7 the limit of eligible expense to be taken into account in determining the amount of a repairs grant is increased from £4,800 to £5,500.

Article 8 of the Order raises the maximum eligible amounts for the provision of standard amenities specified in Schedule 4 to the Order.