

GUIDANCE NOTE (GN 14/23): REMIT OF APPEALS

24 April 2023

Statutory Authority

- *Under paragraph 2(3) of Schedule 1 to the Victims' Payments Regulations 2020 (the Regulations), the Board may do anything it considers to be appropriate for facilitating, or to be incidental or conducive to, the exercise of its functions.*
- *Under Schedule 1, paragraph 4(3), the President of the Board is responsible for ensuring the efficient and effective discharge of the Board's functions. Subject to the regulations, the President may also determine the procedure in relation to the discharge of any of the Boards functions under paragraph 4(3) of Schedule 1.*
- *In accordance with paragraph 1(3) of Schedule 1 to the Regulations and section 19(1)(a)(v) of the Interpretation Act (NI) 1954, the Board has the right to regulate its own procedure and business.*

Subject Matter: Remit of Appeals

1. This Procedural Guidance Note is issued in accordance with the principles set out in regulation 4 of the Victims' Payments Regulations 2020 (the Regulations), in particular, the need to be responsive to the needs of victims; the need to be transparent and communicate effectively; and the need for the Scheme to be straightforward and simple to navigate.
2. In accordance with regulation 36, an appeal panel is to reconsider the determination or assessment against which the appeal is brought under regulation 34(1)(a) to (g).
3. Where the appeal panel suspects any of the circumstances set out in regulation 43(1) or (2) may apply, the panel must alert the President of the Board who will then consider if the appeal should be stayed pending the outcome of a review under regulation 43. The President may also consider whether it would be appropriate for the appeal panel to be specified as a review panel to review the determination under regulation 43(3).

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