



Department of Social and Family Affairs

Social Welfare Payments And The Postal Dispute

The Department of Social and Family Affairs have introduced special arrangements for payments by cheque during the duration of the current dispute at An Post.

Mary Coughlan, Minister for Social and Family Affairs, said today: "I would like to reassure our customers that arrangements have been put in place to ensure delivery of their payment cheques and I hope to see a speedy resolution of this dispute."

Cheques for customers outside the affected areas will be delivered as normal.

Cheque collection centres have been set up at Social Welfare Local Offices in affected areas where all Social Welfare cheques, including Supplementary Welfare Allowance cheques, can be collected. Customers should attend the appropriate centre on the day FOLLOWING their normal payment day and should bring photo ID and their PPS number.

Customers who normally collect their payment at their local post office, or have their payment lodged to a Bank/Building Society account will continue to receive their payment as normal. Customers can also leave in their Medical Certificates, Disability Claim Forms and Injury Benefit Claim Forms to the collection centres.

An average of 1.6 million social welfare payments are made each week and of those, 180,000 would be cheque payments.

ENDS March 22nd 2004

Details of the collection centres:

DUBLIN AREA:

Postal District

Dublin 1 & 3
Dublin 2 & 4
Dublin 5 & 13
Dublin 6, 6W & 12
Dublin 7
Dublin 8
Dublin 9 Ballymun area
Dublin 10 & 20
Dublin 11 Ballymun area
Dublin 11 Remainder

Local Office

North Cumberland Street
Apollo House - Tara Street
Kilbarrack-Greendale Shopping Cntr
Bishops Square - Redmond's Hill
Navan Road
Thomas Street
Ballymun Shopping Centre
Ballyfermot - Rossmore Avenue
Ballymun Shopping Centre
Finglas - Mellows Road



Department of Social and Family Affairs

Dublin 14 & 16
Cntr

Dublin 15
Park

Dublin 17

Dublin 18 & South Co Dublin

Dublin 22 & Lucan

Dublin 24

Balbriggan/Donabate

Rathfarnham - Nutgrove Shopping

Blanchardstown - Westend Retail

Coolock-Northside Civic Centre

Dun Laoghaire - Cumberland Street

Clondalkin-9th Lock Road

Tallaght - The Square

Balbriggan - Railway Street

PROVINCIAL CENTRES

Galway

Tuam

Church View

Meath

Kells

Navan

Trim

Bective Square

Kennedy Road

Haggard Street

Louth

Ardee

Drogheda

Dundalk

Moore Hall

Custom House Quay

Government Buildings

St Alphonsus Road

Monaghan

Castleblaney

Carrickmacross

Monaghan Road

Ardee Road

Wicklow

Bray

Wicklow

The Esplanade

The Murrough