



The Scottish Parliament
Pàrlamaid na h-Alba

Published 25 February 2019
SP Paper 469
3rd Report, 2019 (Session 5)

Social Security Committee Comataidh Tèarainteachd Sòisealta

Subordinate legislation considered by the Social Security Committee on 21 February 2019



Published in Scotland by the Scottish Parliamentary Corporate Body.

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Social Security Committee

To consider and report on matters relating to social security (including the delivery and payment of benefits that help address poverty) falling within the responsibility of the Cabinet Secretary for Social Security and Older People.



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Early Years Assistance (Best Start Grants) (Scotland) Amendment (No. 1) Regulations 2019 [draft]

The Committee reports to the Parliament as follows—

1. The Early Years Assistance (Best Start Grants) (Scotland) Amendment (No. 1) Regulations 2019 [draft] was laid before the Parliament on 18 January 2019 and referred to the Social Security Committee.
2. The Early Years Assistance (Best Start Grants) (Scotland) Amendment (No. 1) Regulations 2019 [draft] is subject to the affirmative procedure (Rule 10.6). It is for the Social Security Committee to recommend to Parliament whether the Regulations should be approved.
3. The purpose of this instrument is to amend the definitions of “application window” and “dependent”, extend provision for determination without application in certain situations and adjusts a resident rule should the UK leave the European Economic Area. The regulations also provide clarification that Sure Start Maternity Grant recipients are not also eligible for the Best Start Grant.
4. The Delegated Powers and Law Reform Committee considered this instrument at its meeting on 29 January 2019 and agreed that it did not need to draw it to the attention of the Parliament.
5. Following the evidence session, Shirley-Anne Somerville moved motion S5M-15626

That the Social Security Committee recommends that the Early Years Assistance (Best Start Grants) (Scotland) Amendment (No. 1) Regulations 2019 [draft] be approved.

The motion was agreed to without division.

6. The evidence taken and debated can be found in the [Official Report](#) for 21 February 2019.

7. The Social Security Committee recommends to the Parliament that the Early Years Assistance (Best Start Grants) (Scotland) Amendment (No. 1) Regulations 2019 [draft] be approved.

Early Years Assistance (Best Start Grants) (Scotland) Amendment (No. 2) Regulations 2019 [draft]

8. The Early Years Assistance (Best Start Grants) (Scotland) Amendment (No. 2) Regulations 2019 [draft] was laid before the Parliament on 18 January 2019 and referred to the Social Security Committee.
9. The Early Years Assistance (Best Start Grants) (Scotland) Amendment (No. 2) Regulations 2019 [draft] is subject to the affirmative procedure (Rule 10.6). It is for the Social Security Committee to recommend to Parliament whether the Regulations should be approved.
10. The purpose of this instrument is to create two new grants; the Early Learning Grant and School Age Grant. The regulations cover eligibility, including residence, what assistance is available, the value of each grant (£250) and when to apply.
11. The Delegated Powers and Law Reform Committee considered this instrument at its meeting on 29 January 2019 and agreed that it did not need to draw it to the attention of the Parliament.
12. Following the evidence session, Shirley-Anne Somerville moved motion S5M-15629

That the Social Security Committee recommends that the Early Years Assistance (Best Start Grants) (Scotland) Amendment (No. 2) Regulations 2019 [draft] be approved.

The motion was agreed to without division.

13. The evidence taken and debated can be found in the [Official Report](#) for 21 February 2019.
14. The Social Security Committee recommends to the Parliament that the Early Years Assistance (Best Start Grants) (Scotland) Amendment (No. 2) Regulations 2019 [draft] be approved.

Funeral Expense Assistance (Scotland) Regulations 2019 [draft]

15. The Funeral Expense Assistance (Scotland) Regulations 2019 [draft] was laid before the Parliament on 18 January 2019 and referred to the Social Security Committee.
16. The Funeral Expense Assistance (Scotland) Regulations 2019 [draft] is subject to the affirmative procedure (Rule 10.6). It is for the Social Security Committee to recommend to Parliament whether the Regulations should be approved.
17. This instrument will provide a duty on Scottish Ministers to deliver a one-off payment to support people on certain benefits or tax credits by providing a contribution towards the cost of a funeral. The Regulations include provision for eligibility, including residence of both the applicant and the deceased; what assistance is available, and when to apply.
18. The Delegated Powers and Law Reform Committee considered this instrument at its meeting on 29 January 2019 and agreed that it did not need to draw it to the attention of the Parliament.
19. Following the evidence session, Shirley-Anne Somerville moved motion S5M-15627

That the Social Security Committee recommends that the Funeral Expense Assistance (Scotland) Regulations 2019 [draft] be approved.

The motion was agreed to without division.

20. The evidence taken and debated can be found in the [Official Report](#) for 21 February 2019
21. The Social Security Committee recommends to the Parliament that the Funeral Expense Assistance (Scotland) Regulations 2019 [draft] be approved.

