1981 No. 74

HOUSING

Housing (Improvement, Intermediate and Repairs Grants) Order (Northern Ireland) 1981

Made . . . . . *11th March 1981*

Coming into operation . . . *1st May 1981*

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 73, 75, 78 and 80 of the Housing (Northern Ireland) Order 1981(**a**) (in this Order referred to as "the Order") and of every other power enabling it in that behalf hereby makes the following Order:

Citation and commencement

1. This Order may be cited as the Housing (Improvement, Intermediate and Repairs Grants) Order (Northern Ireland) 1981 and shall come into operation on 1st May 1981.

Eligible expense limits for improvement grants

2.—(1) Subject to paragraph (2), the amounts of £5,500 and £6,400 are hereby specified for the purposes of Article 73(3)(*a*) and (*b*) respectively of the Order.

(2) The amounts of £8,500 and £9,800 are hereby specified for the purposes of Article 73(3)(*a*) and (*b*) respectively of the Order in relation to any house which, on the date the application for the grant is approved, is covered by one or more of the following descriptions:—

(*a*) it is in a housing action area;

(*b*) it is unfit for human habitation and the relevant works consist of or include works which if executed would contribute towards rendering the house fit for human habitation;

(*c*) (i) it lacks, or is to be provided by the conversion of a house which lacks, one or more of the standard amenities, and

(ii) the relevant works consist of or include the provision of a standard amenity which is lacking, and

(iii) the Executive is satisfied that the standard amenity which is to be provided, or, where more than one such amenity is to be provided, each of them, has been lacking for a period of not less than 12 months, ending on the date on which the application was made.

(3) In paragraph (2) a reference to a house includes a reference to a house which is to be provided by the conversion of a house.

Eligible expense limits for intermediate and repairs grants

3. The amounts of £2,500 and £4,000 are hereby specified for the purposes of Article 78(3)(*a*) and Article 80(3) respectively of the Order.

(**a**) S.I. 1981/156 (N.I. 3)

Standard amenities

4. Schedule 5 to the Order is hereby varied by substituting for Part I thereof the following:

"PART I

List of Amenities and Maximum Eligible Amounts

Item	*Description of Amenity*	*Maximum eligible amount* £
1	A fixed bath or shower	285
2	A hot and cold water supply at a fixed bath or shower	360
3	A wash-hand basin	110
4	A hot and cold water supply at a wash-hand basin	190
5	A sink	285
6	A hot and cold water supply at a sink	240
7	A water closet	430"

Sealed with the Official Seal of the Department of the Environment for Northern Ireland on 11th March 1981.

(L.S.) *E. A. Simpson*
Assistant Secretary

EXPLANATORY NOTE

(This note is not part of the Order.)

This Order increases the limits of eligible expense for improvement, intermediate and repairs grants and the maximum eligible amounts for individual standard amenities payable by the Northern Ireland Housing Executive under Part IV Chapter 1 of the Housing (Northern Ireland) Order 1981.

In relation to improvement grants there are two limits of eligible expense, the higher being prescribed where the premises are in a housing action area or are unfit for human habitation or, subject to certain conditions, lack one or more standard amenities.