1992 No. 106

LEGAL AID AND ADVICE

Legal Advice and Assistance (Financial Conditions) Regulations (Northern Ireland) 1992

Made . . . . . *11th March 1992*

Coming into operation . . *6th April 1992*

To be laid before Parliament

The Lord Chancellor, in exercise of the powers conferred by Articles 3(2), 7(3), 22 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 Advice and Assistance (Financial Conditions) Regulations (Northern Ireland) 1992 and shall come into operation on 6th April 1992.

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

Revocation

2. The Legal Advice and Assistance (Financial Conditions) Regulations (Northern Ireland) 1991(**c**) are hereby revoked.

Persons eligible for advice and assistance

3.—(1) For the weekly sum of £135 specified in Article 3(1) of the Order(**d**) there shall be substituted the weekly sum of £145.

(2) For the capital sum of £935 specified in Article 3(1) of the Order(**e**) there shall be substituted the capital sum of £1,000 except in relation to assistance by way of representation (for which the sum remains £3,000(**c**)).

Contributions from persons receiving advice and assistance

4. For the weekly sum of £70 specified in Article 7(2) of the Order(**f**), there shall be substituted the weekly sum of £75.

Dated 11th March *Mackay of Clashfern*, C.

(**a**) S.I. 1981/228 (N.I. 8); Article 27 is an interpretation provision and is recited because of the meaning assigned to the words "prescribed" and "regulations"
(**b**) S.I. 1982/159
(**c**) S.R. 1991 No. 91
(**d**) Which figure was most recently substituted by S.R. 1990 No. 94
(**e**) Which figure was most recently substituted by S.R. 1986 No. 241
(**f**) Which figure was most recently substituted by S.R. 1991 No. 91

EXPLANATORY NOTE

(This note is not part of the Regulations.)

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

The income limits are increased to make legal advice and assistance available to those with disposable incomes of not more than £145 a week (instead of £135) and available without payment of a contribution to those with disposable incomes of £75 a week or less (instead of £64).

The capital limit in relation to legal advice and assistance is increased to £1,000 (instead of £935). The capital limit in relation to assistance by way of representation remains at £3,000.