



DEPARTMENT OF HEALTH & SOCIAL SECURITY

Alexander Fleming House, Elephant & Castle, London SE1 6BY

Telephone 01-407 5522

*From the Secretary of State for Social Services*

Andrew Turnbull Esq  
10 Downing Street

21 November 1984

*Dear Andrew,*

DEDUCTIONS FROM STRIKERS' BENEFIT

As you know, Mr Newton today announced in answer to a PQ the uprating of the £15 deduction from supplementary benefit paid to strikers.

I attach a copy of the PQ and a short briefing note summarising the main points.

I am copying this to Bob Whalley (Lord President's office), Margaret O'Mara (HM Treasury), Judith Rutherford (Department of Employment), John Neilson (Department of Energy), Charles Marshall (Lord Privy Seal's office) and to Alex Galloway (Paymaster General's office).

*Yours sincerely,*

*S H F Hickey*

S H F Hickey  
Private Secretary



Monday 12 November 1984  
Written Answer  
Wednesday 21 November 1984

PQ 123/1984/85  
Han Ref Vol  
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SUPPLEMENTARY BENEFIT

W76 Mr Michael Meacher (La. Oldham West):

To ask the Secretary of State for Social Services, what change is to be made after the uprating on 26 November in the amount that is deemed to be paid by a trade union to its members on strike in the course of a dispute, which is then deducted from any supplementary benefit paid to such families.

MR TONY NEWTON

Pursuant to the reply on 12 November. [Official Report vol 67 col 141].

As in previous years the specified sum deducted from benefit in a trade dispute will increase from the uprating date in accordance with the formula set out in Section 6(2) of the Social Security (No 2) Act 1980. The figure produced by that formula this year is £16, and my right hon Friend has accordingly today made an order stating that sum, as he is required to do by the same section. The deduction does not depend on the payment of strike pay. The increase from £15 to £16 will, of course, take place at the same time as supplementary benefit rates themselves are increased by the uprating so that, for example, the rates for an adult dependant will rise by £1, and for an adult dependant and two children under 11 by £1.90.