STATUTORY INSTRUMENTS

1961 No. 139

POST OFFICE

MONEY ORDERS

The Money Order Warrant, 1961

Made - - - -	*24th January*, 1961
Laid before Parliament	*30th January*, 1961
Coming into Operation	*1st February*, 1961

We, the Commissioners of Her Majesty's Treasury, in exercise of all powers given to us by Sections 20, 24 and 81 of the Post Office Act, 1953(a), and of all other powers enabling us in this behalf, do, by this Warrant, made on the representation of Her Majesty's Postmaster-General (testified by his signing the same) and under the hands of two of us, the said Commissioners, make the following Regulations (that is to say):—

PART I—INTERPRETATION AND APPLICATION

Interpretation

1.—(1) In this Warrant, unless the context otherwise requires, the following expressions have the meanings hereby respectively assigned to them:

"the British Islands" means the United Kingdom, the Channel Islands, and the Isle of Man;

"inland money order" means a money order applied for, issued and payable at a money order office in the British Islands;

"money order arrangement" means such an arrangement with another country as is referred to in Section 24 of the Post Office Act, 1953;

"money order office" means a post office at which money orders may be applied for or issued or paid under the directions of the Postmaster-General;

"office of payment" means the post office at which a money order is made payable;

"ordinary money order" means a money order other than a telegraph money order;

"oversea money order" means a money order applied for at a money order office in the British Islands and payable at some place outside the British Islands not being in the Republic of Ireland;

"postmaster" means any officer in charge of or transacting business with reference to money orders at a money order office;

"prescribed" means prescribed by the Postmaster-General;

"the scheduled territories" means the territories from time to time specified in the First Schedule to the Exchange Control Act 1947(b), but does not include the British Islands;

"telegraph money order" means a money order the particulars of which are transmitted to the office of payment by telegraph.

(a) 1 & 2 Eliz. 2. c. 36. (b) 10 & 11 Geo. 6. c. 14.

(2) The Interpretation Act, 1889(a), applies for the interpretation of this Warrant as it applies for the interpretation of an Act of Parliament, and as if this Warrant and the Warrants hereby revoked were Acts of Parliament.

Application

2. This Warrant shall not apply to that kind of money order which is called a postal order.

PART II—ORDINARY AND TELEGRAPH MONEY ORDERS

Applications for and issue of ordinary money orders

3. The following rules shall apply to applications for and the issue of ordinary money orders:—

(1) Application for the order shall be made on the prescribed form.

(2) The remitter shall give all such information as to his own name and address, the name and address of the payee, and the office at which the order is to be made payable, as the Postmaster-General may direct.

(3) No inland money order for an amount exceeding £50 may be applied for.

(4) (*a*) No oversea money order for an amount exceeding £40 or such lesser sum as may be specified in the relative money order arrangement may be applied for.

(*b*) Without the permission of the Treasury:—

(i) no oversea money order for an amount exceeding £10 may be applied for where payment is to be made in any country or place which is outside the scheduled territories; and

(ii) the total amount of such last mentioned oversea money orders for which any one person may apply on any one day shall not exceed £10.

(5) No money order for an amount comprising a fractional part of a penny may be applied for.

(6) The amount for which a money order is to be issued and the poundage payable in respect of the order shall be prepaid.

(7) On an application for an oversea money order there shall be issued to the remitter either the order or (if the relative money order arrangement provides for the issue in that country of money orders applied for in the British Islands) a certificate showing thereon the amount accepted for remittance and the poundage paid in respect thereof.

(8) Every person requiring an oversea money order payable in any country or place outside the scheduled territories shall make and sign on the prescribed form a declaration stating fully the purpose for which such oversea money order is required; and a money order or certificate shall not be issued nor the amount advised abroad for payment unless and until the permission of the Postmaster-General has been granted and stamped on the prescribed form of declaration. When such permission has been granted, the prescribed form of declaration with the permission stamped thereon (which form will have been returned to the applicant), the amount for which the money order is to be issued, and the poundage payable in respect thereof shall be handed over to the postmaster at the office at which application for the order is made.

(a) 52 & 53 Vict. c. 63.

(*e*) having anything written, printed or otherwise impressed upon or attached to any part of the postal packet which, either by tending to prevent the easy and quick reading of the address of the packet or by inconvenient proximity to the stamp or stamps used in the payment of postage, or in any other way, is in itself, or in the manner in which it is written, printed, impressed, or attached, likely in the opinion of the Postmaster-General to embarrass the officers of the Post Office in dealing with the packet;

(*f*) whereon the payment of any postage or fees purports to be denoted by any stamp or impression which has been previously used to denote payment of the postage or fees on any other postal packet or any other Revenue duty or tax.

Packets containing others for different persons

7.—(1) There shall not be posted or conveyed or delivered by post any postal packet consisting of or containing two or more postal packets addressed to different persons who are at different addresses.

(2) If any such postal packet be posted, or tendered for conveyance by post, each postal packet contained therein may be forwarded to the addressee subject to such charges as the Postmaster-General may fix in the particular case, not exceeding the total of the charges which would have been payable in respect of each of the separate postal packets contained therein if they had been posted singly without prepayment of postage.

Packing

8. Every postal packet shall be made up and secured in such manner as in the opinion of the Postmaster-General is calculated to prevent injury to any other postal packet in course of conveyance, or to any receptacle in which the same is conveyed, or to an officer of the Post Office or other persons who may deal with such packet.

Limits of Size and Weight

9. The limits of size and weight of the postal packets specified in the first column of the First Schedule hereto shall not (except with special permission of the Postmaster-General) exceed those respectively specified in the third and fourth columns of the said Schedule.

Payment of postage and fees

10.—(1) Except as the Postmaster-General may otherwise direct, and subject to the provisions of this Warrant, the postage and fees payable on every postal packet, and the fees payable in respect of postal facilities, shall be prepaid.

(2) The provisions of this Warrant with reference to prepayment of postage and fees shall not apply to the postage payable on business reply letters or postage forward parcels, or to the postage and fees payable on postal packets with respect to which the Postmaster-General has entered into an arrangement with the senders for the grant of credit facilities.

(3) Payment of postage or fees payable under this Warrant may be denoted—

(*a*) by adhesive postage stamps; or

(*b*) by impressions of stamping machines working under the direction or by the permission of the Postmaster-General; or

(*c*) by the use of a stamped envelope, cover, postcard, or other postal form; or

(*d*) by the use of an embossed or impressed stamp cut out of or otherwise detached from an envelope, cover, postcard, or other postal form; or

(*e*) in such other manner as the Postmaster-General may from time to time permit.

(4) No stamp or impression of a stamping machine which is imperfect or mutilated or defaced in any way, or across which anything is written or printed or otherwise impressed, shall be used to denote payment of postage or fees; but a stamp shall not be deemed to be imperfect or mutilated or defaced, or to have anything written or printed or impressed across it within the meaning of this provision, by reason only that it is distinctively perforated with initials by means of a punch if the perforating holes are not larger than those dividing one stamp from another in a sheet of stamps.

(5) No stamp indicating on the face thereof payment of a registration fee as well as postage shall be used to denote payment of postage or fees on any unregistered postal packet.

(6) Packets bearing the impression of stamping machines or intended for impression by stamping machines shall be accepted only at such post offices, within such hours, and under and subject to such conditions and restrictions as the Postmaster-General may consider appropriate.

(7) Subject to the provisions of this Warrant, the stamp or impression denoting payment of postage or fees shall be placed in such position on the envelope, cover, postcard or other form as the Postmaster-General may consider appropriate.

Treatment of irregular packets

11.—(1) If any postal packet which appears to have been intended for transmission as a packet of a particular description (other than a letter) is found in the post or is left at a post office, and it does not comply, or its manner of posting did not comply, with the provisions of this Warrant which are applicable to postal packets of its purported description, the Postmaster-General may if he thinks fit treat it as if it had been posted as a postal packet of such description (including a letter, and including its purported description) as he considers appropriate; and the packet shall for all purposes be deemed to be a postal packet of such description.

(2) Where any postal packet is treated as a parcel under paragraph (1), there shall be payable by the addressee on the delivery of the packet, or, if the packet is refused or cannot for any other reason be delivered, by the sender, the appropriate postage at the rate applicable to parcels and the additional sum of threepence, less the amount of any postage prepaid.

Return of undeliverable postal packets (except parcels)

12.—(1) With regard to any postal packet (other than a parcel) chargeable by law with a postage equal to or greater than the lowest rate of postage for the time being payable in respect of an inland letter, which for any reason cannot be delivered, the following provisions shall apply:

(*a*) Where the full name and address of the sender appear legibly on the outside of the packet, the packet shall be returned to the sender unopened, but subject to payment of any charges to which it has become liable.

(*b*) Where the name and address of the sender do not appear on the outside of the packet or are illegible, the packet shall be opened by any officer of the post office duly authorised in that behalf, and if the name and address of the sender can be ascertained, the packet shall be returned to the sender, subject to payment of any charges to which it has become liable.

Payment of money orders to bankers

8. The following rules shall apply to the payment of money orders to bankers :—

(1) Money orders payable at a money order office in the British Islands may be presented for payment by a banker at the office of payment or at any other office at which the payment of money orders presented by a banker may from time to time be authorised by the Postmaster-General.

(2) Where a money order is presented by a banker the name of the banker by or on behalf of whom the money order is presented, written or stamped, by way of crossing or otherwise, upon the face of the order, shall be a good receipt to the Postmaster-General for the amount of the order, and it shall not be necessary for the banker to give any information as to the remitter.

(3) Where a money order has been presented for payment by a banker and has been paid to a banker and it is afterwards discovered that such order should not have been paid or allowed to such banker, the amount so paid or allowed may be deducted from any money which may thereafter become payable to such banker for or on account or in respect of Post Office money orders, and no objection shall be taken by any banker to such deduction.

Transfer of payment

9.—(1) The Postmaster-General may direct that any money order shall be payable at any post office other than the original office of payment.

(2) The remitter, or (in the case of an order which is not crossed for payment through a bank) the payee, of an inland money order, or the remitter of an oversea money order, may direct that the order shall be payable at any money order office other than the original office of payment.

(3) In such case as is mentioned in the last paragraph the remitter or the payee (as the case may be) shall give notice in the prescribed form to the postmaster at the original office of payment, or in the case of an oversea money order or an inland telegraph money order, to such officer of the Post Office as the Postmaster-General may direct, and shall send with the notice the original order or the certificate issued in lieu of the order.

(4) Upon receipt of the notice and the order or certificate the Postmaster-General shall arrange for payment to be made at the office indicated in the notice, the sum payable being the original amount of the order less an amount equal to the poundage on the order.

Stopping payment

10. The remitter or the payee of an inland money order or the remitter of an oversea money order may stop payment of the order. For this purpose the remitter or the payee shall apply in writing to such officer of the Post Office as the Postmaster-General may direct, and shall forward with the application the fee for stopping payment hereinafter specified.

Deferment of payment

11. The Postmaster-General may, on the request of the remitter of an inland ordinary money order made on the prescribed form at the time of the application for the order, defer the payment of the order for the period (not exceeding 10 days after the date of issue) specified in the request.

Advice or certificate of payment

12. The Postmaster-General may, if he thinks fit, at the request of the remitter of a money order, and on prepayment of the fee hereinafter specified, forward to the remitter an advice or certificate of the payment of the money order : Provided that this regulation shall not apply to a money order payable in a country or place which does not for the time being undertake to obtain or give advices or certificates of payment.

Repayment to remitter of amount of money order

13.—(1) The Postmaster-General may, if he thinks fit, at the request of the remitter of a money order made in accordance with the next following paragraph, repay the amount of the order to the remitter.

(2) In such case the remitter shall send the money order, or the certificate issued in lieu of the order, with a request on the prescribed form and the fee hereinafter specified to such officer of the Post Office as the Postmaster-General may direct : Provided that the Postmaster-General may, if he thinks fit, repay the amount of a money order to the remitter, notwithstanding that the order or the said certificate is not produced by him.

Duplicate money orders

14. The Postmaster-General may if he thinks fit, and upon payment of the fee hereinafter specified, issue to the payee of an inland money order or (except where a certificate is issued in lieu of a money order) the remitter of an inland money order or of an oversea money order a duplicate of the order.

Void money orders

15. After the expiration of 6 months from the last day of the month in which any money order is issued the money order shall be absolutely void and of no effect, and the Postmaster-General shall be under no liability to pay or repay the amount of the order:

Provided that :—

(1) The Postmaster-General may, if he thinks fit, subject to payment of the renewal fee hereinafter specified, either pay the amount of the order to the payee or repay the amount thereof to the remitter, although the order has become void ;

(2) A money order payable elsewhere than in the British Islands shall be subject, in respect of the period during which the order shall be payable, to the regulations governing payment of money orders in the country of payment.

Poundage and fees

16.—(1) The poundage on money orders shall be at the rates specified in the First Schedule hereto.

(2) The fees for supplemental services in respect of money orders shall be those specified in the Second Schedule hereto.

Redirection of inland telegraph money orders

17. Where, on the application of the remitter or the payee, an inland telegraph money order is redirected and re-transmitted by telegraph to the payee at a different address, there shall be paid by the applicant in respect of such re-transmission the sums which under the Telegraph Acts, 1863 to 1954 and the relative Regulations made thereunder are payable for the re-transmission of an ordinary written telegram.

Extension of Part II

18.—(1) The provisions of this Part relating to inland money orders shall so far as they are applicable, extend to money orders issued in the British Islands and payable in the Republic of Ireland, and to money orders issued in the Republic of Ireland and payable in the British Islands, so far as relates to the issue, payment and treatment of such orders and the provision of supplemental services in respect thereof under the authority of the Postmaster-General: Provided that for the purposes of regulation fifteen, a money order applied for in the Republic of Ireland and payable in the British Islands shall become void on the expiration of 12 months from the last day of the month in which the Order is issued.

(2) Paragraphs (4), (5) and (6) of regulation six, regulations seven, eight, nine, ten, fourteen and fifteen, and paragraph (2) of regulation sixteen, shall extend to ordinary money orders issued or applied for at any place outside the British Islands (not being in the Republic of Ireland) and payable in the British Islands, as they respectively apply to inland ordinary money orders, and the said provisions shall extend to telegraph money orders so issued or applied for and payable, as they respectively apply to inland telegraph money orders:

Provided that for this purpose:

(*a*) references to the remitter in the said provisions shall be omitted;

(*b*) the sum payable under paragraph (4) of regulation nine in respect of a money order the payment whereof is transferred to another office under paragraph (2) of that regulation shall be the amount for which the order was originally issued less an amount equal to the poundage which would have been payable on the order if it had been issued as an inland money order;

(*c*) for the purposes of regulation fourteen, the Postmaster-General may issue to the payee a corresponding inland money order instead of a duplicate of the original order;

(*d*) for the purposes of regulation fifteen the order shall become void on the expiration of the period of validity specified in the relative money order arrangement;

(*e*) the said provisions shall, in relation to money orders applied for at any British Postal agency and payable in the British Islands, apply only for the purpose of the payment and transfer of payment of such orders in the British Islands; and for the purposes of regulation fifteen any such money order shall become void on the expiration of 12 months from the last day of the month in which the order was issued.

PART III.—SUPPLEMENTARY

Money order offices

19.—(1) The Postmaster-General may direct at what money order offices telegraph money orders may be applied for, issued and paid, and different directions may be given in respect of telegraph money orders of different descriptions.

(2) The Postmaster-General may authorise any of his officers or any person holding office under the Crown to accept applications for or to issue or pay money orders, and this Warrant shall apply to any officer or person so authorised as though he were a postmaster of a money order office.

Remission of poundage or fees

20. The Postmaster-General may remit in whole or in part any poundage or any fee payable under this Warrant in such cases or classes of case as he may determine.

Discharge to the Postmaster-General

21. The payment or repayment of the amount of a money order in accordance with this Warrant to whomsoever made shall discharge the Crown and every officer of the Post Office from all liability whatsoever in respect of that order and payment or repayment of the amount thereof, notwithstanding any forgery, fraud, mistake, loss, neglect or omission which may have been committed or have occurred in the procuring of the order or obtaining the payment or repayment of the amount thereof or otherwise in relation thereto.

Revocation

22. The Warrants mentioned in the Third Schedule hereto are hereby revoked.

Citation and commencement

23. This Warrant may be cited as "The Money Order Warrant, 1961" and shall come into operation on the 1st day of February, 1961.

Dated this 24th day of January, 1961.

(Sgd.) *John Hill,*
P. E. O. Bryan,
Two of the Commissioners of
Her Majesty's Treasury.

R. Bevins,
Her Majesty's Postmaster-General.

16th January, 1961.

THE FIRST SCHEDULE

PART I.—INLAND MONEY ORDERS

Regulation 16

Amount of order	*Poundage* s. d.
Not exceeding £10	1 0
Exceeding £10 but not exceeding £20	1 2
„ £20 „ „ £30	1 4
„ £30 „ „ £40	1 6
„ £40	1 8

PART II.—OVERSEA MONEY ORDERS

Amount of order	*Poundage* s. d.
Not exceeding £2	2 0
Exceeding £2 but not exceeding £5	3 0
„ £5 „ „ £10	4 0
„ £10 „ „ £20	6 0
„ £20 „ „ £30	8 0
„ £30	10 0

THE SECOND SCHEDULE

Regulation 16

Supplemental service	*Fee* s. d.
Stopping payment	9
Advice or certificate of payment:	
Inland money order	6
Oversea money order	3
Repayment to remitter.—A fee equal to the poundage appropriate to the amount of the order under the First Schedule.	
	s. d.
Issue of duplicate money order (including stopping payment of the original order)	1 4
Renewal of void money order	1 4

THE THIRD SCHEDULE

Regulation 22

Warrants Revoked

The Money Order Warrant, 1947(a).

The Money Order Amendment (No. 1) Warrant, 1951(b).

The Money Order Amendment (No. 2) Warrant, 1951(c).

The Money Order Amendment (No. 3) Warrant, 1951(d).

The Money Order Amendment (No. 5) Warrant, 1957(e).

(a) S.R. & O. 1947/656 (Rev. XVIII, p. 419: 1947 I, p. 1829). (b) S.I. 1951/78 (1951 II, p. 257).
(c) S.I. 1951/1027 (1951 II, p. 259). (d) S.I. 1951/1586 (1951 II, p. 261).
(e) S.I. 1957/1289 (1957 II, p. 1914).

EXPLANATORY NOTE

(This Note is not part of the Warrant, but is intended to indicate its general purport.)

This Warrant consolidates with minor amendments the regulations relating to money orders contained in the Warrants specified in the Third Schedule.