STATUTORY RULES OF NORTHERN IRELAND

# 2026 No. 88

# SOCIAL SECURITY

## The Universal Credit, Personal Independence Payment, Jobseeker's Allowance and Employment and Support Allowance (Decisions and Appeals) (Amendment) Regulations (Northern Ireland) 2026

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| *Made - - - -* | *11th May 2026* |
| *Coming into operation -* | *2nd June 2026* |

The Department for Communities makes the following Regulations in exercise of the powers conferred by Articles 11(3) and 74(1), (3) and (6) of the Social Security (Northern Ireland) Order 1998(**a**) and now vested in it(**b**).

**Citation and commencement**

**1.** These Regulations may be cited as the Universal Credit, Personal Independence Payment, Jobseeker's Allowance and Employment and Support Allowance (Decisions and Appeals) (Amendment) Regulations (Northern Ireland) 2026 and shall come into operation on 2nd June 2026.

**Amendment of the Universal Credit, Personal Independence Payment, Jobseeker's Allowance and Employment and Support Allowance (Decisions and Appeals) Regulations**

**2.** After regulation 22 of the Universal Credit, Personal Independence Payment, Jobseeker's Allowance and Employment and Support Allowance (Decisions and Appeals) Regulations (Northern Ireland) 2016(**c**) (introduction), insert—

**"Extension**

**22A**. The Department may extend the length of a fixed term award of personal independence payment(**d**), where the Department considers it necessary to do so to safeguard the efficient administration of personal independence payment.".

(**a**) S.I. 1998/1506 (N.I. 10); Article 74(1) was amended by paragraph 17(2) of Schedule 4 to the Tax Credits Act 2002 (c. 21)
(**b**) *See* Article 8(b) of S.R. 1999 No. 481 and section 1(7) of the Departments Act (Northern Ireland) 2016 (c. 5 (N.I.))
(**c**) S.R. 2016 No. 221
(**d**) *See* Article 93(2) of the Welfare Reform (Northern Ireland) Order 2015 (S.I. 2015/2006 (N.I. 1)), which makes provision for fixed term awards of personal independence payment

Sealed with the Official Seal of the Department for Communities on 11th May 2026

(L.S.)

*David Tarr*
A senior officer of the Department for Communities

## EXPLANATORY NOTE

*(This note is not part of the Regulations)*

These Regulations amend Part 3 of the Universal Credit, Personal Independence Payment, Jobseeker's Allowance and Employment and Support Allowance (Decisions and Appeals) Regulations (Northern Ireland) 2016.

Regulation 2 allows the Department to extend the length of a fixed term award of personal independence payment, where it is considered necessary to do so to safeguard the efficient administration of personal independence payment.

These Regulations make in relation to Northern Ireland only provision corresponding to provision contained in Regulations made by the Secretary of State for Work and Pensions and accordingly, by virtue of section 149(3) of, and paragraph 10 of Schedule 5 to, the Social Security Administration (Northern Ireland) Act 1992, are not subject to the requirement of section 149(2) of that Act for prior reference to the Social Security Advisory Committee.

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