1989 No. 81

LEGAL AID AND ADVICE

Legal Aid (Financial Conditions) Regulations (Northern Ireland) 1989

Made	*13th March 1989*
Coming into operation . .	*10th April 1989*
To be laid before Parliament	

The Lord Chancellor, in exercise of the powers conferred by Articles 9(2), 12(2), 22(1) and 27 of the Legal Aid, Advice and Assistance (Northern Ireland) Order 1981(**a**) and now vested in him(**b**), hereby makes the following Regulations—

Citation, commencement and interpretation

1.—(1) These Regulations may be cited as the Legal Aid (Financial Conditions) Regulations (Northern Ireland) 1989 and shall come into operation on 10th April 1989.

(2) In these Regulations "the Order" means the Legal Aid, Advice and Assistance (Northern Ireland) Order 1981.

Revocation

2. The Legal Aid (Financial Conditions) Regulations (Northern Ireland) 1988(**c**) are hereby revoked.

Persons eligible for legal aid

3.—(1) For the yearly sum of £5,765 specified in Article 9(1) of the Order(**d**), there shall be substituted the yearly sum of £6,035.

(2) For the capital sum of £5,000 specified in Article 9(1) of the Order(**d**), there shall be substituted the capital sum of £6,000.

Contributions from persons receiving legal aid

4. For the yearly sum of £2,400 specified in Article 12(1) of the Order(**d**), there shall be substituted the yearly sum of £2,515.

Dated 13th March 1989 *Mackay of Clashfern,* C.

(**a**) S.I. 1981/228 (N.I. 8); Article 27 is an interpretation provision and is recited because of the meanings assigned to the words "prescribed" and "regulations"
(**b**) S.I. 1982/159.
(**c**) S.R. 1988 No. 89
(**d**) Which figure was most recently substituted by S.R. 1988 No. 89

EXPLANATORY NOTE

(This note is not part of the Regulations.)

These Regulations increase certain of the financial limits of eligibility for legal aid under Part II of the Legal Aid, Advice and Assistance (Northern Ireland) Order 1981.

The income limits are increased to make legal aid available to those with disposable incomes of not more than £6,035 a year (instead of £5,765) and available without payment of a contribution to those with disposable incomes of £2,515 a year or less (instead of £2,400).

The upper limit for disposable capital (£5,000) above which legal aid may be refused if it appears that the applicant could afford to proceed without legal aid is increased to £6,000.

The lower limit of disposable capital below which no contribution in respect of capital may be required, remains at £3,000.