1983 No. 342

HOUSING

The Homes Insulation Scheme and Grants Order (Northern Ireland) 1983

Made	*28th October 1983*
Coming into operation . . .	*21st November 1983*

The Department of the Environment in exercise of the powers conferred on it by Article 86(1), (2), (3), (4)(*b*), (5) and (7) of the Housing (Northern Ireland) Order 1981(**a**) and of every other power enabling it in that behalf with the approval of the Department of Finance and Personnel(**b**) to Article 3 hereby makes the following Order:—

Citation and commencement

1. This Order may be cited as the Homes Insulation Scheme and Grants Order (Northern Ireland) 1983 and shall come into operation on 21st November 1983.

Homes Insulation Scheme

2. The Scheme set out in the Schedule shall have effect and may be referred to in any instrument or document as the Homes Insulation Scheme (Northern Ireland) 1983.

Amounts of grants

3. The grants prescribed for the Homes Insulation Scheme (Northern Ireland) 1983 shall be as set out in paragraph 3 of that Scheme.

Revocation

4. The Homes Insulation Scheme and Grants (No. 2) Order (Northern Ireland) 1982(**c**) is hereby revoked.

Sealed with the Official Seal of the Department of the Environment for Northern Ireland on 28th October 1983.

(L.S.) *J. M. Beckett*
Assistant Secretary

The Department of Finance and Personnel hereby approves Article 3 of the foregoing Order.

Sealed with the Official Seal of the Department of Finance and Personnel for Northern Ireland on 28th October 1983.

(L.S.) *D. W. Alexander*
Assistant Secretary

(**a**) S.I. 1981/156 (N.I. 3)
(**b**) Formerly Department of Finance: see S.I. 1982/338 (N.I. 6) Art. 3
(**c**) S.R. 1982 No. 419

SCHEDULE

The Homes Insulation Scheme (Northern Ireland) 1983

Interpretation

1. In this Scheme:—

"grant" means a grant for any house of an amount equivalent to the percentage as prescribed in paragraph 3, or the money sum, whichever is the less;

"roof space" means space between the roof of a house and the ceiling of any room, which is used or available for use for the purposes of living accommodation and which is not wholly separated fom the roof by any other room.

Specified insulation works

2.—(1) Subject to this paragraph, grant will be available under this Scheme for the following insulation works:—

(*a*) the provision in any roof space of material specified in column 1 of the Schedule to the thickness specified in column 2 of the Schedule;

(*b*) where there is no means of access to any roof space for the purpose of carrying out the principal insulation works, the provision of such a means of access, including a permanent means of access;

(*c*) insulation, in any roof space, of any cold water tank and any water supply pipes;

(*d*) the provision, for any hot water tank or cylinder which is not already insulated by any means, of a jacket conforming to British Standard Specification 5615: 1978 or, if there is insufficient space for such a jacket, of other means of insulation.

(2) Grant shall only be available where at the completion of the insulation works:—

(*a*) any cold water tank in any roof space insulated under this Scheme and any water supply pipes in any such roof space are insulated; and

(*b*) any hot water tank or cylinder which was not insulated at the start of those works is insulated as mentioned in sub-paragraph (1)(*d*).

(3) Grant shall only be available for the insulation works mentioned in sub-paragraph (1)(*b*), (*c*) or (*d*) where at the same time as such insulation works are carried out the principal insulation works are also carried out.

(4) In this paragraph:—

"principal insulation works" means the insulation works referred to in sub-paragraph (1)(*a*).

Prescribed percentages and amounts of grants

3.—(1) A grant for any house under this Scheme is to be made on the appropriate scale.

(2) In the case of an application on grounds of special need the appropriate scale is 90 per cent. of the cost of the works qualifying for grant or £95, whichever is the less.

(3) In all other cases the appropriate scale is 66 per cent. of the cost of such works or £69, whichever is the less.

(4) In this paragraph:—

"advanced education" means full-time education by attendance at an educational establishment for the purposes of—

(*a*) a course in preparation for a degree, a diploma of higher education, a higher national diploma, a higher diploma of the Technician Education Council, a higher national diploma of the Business Education Council or a teaching qualification; or

(*b*) any other course which is certified by the Department of the Environment as being a course of a standard above ordinary national diploma, a diploma of the Technician Education Council, a national diploma of the Business Education Council or general certificate of education (advanced level);

"application on grounds of special need" means an application for a grant made or authorised to be made:—

(*a*) by a person who has attained the age of 65 years if a man or the age of 60 years if a woman and who is in receipt of a supplementary pension, rent rebate, rent allowance or rate rebate; or

(*b*) by a person who, or one of whose dependants, is severely disabled and who is in receipt of supplementary allowance, rent rebate, rent allowance or rate rebate.

"a rate rebate", "a rent rebate" and "a rent allowance" have the meanings assigned under Article 2(2) of the Housing Benefits (Northern Ireland) Order 1983(**a**);

"a supplementary allowance" means a supplementary allowance under Article 3 of the Supplementary Benefits (Northern Ireland) Order 1977(**b**);

"a supplementary pension" means a supplementary pension under Article 3 of the Supplementary Benefits (Northern Ireland) Order 1977.

"dependant" means:—

(*a*) the applicant's spouse living with the applicant;

(*b*) a person with whom the applicant is living as though they were husband and wife;

(*c*) a person who resides in the house in respect of which the application is made and whose requirements are provided for by the applicant or a person described in (*a*) or (*b*) above and who is either

(i) a person in respect of whom child benefit is paid or is payable under the Child Benefit (Northern Ireland) Order 1975(**c**); or

(ii) under the age of sixteen; or

(iii) aged sixteen or over but under the age of twenty and receiving full-time education at a school, college or other similar educational establishment, other than advanced education;

"severely disabled" means a person:

(*a*) who is in receipt of:—

(i) attendance allowances under section 35 of the Social Security (Northern Ireland) Act 1975(**d**);

(ii) an increase under section 61 of the said Act of 1975, of the weekly rate of disablement pension where constant attendance is needed;

(iii) a constant attendance allowance under Article 14 of the Naval, Military and Air Forces, etc. (Disablement and Death) Service Pensions Order 1978(**e**);

(iv) mobility allowance under section 37A of the Social Security (Northern Ireland) Act 1975 as inserted by Article 24 of the Social Security Pensions (Northern Ireland) Order 1975(**f**);

(v) a grant under Article 30(3) of the Health and Personal Social Services (Northern Ireland) Order 1972(**g**) (provision of vehicles for disabled persons) towards the cost of maintaining a vehicle belonging to a person referred to in Article 30(1) of that Order;

(vi) an amount pursuant to Article 26 of the Naval, Military and Air Forces, etc. (Disablement and Death) Service Pensions Order 1978 (provision of expenses in respect of appropriate aids for disabled living) in respect of the cost of providing a vehicle for, or maintaining a vehicle belonging to, a disabled person;

(*b*) for whom an invalid carriage or other vehicle has been provided pursuant to Article 30 of the Health and Personal Social Services (Northern Ireland) Order 1972.

Description of houses qualifying for grant

4. The houses qualifying for grant under this Scheme are all completed houses except:—

(*a*) those without any roof space; and

(*b*) those in which insulation material is provided in all or any part of any roof space.

(**a**) S.I. 1983/1121 (N.I. 14)
(**b**) S.I. 1977/2156 (N.I. 27)
(**c**) S.I. 1975/1504 (N.I. 16)
(**d**) 1975 c. 15
(**e**) S.I. 1978/1525
(**f**) S.I. 1975/1503 (N.I. 15)
(**g**) S.I. 1972/1265 (N.I. 14)

Persons from whom applications are to be entertained.

5.—(1) Subject to sub-paragraph (2) the following are the persons from whom applications for grant under this Scheme are to be entertained in respect of houses within the description specified in paragraph 4:—

(*a*) a person in occupation of such a house;

(*b*) where the house is unoccupied, any person entitled to occupy it;

(*c*) where the house is subject to a tenancy or licence, any landlord or licenser.

(2) No application made by a public authority shall be entertained.

(3) In this paragraph "public authority" means a public body established by or under any statutory provision or a housing association for the time being registered in the register of housing associations established under Article 124 of the Housing (Northern Ireland) Order 1981 other than one whose rules restrict membership to persons who are tenants or prospective tenants of the association and preclude the granting or assigning of tenancies to persons other than members.

(4) In sub-paragraph (3):—

"housing association" means a housing association within the meaning of Article 114 of the Housing (Northern Ireland) Order 1981.

Transitional provisions

6. Notwithstanding the revocation of the Homes Insulation Scheme Order (Northern Ireland) 1978(**a**), the Homes Insulation Scheme Order (Northern Ireland) 1979(**b**), the Homes Insulation Scheme Order (Northern Ireland) 1980(**c**), the Homes Insulation Scheme Order (Northern Ireland) 1981(**d**), the Homes Insulation Scheme and Grants Order (Northern Ireland) 1982(**e**), and the Homes Insulation Scheme and Grants (No. 2) Order (Northern Ireland) 1982(**f**), where an application for a grant has been made under any of the Schemes made by those Orders, in relation to which grant would have been payable under any of these Schemes but no payment has been made before 21st November 1983 then the application or claim (as the case may be) shall be treated as an application or claim made under the Homes Insulation Scheme (No. 2) (Northern Ireland) 1982, notwithstanding anything in paragraph 2(1)(*a*) thereof.

(**a**) S.R. 1978 No. 335
(**b**) S.R. 1979 No. 424
(**c**) S.R. 1980 No. 328
(**d**) S.R. 1981 No. 419
(**e**) S.R. 1982 No. 143
(**f**) S.R. 1982 No. 419

SCHEDULE

Materials specified for the insulation of roof spaces

Column 1 *Materials*	Column 2 *Thickness*
Thermolan Ti 112 (BS 5803 Part 1)	100mm
Rocksil Building Mat (BS 5803 Part 1)	100mm
Rocksil Housewarm (BS 5803 Part 1)	100mm
Sankey Wrap (BS 5803 Part 1)	100mm
Solarwrap (BS 5803 Part 1)	100mm
Marley Wrap (BS 5803 Part 1)	100mm
Texas Supawarm (BS 5803 Part 1)	100mm
Sankey Loft Insulation (BS 5803 Part 1)	100mm
Texas Loft Insulation (BS 5803 Part 1)	100mm
Dodge City Loft Insulation (BS 5803 Part 1)	100mm
Heat Saver (BS 5803 Part 1)	100mm
Super Wool Rocksil Insulation Mat (BS 5803 Part 1)	100mm
Super Glass Glass Fibre Insulation Mat (BS 5803 Part 1)	100mm
Insulay (BS 5803 Part 1)	100mm
Wilko Loft Insulation (BS 5803 Part 1)	100mm
Warmahome (BS 5803 Part 1)	100mm
Rentokil (BS 5803 Part 1)	100mm
Homemart Loft Insulation (BS 5803 Part 1)	100mm
Superfil Blown Rock Fibre (Agrément Certificate 82/944)*	95mm
Certain Teed Blowing Wool Glass Fibre (Agrément Certificate 80/793 Second Issue)*	90mm
Cibco Armax Blown Cellulose Fibre (Agrément Certificate 80/794)*	90mm
Cibco Heatguard Blown Cellulose Fibre (Agrément Certificate 81/882)*	90mm
Shelter Shield Class 1 Blown Cellulose Fibre (Agrément Certificate 80/709)*	95mm
Shelter Shield II Blown Cellulose Fibre (Agrément Certificate 81/881)*	90mm
Draco Fibreflow Rockwool Blown Mineral Fibre (Agrément Certificate 80/806)*	95mm
Micafil (exfoliated vermiculite) (Agrément Certificate 82/1046)	155mm
Ecomax Blown Mineral Fibre (Agrément Certificate 82/991)*	90mm
Supawrap (BS 5803 Part 1)	100mm
Crown 75 (BS 5803 Part 1)	100mm
Fibrewarm Blown Glass Fibre (Agrément Certificate 82/1033)*	100mm
Freeman Rockfibre Blown Mineral Fibre (Agrément Certificate 80/780)*	90mm
Gypglas 1000 (BS 5803 Part 1)	100mm
Heatmax Spraymatic Blown Mineral Fibre (Agrément Certificate 80/807)*	90mm

Column 1 *Material*	Column 2 *Thickness*
Cellusave Blown Cellulose Fibre (Agrément Certificate 81/900)*	85mm
Poliglass Blown Glass Fibre (Agrément Certificate 80/741)*	95mm
Voidfil Blown Rock Fibre (Agrément Certificate 82/1014)*	95mm
Polar Blown Cellulose Fibre (Agrément Certificate 81/901)*	85mm
Energy Saver (BS 5803 Part 1)	100mm
Rockwool Rollbatt (BS 5803 Part 1)	100mm
Wickes Rockwool Roof Insulation (BS 5803 Part 1)	100mm
Solarwarm (BS 5803 Part 1)	100mm
Rockwool Blown Mineral Fibre (Agrément Certificate 80/804)*	95mm
Rockwool 002 Blown Mineral Fibre (Agrément Certificate 80/805)*	95mm
High Performance Rockwool Blown Mineral Fibre (Agrément Certificate 81/879)*	90mm
Target Blown Mineral Fibre Loft Insulation (Agrément Certificate 82/1015)*	90mm
Blow-matic Blown Mineral Wool Fibre (Agrément Certificate 80/778)*	100mm
Thermatic Blown Mineral Fibre (Agrément Certificate 81/899)*	95mm
Thermsave Pelleted Glass-Fibre (Agrément Certificate 82/1045)*	85mm
Tilcon Trufil Perlite (Agrément Certificate 80/710)	95mm
Trans-Thermal Blown Glass Fibre (Agrément Certificate 82/1034)*	120mm
U/Save Blown Cellulose Fibre (Agrément Certificate 81/856)*	85mm
Snugg Loft Insulation (exfoliated vermiculite) (Agrément Certificate 82/1029)	155mm
Warmcel 2 Blown Cellulose Fibre (Agrément Certificate 82/1031)*	85mm

(Note: Any reference to a BS number or Agrément Certificate number in this Schedule is for the purpose of identifying the material concerned and does not incorporate into this Scheme any condition applicable to that number. Applicants may wish to know, however, that the conditions of those certificates marked * require the material to be installed by specialist contractors.)

EXPLANATORY NOTE

(This note is not part of the Order.)

This Order revokes the Homes Insulation Scheme and Grants (No. 2) Order (Northern Ireland) 1982 and the Homes Insulation Scheme (No. 2) (Northern Ireland) 1982 contained therein and substitutes a revised Scheme — the Homes Insulation Scheme (Northern Ireland) 1983.

Like its predecessor, the revised Scheme made under this Order specifies the works of roof space insulation and the description of dwellings on which grant will be paid by the Northern Ireland Housing Executive under Article 86 of the Housing (Northern Ireland) Order 1981. The Scheme also specifies the categories of person from whom applications for grant will be entertained.

Grant is available for the provision of insulation to a required standard in the roof space, to the cold water tank and water supply pipes in the roof space and to the hot water cylinder in those dwellings possessing a roof space immediately above living accommodation which is not already wholly or partly insulated. Where there is no means of access to any roof space for the purpose of carrying out the principal insulation works, the revised Scheme permits a grant to be paid (within the maxima set out in the following paragraph) on the provision of such a means of access, including a permanent means of access.

The revised Scheme also provides that persons in occupation of a house, other than the owner or tenancy holder, may apply for grant. In this way such people who also do not fit the Scheme's definition of dependant but who are severely disabled or elderly, and on a low income and thus receive Supplementary Benefit in their own right, can make an application and obtain 90% grant.

The basic rate of grant remains at 66% of the cost of the works, and the maximum money sum available in such cases remains at £69. In cases where the application is made on grounds of special need the maximum percentage used in calculating the amount of grant payable remains 90% and the maximum money sum in such cases remains at £95. The revised Scheme makes no changes to the Schedule of Materials specified for the insulation of roof spaces under the previous Order.

An application on grounds of "special need", as in the previous Scheme, may be made by any person who has attained the age of 65, if male, or 60, if female; or is severely disabled or has a dependant who is severely disabled. For the purposes of such "special need' cases, the term "dependant"has been re-defined in the revised Scheme to bring it into line with the definition contained in the Housing Benefits Regulations (Northern Ireland) 1983. As an application cannot be made on the grounds of special need unless the person so applying is in receipt of a pension, rebate or allowance specified in the scheme, the new Order also re-defines the terms "rate rebate", "rent rebate" and "rent allowance" in the context of the Housing Benefits (Northern Ireland) Order 1983.

The revised Scheme also makes it clear that the presence of insulation material *in* all or any part of the roof space is the test to apply to decide whether a dwelling is ineligible because of existing insulation. This is to ensure that, e.g., houses with thatched roofs will not be debarred from consideration for home insulation grant.

Finally, the revised Scheme provides that, where grant has been applied for under a previous Home Insulation Scheme but not yet paid, the application shall be treated as made under the Homes Insulation Scheme (No. 2) (Northern Ireland) 1982, notwithstanding anything in paragraph 2(1)(*a*) thereof.