STATUTORY INSTRUMENTS

2016 No. 205

SOCIAL SECURITY

The Social Security Revaluation of Earnings Factors Order 2016

Made - - - -	*22nd February 2016*
Laid before Parliament	*29th February 2016*
Coming into force - -	*6th April 2016*

In accordance with section 148(2) of the Social Security Administration Act 1992(**a**), the Secretary of State has reviewed the general level of earnings obtaining in Great Britain.

The Secretary of State has concluded, having regard to earlier orders made under section 148(**b**) of that Act, that earnings factors(**c**) for the relevant tax years have not, during the period taken into account for that review, maintained their value in relation to the general level of earnings.

The Secretary of State makes the following Order in exercise of the powers conferred by sections 148(3) and (4) and 189(1), (4) and (5) of the Social Security Administration Act 1992(**d**).

Citation and commencement

1. This Order may be cited as the Social Security Revaluation of Earnings Factors Order 2016 and shall come into force on 6th April 2016.

(**a**) 1992 c. 5. Section 148 was amended by paragraph 27 of Schedule 8 to the Pension Schemes Act 1993 (c. 48) and by section 37 of the Child Support, Pensions and Social Security Act 2000 (c. 19).

(**b**) The earlier orders are: S.I.s 1979/832, 1980/728, 1981/598, 1982/607, 1983/655, 1984/581, 1985/688, 1986/809, 1987/861, 1988/867, 1989/805, 1990/1412, 1991/1108, 1992/1102, 1993/1159, 1994/1105, 1995/1070, 1996/1133, 1997/1117, 1998/1137, 1999/1235, 2000/1365, 2001/631, 2002/519, 2003/517, 2004/262, 2005/216, 2006/496, 2007/781, 2008/730, 2009/608, 2010/470, 2011/475, 2012/187, 2013/527, 2014/367 and 2015/187. Section 148(7)(b) of the Social Security Administration Act 1992 provides that orders under section 21 (revaluation of earnings factors) of the Social Security Pensions Act 1975 (c. 60) are to be treated as orders under section 148.

(**c**) *See* sections 22 and 23 of the Social Security Contributions and Benefits Act 1992 (c. 4). Section 22 was amended by paragraph 22 of Schedule 2 to the Jobseekers Act 1995 (c. 18), paragraph 61 of Schedule 7 to the Social Security Act 1998 (c. 14), section 30(1) of the Child Support, Pensions and Social Security Act 2000, paragraph 7 of Schedule 1 to the National Insurance Contributions Act 2002 (c. 19), paragraph 9(1), (3) and (4) of Schedule 3 to the Welfare Reform Act 2007 (c. 5), section 12(1) of, and paragraphs 9 and 33 of Schedule 1 to, the Pensions Act 2007 (c. 22) and section 3(2) of, and paragraph 2 of Schedule 1 to, the National Insurance Contributions Act 2008 (c. 16). Section 23 was amended by paragraph 36 of Schedule 8 to the Pension Schemes Act 1993, section 134(1) of the Pensions Act 1995 (c. 26), paragraph 8 of Schedule 1 to the National Insurance Contributions Act 2002 and paragraph 3(2) and 3(3) of Schedule 1 to the National Insurance Contributions Act 2008. *See* also sections 45B(6), 55A(5) and 55B(6) of the Social Security Contributions and Benefits Act 1992, inserted by paragraphs 2 and 3 of Schedule 6 to the Welfare Reform and Pensions Act 1999 (c. 30), under which state scheme pension debits and credits are to be increased by reference to percentage figures specified in orders under section 148 of the Social Security Administration Act 1992.

(**d**) Relevant amendments to section 189 of the Social Security Administration Act 1992 are made by paragraph 109 of Schedule 7 to the Social Security Act 1998, paragraph 57(1) and (2) of Schedule 3 to the Social Security Contributions (Transfer of Functions, etc.) Act 1999 (c. 2), Schedule 6 to the Tax Credits Act 2002 (c. 21) and S.I. 2013/252.

Revaluation of earnings factors

2. The earnings factors for tax years specified in the Schedule to this Order in so far as they are relevant—

(a) to the calculation—

(i) of the additional pension in the rate of any long-term benefit, or

(ii) of any guaranteed minimum pension(**a**); or

(b) to any other calculation required under Part 3 of the Pension Schemes Act 1993(**b**) (including that Part as modified by or under any other enactment),

are directed to be increased for those tax years by the percentage of their amount shown opposite those tax years in that Schedule.

Rounding of fractional amounts

3. Where any earnings factor relevant to the calculation specified in article 2(a)(i) of this Order, as increased in accordance with this Order, would not but for this article be expressed as a whole number of pounds, it shall be so expressed by rounding down any fraction of a pound less than one half and rounding up any other fraction of a pound.

Signed by authority of the Secretary of State for Work and Pensions

Altmann
Minister of State,
22nd February 2016 Department for Work and Pensions

SCHEDULE

Article 2

Percentage increase of earnings factor for specified tax years

Tax year	*Percentage increase*
1978-1979	771.5
1979-1980	669.2
1980-1981	542.6
1981-1982	438.2
1982-1983	388.8
1983-1984	353.9
1984-1985	320.2
1985-1986	294.2
1986-1987	262.0
1987-1988	237.1
1988-1989	210.1
1989-1990	179.9
1990-1991	160.8
1991-1992	136.9
1992-1993	122.4
1993-1994	111.8
1994-1995	105.5
1995-1996	96.8

(**a**) Earnings factors for any tax year after 1996-97 are not relevant to the calculation of any guaranteed minimum pension: section 14(8) of the Pension Schemes Act 1993 as amended by paragraph 27(b) of Schedule 5 to the Pensions Act 1995. *See* article 2(7) of S.I. 1996/778 for the meaning of "principal appointed day".

(**b**) 1993 c. 48.

1996-1997	91.4
1997-1998	82.3
1998-1999	74.3
1999-2000	67.3
2000-2001	57.4
2001-2002	51.3
2002-2003	45.1
2003-2004	40.0
2004-2005	34.9
2005-2006	29.6
2006-2007	25.3
2007-2008	20.4
2008-2009	15.5
2009-2010	12.1
2010-2011	10.7
2011-2012	8.3
2012-2013	6.3
2013-2014	4.5
2014-2015	3.5
2015-2016	2.0

EXPLANATORY NOTE

(This note is not part of the Order)

This Order is made following a review under section 148 (revaluation of earnings factors) of the Social Security Administration Act 1992 (c. 5).

This Order directs that the earnings factors relevant to the calculation of the additional pension in the rate of any long-term benefit or of any guaranteed minimum pension, or to any other calculation required under Part 3 of the Pension Schemes Act 1993 (c. 48), are to be increased for the tax years specified in the Schedule to the Order by the percentage of their amount specified in that Schedule.

The percentages specified in this Order for the tax years from and including 2000 – 2001 are also relevant for the purposes of revaluing state scheme pension debits and credits in accordance with section 13 and 14 of, and paragraphs 2(6) of Schedule 8 and 2(6) of Schedule 10 to, the Pensions Act 2014 (c. 19).

The percentage for the tax year 2015 – 2016 is 2.0%. The percentages for earlier tax years have been increased so that the earnings factors for those years are revalued at 2015 – 2016 earning levels.

This Order also provides for rounding fractional amounts for earnings factors relevant to the calculation of the additional pension in the rate of any long-term benefit. By virtue of section 23(2) of the Social Security Contributions and Benefits Act 1992 (c. 4), rounding is not required for the purpose of the calculation of any guaranteed minimum pension.

A full impact assessment has not been produced for this instrument as it has no new impact on business or civil society organisations.

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