



**PRESS RELEASE**

**06/01/10**

**Statement from Department of Social & Family Affairs**

**Adverse weather causes delay in payment for Social Welfare customers  
paid by cheque**

Payments to almost 27,000 Social Welfare customers who are due to get a weekly **payment by cheque tomorrow** - Thursday 7<sup>th</sup> January 2010 - have been delayed by the adverse weather conditions.

The cheques which had been due to be collected by An Post staff from the Departments' Dublin Computer Centre, on Wednesday evening, were not able to be collected.

Management in both organisations will be assessing the situation on Thursday morning and will make every effort to get the payments to customers affected.

The customers affected who receive their payment by cheque include Illness Benefit, basic SWA payments, Rent Supplement, Mortgage Interest Supplement, Disability Allowance, Family Income Supplement and a small number of Jobseekers and One Parent Family Payments.

If any customer is experiencing financial difficulty as a result of this delay they should contact their Community Welfare Officer at their local Health Centre.

Over 1.2 million customers who receive their weekly payment electronically through their bank or financial institution or with their Social Services Card in An Post are not affected

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## **Department of Social and Family Affairs**

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Some jobseekers were also unable to attend their Social Welfare Local Office today to sign on as normal, due to severe weather and difficult travel conditions. Customers affected are being advised to call to their local office at the earliest opportunity once conditions improve.

**ENDS**

**6<sup>th</sup> January 2010**