## **Social Security News**

Issue 210 March 2024

This News Bulletin is intended to brief those with a special interest in social security matters of the changes in the law following each sitting of Tynwald at which the changes are approved.

Copies of the Orders and Regulations referred to in this bulletin may be obtained from:

Tynwald Library, Legislative Buildings, Douglas, IM1 3PW.

Tel: 01624 685520

Email: <a href="mailto:library@tynwald.org.im">library@tynwald.org.im</a>

Website: <a href="https://www.tynwald.org.im/links/secondary-legislation">https://www.tynwald.org.im/links/secondary-legislation</a>

Social Security legislation is available online.

The relevant document number is shown against the item.

For more details on the Orders and Regulations described in this newsletter.

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## In this issue:

**SD2024/0024** specifies the percentage that will be used to revalue Manx state pension "protected payments" for people reaching state pension age on or after 8 April 2024 to reflect increases in the general level of prices (in Great Britain) since 6 April 2019, when the new Manx state pension was introduced.

**SD2024/0025** provides for the revaluation by prices inflation of the Manx state pension scheme credits and debits that arise when a pension sharing order is made by the courts where divorce proceedings commence on or after 6 April 2019 and the person subject to the debit on their state pension reached state pension age on or after 6 April 2019.

**SD2024/0040, SD2024/0041 and SD2024/0042** provide that lump sum payments of widowed parent's allowance paid to bereaved cohabitees (who had dependent children or were pregnant at the time of their late partner's death) in respect of a period before 1 February 2024 are to be disregarded as income and capital (but only for 52 weeks from the date of receipt) for the purposes of income support, employed person's allowance and jobseeker's allowance respectively.



The Treasury

## **State Pension Revaluation for Transitional Pensions Order 2024** SD2024/0024

This Order specifies the percentage that will be used to revalue Manx state pension "protected payments" for people reaching state pension age on or after 8 April 2024 to reflect increases in the general level of prices (in Great Britain) since 6 April 2019, when the new Manx state pension was introduced.

A person has a protected payment if their "starting amount" – i.e., the part of their Manx state pension based on their pre-6 April 2019 National Insurance contribution record – exceeded the full rate of Manx state pension as at 6 April 2019. The protected payment is the amount of the excess.

The specified percentage is 23.8%.

**State Pension Debits and Credits (Revaluation) Order 2024** SD2024/0025

The Pensions Act 2014, of the United Kingdom Parliament as it is applied to the Island ("the 2014 Act") introduced a new state pension scheme - the "Manx state pension" - for people reaching state pension age on or after 6 April 2019. The 2014 Act also introduced changes to pension sharing on divorce arrangements.

This Order provides for the revaluation by prices inflation of the Manx state pension scheme credits and debits that arise when a pension sharing order is made by the courts where divorce proceedings commence on or after 6 April 2019 and the person subject to the debit on their state pension reached state pension age on or after 6 April 2019.

It increases such credits and debits by the percentages set out in the Schedule to the Order.

**Income Support (General) (Isle of Man) (Amendment) (No. 2) Regulations 2024** SD2024/0040

Employed Person's Allowance (General) (Amendment) (No. 2) Regulations 2024.

Social Security Legislation (Benefits) (Application) (Amendment) (No.2) Order 2024 SD2024/0042

These three items of legislation amend the Income Support Regulations, the Employed Person's Allowance Regulations and the Jobseeker's Allowance Regulations respectively following the law being amended from 1 February 2024 to extend entitlement to widowed parent's allowance to the survivors of cohabiting partnerships with dependent children.

The amendments provide that a lump sum payment of widowed parent's allowance paid to a surviving cohabiting partner in respect of a period before 1 February 2024 is to be disregarded as -

- (a) income, and
- (b) capital (but only for 52 weeks after being received),

when assessing entitlement to either income support, employed person's allowance and jobseeker's allowance.

## Social Security Legislation (Benefits) (Application) (Amendment) (No.2) Order 2024

In addition to amending the Jobseeker's Allowance Regulations as described above, this Order also makes a minor amendment to the Social Security (Claims and Payments) Regulations 1987 in relation to the prescribed time for claiming bereavement support payment, so as to make reference to the date of death of the claimant's cohabiting partner (the regulations already make reference to the claimant's spouse or civil partner).