

1984 No. 310

HOUSING

**The Homes Insulation Scheme and Grants Order
(Northern Ireland) 1984**

Made 29th August 1984

Coming into operation 24th September 1984

The Department of Economic Development in exercise of the powers conferred by Article 86(1), (2), (3), (4)(b), (5) and (7) of the Housing (Northern Ireland) Order 1981(a) and now vested in it(b) and of every other power enabling it in that behalf with the approval of the Department of Finance and Personnel(c) to Article 3 hereby makes the following Order:—

Citation and commencement

1. This Order may be cited as the Homes Insulation Scheme and Grants Order (Northern Ireland) 1984 and shall come into operation on 24th September 1984.

Homes Insulation Scheme

2. The Scheme set out in the Schedule shall have effect and may be referred to in any instrument or document as the Homes Insulation Scheme (Northern Ireland) 1984.

Amounts of grants

3. The grants prescribed for the Homes Insulation Scheme (Northern Ireland) 1984 shall be as set out in paragraph 3 of that Scheme.

Revocation

4. The Homes Insulation Scheme and Grants Order (Northern Ireland) 1983(d) is hereby revoked.

Sealed with the Official Seal of the Department of Economic Development for Northern Ireland on 29th August 1984.

(L.S.)

W. N. Drummond

Under Secretary

The Department of Finance and Personnel hereby approves Article 3 of the foregoing Order.

Sealed with the Official Seal of the Department of Finance and Personnel for Northern Ireland on 29th August 1984.

(L.S.)

D. W. Alexander

Assistant Secretary

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

(b) S.R. 1984 No. 204

(c) Formerly Department of Finance: See S.I. 1982/338 (N.I. 6) Art. 3

(d) S.R. 1983 No. 342

SCHEDULE

The Homes Insulation Scheme (Northern Ireland) 1984

Interpretation

1. In this Scheme:—

“British Standard Specification 5615: 1978” means the specification for insulating jackets for domestic hot water storage cylinders (ISBN 0 580 10325 0), published on 30th September 1978 under authority of the Executive Board of the British Standards Institution, 2 Park Street, London W1A 2BS;

“grant” means a grant for any house of an amount equivalent to the percentage as prescribed in paragraph 3, or the money sum, whichever is the less;

“insulated additional roof space” means roof space which has been added to the dwelling by works of improvement and in all or any part of which there is insulation material of a thickness of 30 mm or more; and

“roof space” means space between the roof of a house and the ceiling of any room, which is used or available for use for the purposes of living accommodation and which is not wholly separated from the roof by any other room.

Specified insulation works

2.—(1) Subject to this paragraph, grant will be available under this Scheme for the following insulation works:—

(a) the provision in any roof space other than insulated additional roof space of material specified in column 1 of the Schedule to the thickness specified in column 2 of the Schedule;

(b) where there is no means of access to any roof space for the purpose of carrying out the principal insulation works, the provision of such a means of access, including a permanent means of access;

(c) insulation, in any roof space, of any cold water tank and any water supply, overflow and expansion pipes; and

(d) the provision, for any hot water tank or cylinder which is not already insulated by any means, of a jacket conforming to British Standard Specification 5615: 1978 or, if there is insufficient space for such a jacket, of other means of insulation.

(2) Grant shall only be available where at the completion of the insulation works:—

(a) insulation material has been provided throughout the area of the roof space except for any area:—

(i) to which it is not reasonably practicable to obtain or provide means of obtaining access; or

(ii) where the absence of insulation is necessary for adequate ventilation of the roof space; or

(iii) which is below a water tank; or

(iv) which is insulated additional roof space;

(b) any cold water tank in any roof space insulated under this Scheme and any water supply, overflow and expansion pipes in any such roof space are insulated; and

(c) any hot water tank or cylinder which was not insulated at the start of those works is insulated as mentioned in sub-paragraph (1)(d).

(3) Grant shall only be available for the insulation works mentioned in sub-paragraph (1)(b), (c) or (d) where at the same time as such insulation works are carried out the principal insulation works are also carried out.

(4) In this paragraph:—

“principal insulation works” means the insulation works referred to in sub-paragraph (1)(a).

Prescribed percentages and amounts of grants

3.—(1) A grant for any house under this Scheme is to be made on the appropriate scale.

(2) In the case of an application on grounds of special need the appropriate scale is 90 per cent. of the cost of the works qualifying for grant or £95, whichever is the less.

(3) In all other cases the appropriate scale is 66 per cent. of the cost of such works or £69, whichever is the less.

(4) In this paragraph:—

“advanced education” means full-time education by attendance at an educational establishment for the purposes of—

- (a) a course in preparation for a degree, a diploma of higher education, a higher national diploma, a higher diploma or a higher national diploma of the Business and Technician Education Council or a teaching qualification; or
- (b) any other course which is considered by the Department of Economic Development as being a course of a standard above ordinary national diploma, a diploma or national diploma of the Business and Technician Education Council, or general certificate of education (advanced level);

“application on grounds of special need” means an application for a grant made or authorised to be made:—

- (a) by a person who, or whose spouse, is in receipt of a supplementary pension, or housing benefit, and who or whose spouse, has attained the age of 65, if a man, or the age of 60, if a woman; or
- (b) by a person who, or whose spouse, is in receipt of a supplementary allowance, or housing benefit, and who, or whose spouse or one of whose dependants, is severely disabled;

“housing benefit” means a rate rebate, rent rebate or rent allowance under Article 2(2) of the Housing Benefits (Northern Ireland) Order 1983(a);

“a supplementary allowance” means a supplementary allowance under Article 3 of the Supplementary Benefits (Northern Ireland) Order 1977(b);

“a supplementary pension” means a supplementary pension under Article 3 of the Supplementary Benefits (Northern Ireland) Order 1977;

“spouse” means—

- (a) the applicant’s spouse living with the applicant; or
- (b) a person with whom the applicant is living as though they were husband and wife;

“dependant” means a person who resides in the house in respect of which the application is made and whose requirements are provided for, in whole or in part, by the applicant or the applicant’s spouse and who is either—

- (i) a person in respect of whom child benefit is paid or is payable under the Child Benefit (Northern Ireland) Order 1975(c); or
- (ii) under the age of sixteen; or
- (iii) aged sixteen or over but under the age of twenty and receiving full-time education at a school, college, or other similar educational establishment, other than advanced education;

“severely disabled” means a person—

- (a) who is in receipt of:—
 - (i) attendance allowance under section 35 of the Social Security (Northern Ireland) Act 1975(d);
 - (ii) an increase under section 61 of the said Act of 1975, of the weekly rate of disablement pension where constant attendance is needed;
 - (iii) mobility allowance under section 37A of the Social Security (Northern Ireland) Act 1975 as inserted by Article 24 of the Social Security Pensions (Northern Ireland) Order 1975(e);

(a) S.I. 1983/1121 (N.I. 14)
 (b) S.I. 1977/2156 (N.I. 27)
 (c) S.I. 1975/1504 (N.I. 16)

(d) 1975 c. 15
 (e) S.I. 1975/1503 (N.I. 15)

- (iv) a constant attendance allowance under Article 14 of the Naval, Military and Air Forces etc. (Disablement and Death) Service Pensions Order 1983(a) or Article 14 of the Personal Injuries (Civilians) Scheme 1983(b);
 - (v) a grant under Article 30(3) of the Health and Personal Social Services (Northern Ireland) Order 1972(c) (provision of vehicles for disabled persons) towards the cost of maintaining a vehicle belonging to a person referred to in Article 30(1) of that Order;
 - (vi) an amount pursuant to Article 26 of the Naval, Military and Air Forces etc. (Disablement and Death) Service Pensions Order 1983 (provision of expenses in respect of appropriate aids for disabled living) in respect of the cost of providing a vehicle for, or maintaining a vehicle belonging to, a disabled person;
 - (vii) a mobility supplement under Article 26A of the Naval, Military and Air Forces etc. (Disablement and Death) Service Pensions Order 1983 as inserted by Article 4 of the Naval, Military and Air Forces etc. (Disablement and Death) Service Pensions Amendment Order 1983(d) (amended by Article 2 of the Naval, Military and Air Forces etc. (Disablement and Death) Service Pensions Amendment (No. 2) Order 1983(e); and
 - (viii) a mobility supplement under Article 25A of the Personal Injuries (Civilians) Scheme 1983 as inserted by Article 3 of the Personal Injuries (Civilians) Amendment Scheme 1983(f) (amended by Article 2 of the Personal Injuries (Civilians) Amendment (No. 2) Scheme 1983(g);
- (b) for whom an invalid carriage or other vehicle has been provided pursuant to Article 30 of the Health and Personal Social Services (Northern Ireland) Order 1972.

Description of houses qualifying for grant

4.—(1) The houses qualifying for a grant under this Scheme are all houses completed before 1st October 1977 except:—

- (a) those without any roof space;
- (b) those in respect of which a grant has been paid under the Homes Insulation (Northern Ireland) Order 1978(h) or Article 86 of the Housing (Northern Ireland) Order 1981; and
- (c) subject to sub-paragraph (2), those in which there is, or has been at any time during the subsistence of the applicant's interest in the house, insulation material of a thickness of 30 mm or more in all or any part of any roof space;

(2) A house which is excluded from qualifying under sub-paragraph (1) for a grant under this Scheme by virtue of sub-paragraph (1)(c) shall qualify if all the insulation material of a thickness of 30 mm or more in the roof space:—

- (a) is insulating a water tank, cylinder, water supply pipe or overflow or expansion pipe; or
- (b) is in insulated additional roof space.

(3) For the purposes of this Scheme, dwellings which are provided by the conversion of houses or other buildings are to be regarded as completed before 1st October 1977 if such houses or other buildings were completed before that date.

Persons from whom applications are to be entertained

5.—(1) Subject to sub-paragraph (2), the following are the persons from whom applications for grant under this Scheme are to be entertained in respect of houses within the description specified in paragraph 4:—

- (a) a person in occupation of such a house;
 - (b) where the house is unoccupied, any person entitled to occupy it; and
 - (c) where the house is subject to a tenancy or licence, any landlord or licensor.
- (2) No application made by a public authority shall be entertained.

(a) S.I. 1983/883

(b) S.I. 1983/686

(c) S.I. 1972/1265 (N.I. 14)

(d) S.I. 1983/1116

(e) S.I. 1983/1521

(f) S.I. 1983/1164

(g) S.I. 1983/1540

(h) S.I. 1978/1406 (N.I. 22)

(3) In this paragraph "public authority" means a public body established by or under any statutory provision or a housing association for the time being registered in the register of housing associations established under Article 124 of the Housing (Northern Ireland) Order 1981 other than one whose rules restrict membership to persons who are tenants or prospective tenants of the association and preclude the granting or assigning of tenancies to persons other than members.

(4) In sub-paragraph (3):—

"housing association" means a housing association within the meaning of Article 114 of the Housing (Northern Ireland) Order 1981.

Transitional provisions

6. Notwithstanding the revocation of the Homes Insulation Scheme Order (Northern Ireland) 1978(a), the Homes Insulation Scheme Order (Northern Ireland) 1979(b), the Homes Insulation Scheme Order (Northern Ireland) 1980(c), the Homes Insulation Scheme Order (Northern Ireland) 1981(d), the Homes Insulation Scheme and Grants Order (Northern Ireland) 1982(e), the Homes Insulation Scheme and Grants (No. 2) Order (Northern Ireland) 1982(f) and the Homes Insulation Scheme and Grants Order (Northern Ireland) 1983(g), where an application for a grant has been made under any of the Schemes made by those Orders, in relation to which grant would have been payable under any of these Schemes but no payment has been made before 24th September 1984 then the application or claim (as the case may be) shall be treated as an application or claim made under the Homes Insulation Scheme (Northern Ireland) 1983, notwithstanding anything in paragraph 2(1)(a) thereof.

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- (a) S.R. 1978 No. 335
 - (b) S.R. 1979 No. 424
 - (c) S.R. 1980 No. 328
 - (d) S.R. 1981 No. 419
 - (e) S.R. 1982 No. 143
 - (f) S.R. 1982 No. 419
 - (g) S.R. 1983 No. 342

SCHEDULE

Materials specified for the insulation of roof spaces

Column 1 Material	Column 2 Thickness
Thermolan Ti 112 Rocksil Building Mat Rocksil Housewarm Sankey Wrap Solarwrap Marley Wrap Texas Supawarm Sankey Loft Insulation Texas Loft Insulation Dodge City Loft Insulation Heat Saver Super Wool Rocksil Insulation Mat Super Glass Glass Fibre Insulation Mat Insulay Wilko Loft Insulation Warmahome Rentokil Homemart Loft Insulation Payless DIY Loft Insulation Sherry & Haycock Glass Fibre Insulation	(BS 5803 Part 1) 100 mm
Superfil Blown Rock Fibre (Agrément Certificate 82/944)*	95 mm
Superwool Blown Mineral Wool (Agrément Certificate 83/1154)*	95 mm
Super Glass Blown Glass Fibre (Agrément Certificate 83/1197)*	85 mm
Certain Teed Blowing Wool Glass Fibre (Agrément Certificate 83/1226)*	110 mm
Cibco Armax Blown Cellulose Fibre (Agrément Certificate 80/794)*	90 mm
Cibco Heatguard Blown Cellulose Fibre (Agrément Certificate 81/882)*	90 mm
Shelter Shield Class 1 Blown Cellulose Fibre (Agrément Certificate 83/1119)*	90 mm
Shelter Shield II Blown Cellulose Fibre (Agrément Certificate 81/881)*	90 mm
Dracò Fibreflow Rockwool Blown Mineral Fibre (Agrément Certificate 80/806)*	95 mm
Micafil (exfoliated vermiculite) (Agrément Certificate 82/1046)	155 mm
Ecomax Blown Mineral Fibre (Agrément Certificate 82/991)*	90 mm
Supawrap } Crown 75 } (BS 5803 Part 1)	100 mm
Fibrewarm Blown Glass Fibre (Agrément Certificate 82/1033)*	100 mm
Freeman Rockfibre Blown Mineral Fibre (Agrément Certificate 83/1239)*	90 mm
Isowool (BS 5803 Part 1)	100 mm

(NOTE: Any reference to a BS number or Agrément Certificate number in this Schedule is for the purpose of identifying the material concerned and does not incorporate into this Scheme any condition applicable to that number. Applicants may wish to know, however, that the Conditions of those certificates marked * require the material to be installed by specialist contractors.)

EXPLANATORY NOTE

(This note is not part of the Order.)

This Order revokes the Homes Insulation Scheme and Grants Order (Northern Ireland) 1983 and the Homes Insulation Scheme (Northern Ireland) 1983 contained therein and substitutes a revised Scheme — the Homes Insulation Scheme (Northern Ireland) 1984.

As in the previous Scheme, grant is payable by the Northern Ireland Housing Executive under Article 86 of the Housing (Northern Ireland) Order 1981 for the provision of insulation to a required standard in the roof space, to the cold water tank and water supply pipes in the roof space and to the hot water cylinder in those dwellings possessing an uninsulated roof space immediately above living accommodation. Where there is no means of access to any roof space for the purpose of carrying out these principal insulation works, grant may be paid (within the maxima stipulated below) on the provision of such a means of access, including a permanent means of access. Owners, tenants and persons in occupation of a house may apply for grant. The basic rate of grant is 66% of the cost of the works, and the maximum money sum available in such cases is £69. An application on grounds of "special need" may be made by any person who has attained the age of 65, if male, or 60, if female; or is severely disabled or has a dependant who is severely disabled. Persons applying on the grounds of "special need" must also be in receipt of a supplementary pension or allowance or housing benefit specified in the Scheme. The "special needs" rate of grant is 90% of the cost of the works and the maximum money sum available in such cases is £95.

The principal changes made by the new Scheme are:—

1. Grant-aid is provided where the thickness of existing insulation material throughout a roof space is less than 30 millimetres (paragraph 4(1)(c)). Moreover a house with a roof space already insulated will be eligible even where some of the material is of a thickness of 30 millimetres or more provided that all such material is insulating a water tank, cylinder, water supply pipe or overflow or expansion pipe or is in insulated additional roof space as defined in paragraph 1 (paragraph 4(2)).
2. Houses on which a grant has already been paid under the Homes Insulation (Northern Ireland) Order 1978 or Article 86 of the Housing (Northern Ireland) Order 1981 and houses completed after 30th September 1977 will not qualify for assistance under the revised Scheme (paragraph 4(1)); however, dwellings provided by the conversion of houses or other buildings will be regarded as completed by 30th September 1977 if such houses or other buildings were completed before that date (paragraph 4(3)).
3. Grant-aid will be paid towards the cost of insulating overflow and expansion pipes in any roof space (paragraph 2(1)(c)).
4. Grant shall only be available where, at the completion of the insulation works, insulation has been provided throughout the roof space, except for any part which is below a water tank or in insulated additional roof space or to which it is not reasonably practicable to obtain or provide means of obtaining access, or where the absence of insulation is necessary for adequate ventilation (paragraph 2(2)).

5. An application on grounds of "special need" may be made if either the applicant, or his or her spouse, is of retirement age and the applicant or his or her spouse receives the supplementary pension or housing benefit specified in the Scheme (paragraph 3(4)). Those living together as though married may qualify in this way as well as those who are married. An application on grounds of "special need" may also be made if either the applicant or a spouse or a dependant of the applicant is severely disabled and the applicant or his or her spouse is in receipt of the supplementary allowance or housing benefit specified in the Scheme. The definition of "severely disabled" now includes persons in receipt of War Pensioners Mobility Supplement (paragraph 3(4)).

The new Scheme also contains a revised Schedule of specified materials on which grant may be paid. The revised Schedule contains 7 new products and brand names and specifies new thicknesses for 3 products, while one product formerly included has been deleted.

Finally, the revised Scheme provides that, where grant has been applied for under a previous Homes Insulation Scheme but not yet paid, the application shall be treated as made under the Homes Insulation Scheme and Grants Order (Northern Ireland) 1983, notwithstanding anything in paragraph 2(1)(a) thereof.