INTRODUCTION

1. This memo gives guidance on changes introduced by the Social Fund and Social Security (Claims and Payments) Miscellaneous (Amendment) Regulations 2020 (SI 2020 No. 600). The changes take effect from 9.7.20.

SFFPs - CHANGE TO SPECIFIC ITEMS FOR A BURIAL

2. Prior to 9.7.20, the specific items allowable for a burial included

   1. the fees charged for the burial by the authority or person responsible for the provision and maintenance of cemeteries for the area where the burial takes place, or

   2. the fees levied by a private gravedigger.

3. This meant that where a claimant was liable to pay fees charged by a private gravedigger in addition to fees charged by the burial authority or person responsible for the cemetery, the DM could only award the higher of the two amounts.
4. From 9.7.20 onwards, fees charged by a private gravedigger can be awarded in addition to any fees charged by the burial authority or person responsible for the provision and maintenance of cemeteries¹.

¹ SFMFE (Gen) Regs, reg 9(3)(a)(ii)

SF COLD WEATHER PAYMENTS

5. Prior to 9.7.20, a SF CWP could be paid to a person who satisfied the prescribed description when a cold weather period was recorded or forecast at an authorised Met Office station. From 9.7.20, the word “station” is replaced by the word “site”, so that a SF CWP can now be paid to such claimants when a cold weather period is recorded or forecast at a site¹ accredited by the Met Office.

¹ SFCWP (Gen) Regs, reg. 1(2); reg. reg 2(1)

ANNOTATIONS

Please annotate the number of this Memo (ADM 12/20) against the following ADM paragraphs:

L3271; L4001 (Heading); L4075, L4120, L4150 (Heading), L4 Appendix 1, L4 Appendix 2

CONTACTS

If you have any queries about this memo, please write to Decision Making and Appeals (DMA) Leeds, 3E zone E, Quarry House, Leeds. Existing arrangements for such referrals should be followed, as set out in – Memo 4/19 Requesting case guidance from DMA Leeds for all benefits.

DMA Leeds: July 2020

The content of the examples in this document (including use of imagery) is for illustrative purposes only.