

Social Security (Additional Payments) Bill

[The Speaker of the House of Commons has certified this Bill as a Money Bill within the meaning of the Parliament Act 1911.]

EXPLANATORY NOTES

Explanatory notes to the Bill, prepared by the Department for Work and Pensions, have been ordered to be published as HL Bill 34—EN.

EUROPEAN CONVENTION ON HUMAN RIGHTS

Baroness Stedman-Scott has made the following statement under section 19(1)(a) of the Human Rights Act 1998:

In my view the provisions of the Social Security (Additional Payments) Bill are compatible with the Convention rights.

Social Security (Additional Payments) Bill

[AS BROUGHT FROM THE COMMONS]

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[AS BROUGHT FROM THE COMMONS]

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B I L L

TO

Make provision about additional payments to recipients of means-tested benefits, tax credits and disability benefits.

BE IT ENACTED by the Queen’s most Excellent Majesty, by and with the advice and consent of the Lords Spiritual and Temporal, and Commons, in this present Parliament assembled, and by the authority of the same, as follows:—

*Means-tested additional payments***1 Means-tested additional payments: main payments**

- (1) The Secretary of State must secure that—
- (a) a single payment of £326 is made to any person who has a qualifying entitlement to a social security benefit in respect of 25 May 2022 (the first “qualifying day”), and 5
 - (b) a single payment of £324 is made to any person who has a qualifying entitlement to a social security benefit in respect of the second qualifying day.
- (2) HMRC must secure that— 10
- (a) a single payment of £326 is made to any person who has a qualifying entitlement to child tax credit or working tax credit, but not to a social security benefit, in respect of 25 May 2022, and
 - (b) a single payment of £324 is made to any person who has a qualifying entitlement to child tax credit or working tax credit, but not to a social security benefit, in respect of the second qualifying day. 15
- (3) The social security benefits are—
- (a) universal credit under the Welfare Reform Act 2012 or the Welfare Reform (Northern Ireland) Order 2015 (S.I. 2015/2006 (N.I. 1));
 - (b) state pension credit under the State Pension Credit Act 2002 or the State Pension Credit Act (Northern Ireland) 2002; 20
 - (c) an income-based jobseeker’s allowance under the Jobseekers Act 1995 or the Jobseekers (Northern Ireland) Order 1995 (S.I. 1995/2705 (N.I. 15));

- (d) an income-related employment and support allowance under Part 1 of the Welfare Reform Act 2007 or Part 1 of the Welfare Reform Act (Northern Ireland) 2007;
 - (e) income support under section 124 of the Social Security Contributions and Benefits Act 1992 or section 123 of the Social Security Contributions and Benefits (Northern Ireland) Act 1992. 5
- (4) The second qualifying day is such day, not later than 31 October 2022, as may be specified by the Secretary of State in regulations.
- (5) Regulations under subsection (4) may specify a day before the regulations come into force. 10
- (6) In this section, and in sections 2 to 4, references to a “person” are to an individual or to a couple (but not to each member of a couple separately).

2 Qualifying entitlements

- (1) A person has a qualifying entitlement to a social security benefit in respect of a qualifying day if— 15
- (a) in respect of universal credit, the person is entitled to a payment of at least 1p in respect of an assessment period ending during the period of one month ending with the qualifying day;
 - (b) in respect of state pension credit, an income-based jobseeker’s allowance, an income-related employment and support allowance or income support, the person is entitled to a payment of at least 1p in respect of any day during the period of one month ending with the qualifying day. 20
- (2) A person has a qualifying entitlement to child tax credit or working tax credit in respect of a qualifying day if— 25
- (a) where the qualifying day is 25 May 2022, the person receives a payment or has an award of the credit in question in the period beginning with 26 April 2022 and ending with 25 May 2022;
 - (b) where the qualifying day is the second qualifying day, the person receives a payment or has an award of the credit in question in the period of one month ending with the second qualifying day, 30
- and, in either case, the payment or award of the credit in question is of at least £26 or HMRC expects the person to receive total payments or have an award of the credit in question of at least £26 in respect of the tax year 2022-23.
- (3) References in this section to a person receiving a payment or having an award do not include payments received or awards made as a result of fraud. 35

3 Applicable benefits or tax credits

- (1) Where a person has a qualifying entitlement to universal credit and to another social security benefit in respect of a qualifying day, the benefit by reference to which the means-tested additional payment in respect of the qualifying day is to be made is universal credit (if the payment is made under section 1(1)). 40

- (2) Where a person has a qualifying entitlement to child tax credit and to working tax credit in respect of a qualifying day, the tax credit by reference to which the means-tested additional payment in respect of the qualifying day is to be paid is child tax credit (if the payment is made under section 1(2)).

4 Means-tested additional payments: final payments

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- (1) HMRC must secure that a single payment of £326 is made to any person who—

(a) receives a payment or has an award of child tax credit or working tax credit in respect of the period beginning with 26 April 2022 and ending with 25 May 2022,

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(b) is not entitled to a payment under section 1(1)(a) or (2)(a), and

(c) receives total payments or has an award of the credit in question of at least £26 in respect of the tax year 2022-23.

- (2) HMRC must secure that a single payment of £324 is made to any person who—

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(a) receives a payment or has an award of child tax credit or working tax credit in respect of the period of one month ending with the second qualifying day,

(b) is not entitled to a payment under section 1(1)(b) or (2)(b), and

(c) receives total payments or has an award of the credit in question of at least £26 in respect of the tax year 2022-23.

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- (3) Where a person is entitled to a payment under this section by reference to child tax credit and working tax credit, the tax credit by reference to which the payment is to be made is child tax credit.

- (4) References in this section to a person receiving a payment or having an award do not include payments received or awards made as a result of fraud.

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Disability additional payments

5 Disability additional payments

- (1) The Secretary of State must secure that a single payment of £150 (a “disability additional payment”) is made to each individual who is entitled to a payment of a disability benefit that is payable in respect of 25 May 2022.

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- (2) The disability benefits are—

(a) a disability living allowance under section 71 of the Social Security Contributions and Benefits Act 1992 or section 71 of the Social Security Contributions and Benefits (Northern Ireland) Act 1992;

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(b) a personal independence payment under the Welfare Reform Act 2012 or Part 5 of the Welfare Reform (Northern Ireland) Order 2015;

(c) an attendance allowance under section 64 of the Social Security Contributions and Benefits Act 1992 or section 64 of the Social Security Contributions and Benefits (Northern Ireland) Act 1992;

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- (d) a constant attendance allowance under section 104 of the Social Security Contributions and Benefits Act 1992 or section 104 of the Social Security Contributions and Benefits (Northern Ireland) Act 1992;
 - (e) an adult disability payment under the Disability Assistance for Working Age People (Scotland) Regulations 2022 (S.S.I. 2022/54); 5
 - (f) a child disability payment under the Disability Assistance for Children and Young People (Scotland) Regulations 2021 (S.S.I. 2021/174);
 - (g) an armed forces independence payment under article 24A of the Armed Forces and Reserve Forces (Compensation Scheme) Order 2011 (S.I. 2011/517); 10
 - (h) a constant attendance allowance under –
 - (i) article 14 or 43 of the Personal Injuries (Civilians) Scheme 1983 (S.I. 1983/686);
 - (ii) article 8 of the Naval, Military and Air Forces etc. (Disablement and Death) Service Pensions Order 2006 (S.I. 2006/606); 15
 - (i) a mobility supplement under –
 - (i) article 25A or 48A of the Personal Injuries (Civilians) Scheme 1983;
 - (ii) article 20 of the Naval, Military and Air Forces etc. (Disablement and Death) Service Pensions Order 2006. 20
- (3) Where an individual is entitled to a payment of more than one disability benefit that is payable in respect of 25 May 2022, the benefit by reference to which the disability additional payment is to be made is the first benefit in the list in subsection (2) to which the individual is entitled.

Administration etc 25

6 Administration of additional payments

- (1) For all purposes relating to the administration of an additional payment, any provision applying in relation to a social security benefit, child tax credit, working tax credit or disability benefit by reference to which that payment is made is to apply in relation to that payment as if that payment were a payment or award of the social security benefit, child tax credit, working tax credit or disability benefit in question. 30
- (2) The provision applied by subsection (1) –
 - (a) includes provision relating to overpayments and recovery, and appeals relating to overpayments and recovery (but not provision relating to appeals or reviews about entitlement to the social security benefit, tax credit or disability benefit in question), and 35
 - (b) is subject to any necessary modifications.
- (3) Subsection (1) has effect in relation to a payment made in purported compliance with a duty under section 1 or 4 as if that payment were the additional payment which it purported to be. 40

- (4) Subsection (1) (including as it has effect as a result of subsection (3)) is subject to regulations made by the Secretary of State, the Treasury or HMRC under subsection (5).
- (5) The Secretary of State, the Treasury or HMRC may by regulations make provision, in relation to additional payments or payments purporting to be additional payments, applying or disapplying, with or without modifications, any provision applying in relation to a social security benefit, child tax credit, working tax credit or a disability benefit. 5
- (6) The regulations may make provision having effect from the day on which this Act comes into force. 10

7 Cooperation etc between the Secretary of State and HMRC

- (1) The Secretary of State and HMRC must cooperate in exercising their functions in relation to additional payments.
- (2) Section 3 of the Social Security Act 1998 (use of information) has effect—
- in relation to HMRC as it has effect in relation to the Secretary of State, and
 - as if, in subsection (1A), the reference to social security included additional payments. 15
- (3) Section 127 of the Welfare Reform Act 2012 (information-sharing between Secretary of State and HMRC) has effect as if—
- functions of HMRC conferred by or under this Act were HMRC functions within the meaning of that section, and
 - functions of the Secretary of State conferred by or under this Act were departmental functions within the meaning of that section. 20
- (4) Section 34 of the Scotland Act 2016 (information-sharing between the Secretary of State and the Scottish Ministers) has effect as if, in subsection (7), the reference to social security in the definition of “social security function” included additional payments. 25
- (5) Subsection (6) applies where—
- the Secretary of State or HMRC make a payment to a person in purported compliance with a duty in section 1 or 4, 30
 - the person was entitled to receive an additional payment of an amount equal to that payment under a different duty in section 1 or 4 (“the applicable duty”), and
 - the person does not receive the additional payment to which they are entitled under the applicable duty. 35
- (6) The payment made in purported compliance with a duty in section 1 or 4 is to be treated as if it had been made in accordance with the applicable duty (and, accordingly, the payment is not recoverable on the grounds that it was not made in compliance with a duty in section 1 or 4). 40

8 Payments to be disregarded for the purposes of tax and social security

No account is to be taken of an additional payment in considering a person's—

- (a) liability to tax,
- (b) entitlement to benefit under an enactment relating to social security (irrespective of the name or nature of the benefit), or
- (c) entitlement to a tax credit.

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Final provisions

9 Interpretation

(1) In this Act—

“additional payment” means a means-tested additional payment or a disability additional payment; 10

“disability additional payment” has the meaning given by section 5(1);

“disability benefit” means a benefit listed in section 5(2);

“HMRC” means the Commissioners for Her Majesty's Revenue and Customs; 15

“means-tested additional payment” means a payment under section 1 or 4;

“the second qualifying day” means the day specified in regulations under section 1(4);

“social security benefit” means a benefit listed in section 1(3); 20

“the tax year 2022-23” means the period beginning with 6 April 2022 and ending with 5 April 2023.

(2) In this Act—

(a) references to “a qualifying day” are to—

(i) 25 May 2022, or 25

(ii) the day specified in regulations under section 1(4);

(b) references to child tax credit or working tax credit are to child tax credit or working tax credit under the Tax Credits Act 2002.

10 Regulations

(1) A power to make regulations under any provision of this Act includes power to make— 30

(a) consequential, supplementary, incidental, transitional or saving provision;

(b) different provision for different purposes.

(2) Regulations under this Act are to be made by statutory instrument. 35

(3) A statutory instrument containing regulations under this Act is subject to annulment in pursuance of a resolution of either House of Parliament.

11 Extent, commencement and short title

- (1) This Act extends to England and Wales, Scotland and Northern Ireland.
- (2) This Act comes into force on the day on which it is passed.
- (3) This Act may be cited as the Social Security (Additional Payments) Act 2022.

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