STATUTORY INSTRUMENTS

1977 No. 1935

LEGAL AID AND ADVICE, ENGLAND

The Legal Aid (Financial Conditions) Regulations 1977

Made - - -	*6th October* 1977
Laid before Parliament	*26th October* 1977
Coming into Operation	*28th November* 1977

The Lord Chancellor, in exercise of the powers conferred on him by sections 6, 9 and 20 of the Legal Aid Act 1974(a), hereby makes the following Regulations:—

1.—(1) These Regulations may be cited as the Legal Aid (Financial Conditions) Regulations 1977 and shall come into operation on 28th November 1977.

(2) In these Regulations, unless the context otherwise requires "the Act" means the Legal Aid Act 1974, "the 1976 Regulations" means the Legal Aid (Financial Conditions) Regulations 1976(b), and other expressions have the same meaning as in the Act.

(3) The Interpretation Act 1889(c) shall apply to the interpretation of these Regulations as it applies to the interpretation of an Act of Parliament.

2. For the yearly sum specified in section 6(1) of the Act, as amended by the 1976 Regulations, there shall be substituted the yearly sum of £2,400.

3. For the capital sum specified in section 6(1)(*a*) of the Act, as amended by the 1976 Regulations, there shall be substituted the capital sum of £1,600.

4. For the yearly sum specified in section 9(1)(*a*) of the Act, as amended by the 1976 Regulations, there shall be substituted the yearly sum of £760.

5. For the capital sum specified in section 9(1)(*b*) of the Act, as amended by the 1976 Regulations, there shall be substituted the capital sum of £340.

Dated 6th October 1977.

Elwyn-Jones, C.

(a) 1974 c. 4. (b) S.I. 1976/1895 (1976 III, p. 5069). (c) 1889 c. 63.

EXPLANATORY NOTE

(This Note is not part of the Regulations.)

These Regulations increase the financial limits of eligibility for legal aid laid down in the Legal Aid Act 1974.

The income limits are increased to make legal aid available to those with disposable incomes of not more than £2,400 a year (instead of £2,085) and available without payment of a contribution to those with disposable incomes of not more than £760 a year (instead of £665).

The capital limits are increased to make the upper limit of disposable capital, above which legal aid may be refused if it appears that the applicant could afford to proceed without legal aid, £1,600 (instead of £1,400) and the lower limit of disposable capital, below which no contribution in respect of capital may be required, £340 (instead of £300).

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