35

(3) Omit the entry relating to "initial licensee (in Chapter 7 of Part 8)". In section 63 of FA 2011 (reduction of supplementary charge for new oil 20 fields), omit subsection (3). Commencement (1) The amendments made by paragraphs 14, 15 and 16(3) come into force on 5 the day on which this Act is passed. (2) The other amendments made by this Schedule come into force in accordance with provision contained in an order made by the Treasury. (3) An order made under sub-paragraph (2) may – make different provision for different purposes; 10 provide for such amendments to have effect in relation to times before the order is made. (1) The Commissioners for Her Majesty's Revenue and Customs may by order make any incidental, supplemental, consequential, transitional or saving provision in consequence of the amendments made by this Schedule. 15 (2) An order under this paragraph may – amend, repeal or revoke any provision made by or under CTA 2010; include provision having effect in relation to times before it is made, provided that it does not increase any person's liability to tax. SCHEDULE 23 20 AIR PASSENGER DUTY PART 1 NORTHERN IRELAND LONG HAUL RATES OF DUTY FROM 1 NOVEMBER 2011 TO 31 MARCH 2012 1 In section 30 of FA 1994 (air passenger duty: rates of duty) after subsection 25 (4A) insert -Subsection (4C) applies if – the passenger's journey is a relevant Northern Ireland journey, and apart from subsection (4C), subsection (2) would not apply to 30 (b) the journey. The applicable rate in subsection (2) applies to the journey instead of the applicable rate in subsection (3), (4) or (4A) (as the case may be).

A passenger's journey is a "relevant Northern Ireland journey" -

in any other case, if the first flight of the journey -

(i) begins in Northern Ireland, and

begins in Northern Ireland, and

in the case of a journey which has only one flight, if the flight

(4D)

	(ii) is not followed by a connected flight beginning at a place in the United Kingdom or a territory specified in Part 1 of Schedule 5A."	
2	In article 3 of the Air Passenger Duty (Connected Flights) Order 1994 (S.I. 1994/1821) for "section 30(6), or section 31(3)," substitute "Chapter 4 of Part 1".	5
3	The amendments made by this Part of this Schedule have effect in relation to the carriage of passengers beginning on or after 1 November 2011 but before 1 April.2012.	
	PART 2	10
	RATES OF DUTY FROM 1 APRIL 2012	
4	(1) Section 30 of FA 1994 (air passenger duty: rates of duty) is amended as follows.	
	(2) In subsection (2) –	
	<ul><li>(a) in paragraph (a) for "£12" substitute "£13", and</li><li>(b) in paragraph (b) for "£24" substitute "£26".</li></ul>	15
	(3) In subsection (3) —  (a) in paragraph (a) for "£60" substitute "£65", and  (b) in paragraph (b) for "£120" substitute "£130".	
	<ul> <li>(4) In subsection (4) –</li> <li>(a) in paragraph (a) for "£75" substitute "£81", and</li> <li>(b) in paragraph (b) for "£150" substitute "£162".</li> </ul>	20
	<ul> <li>(5) In subsection (4A) —</li> <li>(a) in paragraph (a) for "£85" substitute "£92", and</li> <li>(b) in paragraph (b) for "£170" substitute "£184".</li> </ul>	25
	(6) After subsection (4A) insert –	
	"(4B) Subsection (4C) applies if—  (a) the passenger's journey is a relevant Northern Ireland journey, and	. 20
	(b) apart from subsection (4C), subsection (2) would not apply to the journey.	30
	(4C) The applicable rate in subsection (2) applies to the journey instead of the applicable rate in subsection (3), (4) or (4A) (as the case may be).	
	<ul> <li>(4D) A passenger's journey is a "relevant Northern Ireland journey" –</li> <li>(a) in the case of a journey which has only one flight, if the flight begins in Northern Ireland, and</li> <li>(b) in any other case, if the first flight of the journey –</li> <li>(i) begins in Northern Ireland, and</li> </ul>	35
	(ii) is not followed by a connected flight beginning at a place in the United Kingdom or a territory specified in Part 1 of Schedule 5A."	40

In article 3 of the Air Passenger Duty (Connected Flights) Order 1994 (S.I. 1994/1821) for "section 30(6), or section 31(3)," substitute "Chapter 4 of Part The amendments made by this Part of this Schedule have effect in relation 6 to the carriage of passengers beginning on or after 1 April 2012. 5 PART 3 DEVOLUTION OF NORTHERN IRELAND LONG HAUL RATES OF DUTY Chapter 4 of Part 1 of FA 1994 (air passenger duty) is amended as follows. 7 (1) Section 30 (rates of duty) is amended as follows. (2) After subsection (1) insert— 10 Subsection (1) does not apply to the carriage of a chargeable passenger to which section 30A below (Northern Ireland long haul rates of duty) applies." (3) Omit subsections (4B) to (4D) (as inserted by paragraph 4(6) above). (4) The amendments made by this paragraph have effect in relation to the 15 carriage of passengers beginning on or after the relevant day as defined in section 30A of FA 1994 (as inserted by paragraph 9 below). 9 After section 30 insert -"30A Northern Ireland long haul rates of duty This section applies to the carriage of a chargeable passenger if — 20 (a) the carriage begins on or after the relevant day, the only flight, or the first flight, of the passenger's journey begins at a place in Northern Ireland, the passenger's journey does not end at a place in the United Kingdom or a territory specified in Part 1 of Schedule 5A, and 25 if the passenger's journey has more than one flight, the first flight is not followed by a connected flight beginning at a place in the United Kingdom or a territory specified in Part 1 of Schedule 5A. Air passenger duty is chargeable on the carriage of the chargeable 30 passenger at the rate determined as follows. If the passenger's journey ends at a place in a territory specified in Part 2 of Schedule 5A if the passenger's agreement for carriage provides for standard class travel in relation to every flight on the 35 passenger's journey, the rate is the rate set by an Act of the Northern Ireland Assembly for the purposes of this paragraph, and in any other case, the rate is the rate set by an Act of the Northern Ireland Assembly for the purposes of this 40 paragraph. (4) If the passenger's journey ends at a place in a territory specified in

Part 3 of Schedule 5A -

- (a) if the passenger's agreement for carriage provides for standard class travel in relation to every flight on the passenger's journey, the rate is the rate set by an Act of the Northern Ireland Assembly for the purposes of this paragraph, and 5 in any other case, the rate is the rate set by an Act of the Northern Ireland Assembly for the purposes of this paragraph. If the passenger's journey ends at any other place – if the passenger's agreement for carriage provides for 10 standard class travel in relation to every flight on the passenger's journey, the rate is the rate set by an Act of the Northern Ireland Assembly for the purposes of this paragraph, and in any other case, the rate is the rate set by an Act of the 15 Northern Ireland Assembly for the purposes of this paragraph. The rate of £0 may be set for the purposes of any paragraph. (6)The same rate may be set for the purposes of two or more 20 paragraphs. Subsections (5) to (7) and (10) to (12) of section 30 apply for the purposes of this section as they apply for the purposes of that section. "The relevant day" means the day appointed as such by an order. Section 42(4) and (5) does not apply to an order under subsection (9). (10)25 None of the following applies to any matter in respect of which this section authorises provision to be made by an Act of the Northern Ireland Assembly any paragraph of Schedule 2 or 3 to the Northern Ireland Act 1998 (excepted and reserved matters); section 63 of that Act (financial acts of the Assembly). 30 A Bill containing provision authorised by this section may not be (12)passed by the Northern Ireland Assembly except in pursuance of a recommendation whichis made by the Minister of Finance and Personnel, and is signified to the Assembly by the Minister or on the 35 Minister's behalf. A Bill containing provision authorised by this section may not be passed by the Northern Ireland Assembly without cross-community support (as defined in section 4(5) of the Northern Ireland Act 1998). "Passed", in relation to a Bill, means passed at the final stage (at 40 (14)which the Bill can be passed or rejected but not amended). Duty paid to the Commissioners in respect of the carriage of chargeable passengers to which this section applies must be paid by the Commissioners into the Consolidated Fund of Northern Ireland." 45
- 10 (1) Section 33 (registration of aircraft operators) is amended as follows.

	(2) After subsection (2) insert—	
	"(2A) If the Commissioners decide to keep a register under section 33A below, an operator of a chargeable aircraft does not become liable to be registered under this section just because the aircraft is used for the carriage of chargeable passengers to which section 30A above applies."	, {
	(3) In subsection (3)(b) after "passengers" insert "or, if the Commissioners have decided to keep a register under section 33A below, that no chargeable aircraft which he operates will be used for the carriage of chargeable passengers apart from the carriage of chargeable passengers to which section 30A above applies".	10
	(4) In subsection (4) after "registered" (in both places) insert "under this section".	
	(5) In subsection (7) after "section" insert "or section 33A below".	
11	After section 33 insert—	15
	"33A Registration of Northern Ireland long haul aircraft operators	
	(1) The Commissioners may under this section keep a register of aircraft operators.	
	(2) If the Commissioners decide to keep a register under this section, the operator of a chargeable aircraft becomes liable to be registered under this section if the aircraft is used for the carriage of chargeable passengers to which section 30A above applies.	20
	<ul> <li>(3) A person who has become liable to be registered under this section ceases to be so liable if the Commissioners are satisfied at any time –</li> <li>(a) that he no longer operates any chargeable aircraft, or</li> <li>(b) that no chargeable aircraft which he operates will be used for the carriage of chargeable passengers to which section 30A above applies.</li> </ul>	25
	(4) A person who is not registered under this section and has not given notice under this subsection shall, if he becomes liable to be registered under this section at any time, give written notice of that fact to the Commissioners not later than the end of the prescribed period beginning with that time.	.30
	(5) Notice under subsection (4) above shall be in such form, be given in such manner and contain such information as the Commissioners may direct."	35
12	In section 34 (fiscal representatives) in subsection (5) —  (a) omit "under section 33 above", and  (b) in paragraph (a) for "that section" substitute "section 33 or 33A above".	40
13	After section 41 insert –	PA.
	"41A Northern Ireland long haul rates of duty: disclosure of information	

(1) An officer of Revenue and Customs may disclose to the Secretary of State, the Treasury or the Department of Finance and Personnel in

	Northern Ireland any information for purposes connected with the setting of rates of duty under section 30A above, including (in particular) to enable the setting of rates under that section to be taken into account for the purposes of section 58 of the Northern Ireland Act 1998 (payments by Secretary of State into Consolidated Fund of Northern Ireland).	5
	(2) Information disclosed under subsection (1) above may not be further disclosed without the consent of the Commissioners (which may be general or specific).	
	(3) In section 19 of the Commissioners for Revenue and Customs Act 2005 (wrongful disclosure) references to section 18(1) of that Act are to be read as including a reference to subsection (2) above."	10
14	In section 44 of CRCA 2005 (payment into Consolidated Fund) after subsection (2)(c) insert—	
	"(ca) sums required by section 30A(15) of the Finance Act 1994 (air passenger duty: Northern Ireland long haul rates of duty) to be paid into the Consolidated Fund of Northern Ireland,".	15
15	In column 2 of the Table in paragraph 1 of Schedule 41 to FA 2008 (penalties for failure to notify), in the entry relating to air passenger duty, after "33(4)" insert "or 33A(4)".	20
	PART 4	
	OTHER PROVISION	
16	Chapter 4 of Part 1 of FA 1994 (air passenger duty) is amended as follows.	
17	In section 28 (introduction to air passenger duty) for subsection (3) substitute—	25
	"(3) Sections 29 and 29A below set out how to determine if an aircraft is a chargeable aircraft for the purposes of this Chapter."	
18	(1) Section 29 (chargeable aircraft) is amended as follows.	
	(2) For subsection (1) substitute –	
	"(1) For the purposes of this Chapter an aircraft is a chargeable aircraft if—	30
	<ul> <li>(a) it is a fixed-wing aircraft designed or adapted to carry persons in addition to the flight crew,</li> <li>(b) its authorised take-off weight is not less than 5.7 tonnes, and</li> <li>(c) it is fuelled by kerosene (as defined in section 1(8) of the Hydrocarbon Oil Duties Act 1979)."</li> </ul>	35
	(3) In subsection (2) for "ten" (wherever occurring) substitute "5.7".	
	(4) Omit subsection (3).	2
19	After section 29 insert—	
	"29A Chargeable aircraft: exceptions	40
	(1) This section applies for the purposes of this Chapter.	

	or nervin	within an exemption set out in sub-paragraph (b), (c), (f) or (g) under the category of activity "Aviation" in Annex I to Directive 2003/87/EC of the European Parliament and of the Council of 13 October 2003 (as amended by Directive 2008/101/EC of the European Parliament and of the Council of 19 November 2008).	5
	, (3)	Those exemptions are to be read in accordance with paragraphs 2.2 to 2.5 of the Annex to Commission Decision 2009/450/EC of 8 June 2009.	
	(4)	An aircraft is not a chargeable aircraft whenever it is being operated under a public service obligation imposed under Article 16 of Regulation (EC) No 1008/2008 of the European Parliament and of the Council of 24 September 2008 (common rules for the operation of air services)."	10
20	In sect	tion 30 (rate of duty) before subsection (5) insert—	15
	"(4E)	In relation to the carriage of a chargeable passenger on an aircraft to which subsection (4F) applies —	
		<ul><li>(a) if the rate which (apart from this subsection) would apply is the rate in subsection (2)(a) or (b), a rate equal to twice the rate in subsection (2)(b) is to apply instead,</li><li>(b) if the rate which (apart from this subsection) would apply is the rate in subsection (3)(a) or (b), a rate equal to twice the</li></ul>	20
		rate in subsection (3)(b) is to apply instead,  (c) if the rate which (apart from this subsection) would apply is the rate in subsection (4)(a) or (b), a rate equal to twice the rate in subsection (4)(b) is to apply instead, and  (d) if the rate which (apart from this subsection) would apply is the rate in subsection (4A)(a) or (b), a rate equal to twice the rate in subsection (4A)(b) is to apply instead.	25
	(4F)	This subsection applies to an aircraft if—  (a) its authorised take-off weight is not less than 20 tonnes, but  (b) it is not authorised to seat more than 18 persons (excluding members of the flight crew and cabin attendants).	30
	(4G)	In subsection (4F)(a) "take-off weight" is to be read in accordance with section 29(2) but as if "20" were substituted for "5.7" wherever occurring.	35
	(4H)	For the purposes of subsection (4F)(b) an aircraft is authorised to seat more than 18 persons (excluding members of the flight crew and cabin attendants) if—	
		(a) there is a certificate of airworthiness (as defined in section 29(4)) in force in respect of the aircraft showing that the maximum number of persons who may be seated on the aircraft (excluding members of the flight crew and cabin, attendants) is more than 18, or	40
		(b) the Commissioners are satisfied that the aircraft is designed or adapted to seat more than 18 persons (excluding members of the flight crew and cabin attendants) or the aircraft belongs to a class or description of aircraft in respect of which the Commissioners are so satisfied."	45

In section 30A (as inserted by paragraph 9 above) after subsection (7) insert—	
"(7A) In relation to the carriage of a chargeable passenger on an aircraft to which section 30(4F) applies —	
(a) if the rate which (apart from this subsection) would apply is the rate set for the purposes of subsection (3)(a) or (b), a rate equal to twice the rate set for the purposes of subsection (3)(b) is to apply instead,	5
(b) if the rate which (apart from this subsection) would apply is the rate set for the purposes of subsection (4)(a) or (b), a rate equal to twice the rate set for the purposes of subsection (4)(b) is to apply instead, and	10
(c) if the rate which (apart from this subsection) would apply is the rate set for the purposes of subsection (5)(a) or (b), a rate equal to twice the rate set for the purposes of subsection (5)(b) is to apply instead."	15
(1) Section 43 (interpretation) is amended as follows.	
(2) In subsection (1) for the definition of "passenger" substitute—	
""passenger", in relation to any aircraft, means any person carried on the aircraft other than—  (a) a member of the flight crew,	20
<ul> <li>(b) a cabin attendant, or</li> <li>(c) a person who is not carried for reward and who satisfies such other requirements as may be prescribed."</li> </ul>	25
(3) After subsection (1) insert—	
"(1A) The agreements and arrangements covered by the definition of "agreement for carriage" in subsection (1) include informal agreements or arrangements between, for example, members of a family or friends."	30
The amendments made by this Part of this Schedule have effect in relation to the carriage of passengers beginning on or after 1 April 2013.	
COURT HE 24	
MACHINE GAMES DUTY	
PART 1	35
IMPOSITION OF DUTY	
	"(7A) In relation to the carriage of a chargeable passenger on an aircraft to which section 30(4F) applies —  (a) if the rate which (apart from this subsection) would apply is the rate set for the purposes of subsection (3)(a) or (b), a rate equal to twice the rate set for the purposes of subsection (3)(b) is to apply instead,  (b) if the rate which (apart from this subsection) would apply is the rate set for the purposes of subsection (4)(a) or (b), a rate equal to twice the rate set for the purposes of subsection (4)(b) is to apply instead, and  (c) if the rate which (apart from this subsection) would apply is the rate set for the purposes of subsection (5)(a) or (b), a rate equal to twice the rate set for the purposes of subsection (5)(b) is to apply instead."  (1) Section 43 (interpretation) is amended as follows.  (2) In subsection (1) for the definition of "passenger" substitute—  "passenger", in relation to any aircraft, means any person carried on the aircraft other than—  (a) a member of the flight crew,  (b) a cabin attendant, or  (c) a person who is not carried for reward and who satisfies such other requirements as may be prescribed."  (3) After subsection (1) insert—  "(1A) The agreements and arrangements covered by the definition of "agreement for carriage" in subsection (1) include informal agreements or arrangements between, for example, members of a family or friends."  The amendments made by this Part of this Schedule have effect in relation to the carriage of passengers beginning on or after 1 April 2013.  SCHEDULE 24  Section 190  MACHINE GAMES DUTY  PART 1

The duty

A duty of excise, to be known as machine games duty, is to be charged on the playing of dutiable machine games in the United Kingdom.

#### EXPLANATORY NOTE

#### **CLAUSE 189 SCHEDULE 23: AIR PASSENGER DUTY**

#### **SUMMARY**

1. Clause 189 and Schedule 23 provide for APD rate increases. They also extend the scope of APD to private jets by reducing the de minimis weight limit below which aircraft were not subject to APD from 10 tonnes to 5.7 tonnes. In addition, they give statutory effect to the rate reduction applied, since 1 November 2011, to certain flights departing from Northern Ireland, and provides for the long term devolution of these rates.

## **DETAILS OF THE SCHEDULE**

- 2. Part 1 gives statutory effect to the rate reduction applied to certain flights departing from Northern Ireland for the period 1 November 2011 to 31 March 2012.
- 3. Paragraph 1 inserts new sections 30(4B) to (4D) into Finance Act (FA) 1994.
- 4. New sections 30(4B) and (4C) specifies the rate that will apply to certain 'relevant journeys' (defined in new section 30(4D) from Northern Ireland.
- 5. New section 30(4D) defines a 'relevant journey' as one which departs from Northern Ireland and, in the case of a journey that involves more than one flight, provides that the second or onward flight must not begin within the UK or any "Part 1 territories" as set out in schedule 5A to FA 1994.
- 6. Paragraph 2 makes consequential changes.
- 7. Part 2 of the Schedule provides for the increase in the APD rates to be applied to each destination band.
- 8. Paragraph 4 amends section 30 of FA 2004. It sets out the rates for the destination bands and inserts new sections 30(4B) to (4D). These new sections provide for the new reduced rates for passengers on flights from Northern Ireland that are 'relevant journeys' as defined in new section 30(4D), with effect from 1 April 2012.
- 9. <u>Paragraph 5</u> makes consequential changes.
- 10. Part 3 if the Schedule devolves direct long haul rates to Northern Ireland.

- 11. Paragraph 8 amends section 30 of FA 1994. It inserts new section 30(1A) to disapply rates specified in section 30(2) to 30(4A) in instances where new section 30A (Northern Ireland direct long haul rates of duty) apply. It also omits new sections 30(4B) to 30(4D), which provide for the rates for relevant flights from Northern Ireland for the period from 1 November 2011 to 31 March 2012, and provides for these changes to take effect in relation to the carriage of passengers beginning on or after the relevant day as defined by new section 30A.
- 12. <u>Paragraph 9</u> inserts <u>new section 30A</u> which provides that the rates for certain flights may be set by the Northern Ireland Assembly.
- 13. New section 30A(1) applies the rates from the relevant day to flights where a passenger's journey begins from a place in Northern Ireland which does not end in the UK or any territory specified in Part 1 of Schedule 5A and, where there is more than one flight to that journey, the first flight is not followed by a connected flight beginning in the UK or any other territory specified in Part 1 of Schedule 5A.
- 14. New sections 30A(2) to (7) defines what rates are to be devolved and specifies that rates may be set to £0.
- 15. New sections 30A(8) to (10) apply certain current APD provisions to new section 30A. They also define the 'relevant day' to be the day appointed by Order and make consequential changes to section 42(4) and (5) of Finance Act 1994.
- 16. New subsection 30A(11) to (14) sets out some of the legislative detail concerning the process under which the Northern Ireland Assembly may vary the devolved rates.
- 17. New section 30A(15) provides that any duty relating to devolved APD paid to the Commissioners be paid into the Consolidated Fund of Northern Ireland.
- 18. Paragraphs 10(1) to (5) insert new section 33(2A) which provides that aircraft operators only operating routes from Northern Ireland as specified in new section 30A are not required to register under the provisions of section 33 (but instead will need to register under the provisions of new section 33A). It also makes consequential changes to reflect new section 33A.
- 19. <u>Paragraph 11</u> inserts <u>new section 33A</u> which provides that the Commissioners may keep a register of aircraft operators operating routes from Northern Ireland as specified in <u>new section 30A</u>, and require such operators to notify to the Commissioners their liability register by a prescribed time.

- 20. <u>Paragraph 12</u> makes consequential amendments to section 34(5) to reflect the insertion of new section 33A.
- 21. <u>Paragraph 13</u> inserts <u>new section 41A</u> which provides an information sharing agreement in relation to the devolution of the rate to Northern Ireland.
- 22. Paragraphs 14 and 15 make consequential amendments.
- 23. Part 4 of the Schedule provides for the extension of APD to passengers in smaller aircraft by reducing the de minimis weight limit below which aircraft are not chargeable aircraft for APD from the current 10 tonnes to 5.7 tonnes. It also amends the definition of a chargeable passenger and provides for new rates for the carriage of chargeable passengers on certain aircraft.
- 24. Paragraph 17 substitutes section 28(3) to apply sections 29 and 29A for determining whether an aircraft is a chargeable aircraft for the purposes of APD.
- 25. Paragraph 18 amends section 29. It redefines a "chargeable aircraft" and extends the scope of APD to smaller aircraft by reducing the former 10 tonne de minimis weight limit to 5.7 tonnes. It also removes the reference to an authorised seating capacity and restricts the scope of APD to aircraft fuelled by kerosene (aviation turbine fuel) only.
- 26. Paragraph 19 inserts a new section 29A, which extends exceptions to APD to aircraft whose operation is related to military, police, customs, search and rescue operations, humanitarian and research and training operations. It also extends the exception to flights operated under a public service obligation.
- 27. Paragraph 20 inserts new sections 30(4E) to (4H).
- 28. <u>New section 30(4E)</u> provides for new rates to be applied to the carriage of chargeable passengers on certain aircraft.
- 29. New section 30(4F) defines these aircraft as being of an authorised take-off weight of not less than 20 tonnes, and with an authorised seating capacity of not more than 18 (excluding members of the flight crew and cabin attendants).
- New section 30(4H) provides that an aircraft's authorised seating capacity is considered to be more than 18 (and consequently not liable to the rate set out in new section (4F)) if there is a certificate of airworthiness in effect showing this, or if the Commissioners are satisfied that the aircraft has been designed or adapted to seat more than 18 (excluding flight and cabin attendants).

- 31. Paragraph 21 inserts new section 30A(7A) and provides for how the rates to be devolved and detailed in new sections 30A(4) to (6) are to apply to aircraft defined in new section 30(4F) (ie aircraft with an authorised take-off weight or not less than 20 tonnes, and with an authorised seating capacity of not more than 18).
- 32. Paragraph 22 amends section 43(1). Previously this section placed outside the scope of APD passengers not carried for reward if the operator was not an air transport undertaking (i.e. an aircraft operator whose main business was not carrying passenger for hire or reward). The change now brings these passengers into the scope of APD, and brings the exclusions in line with those for air transport undertakings where these are restricted to flight and cabin crew. It also excludes certain passengers not carried for reward who perform specific services or duties. These specific services and duties are prescribed in regulation 12 of the Air Passenger Duty Regulations 1994. Furthermore it inserts new section 43(1A) which extends the term 'agreement for carriage' to also include informal arrangements and agreements, such as those between friends and family members.

## **BACKGROUND NOTE**

## Part 1 of Schedule 1 - Northern Ireland direct long haul rates of duty from 1 November 2011 to 31 March 2012

- 33. This rate reduction was introduced in recognition of the unique position of Northern Ireland's airports, and means that the carriage of passengers on certain flights taking off from an airport in Northern Ireland will attract the short haul rate of APD.
- 34. These flights are those where the journey is direct to long haul destinations or, in a case where there are one or more flights involved, the first connection is made in a long haul destination. For these purposes long haul destinations are those not listed in Part 1 of Schedule 5A.
- 35. This rate reduction applies to flights that take off from Northern Ireland for the period beginning on or after 1 November 2011 to 31 March 2012.

## Part 2 of Schedule 1 - Rates of duty from 1 April 2012

As announced at Budget 2011, APD rates are now to be increased annually and in line with inflation. These increases, which also take into account the increase deferred from April 2011, apply to the carriage of chargeable passengers on chargeable flights taking off

from UK airports from 1 April 2012, irrespective of when the flight was actually booked or purchased.

# Part 3 of Schedule 1 - Devolution of Northern Ireland direct long haul rates of duty.

- 37. On 27 September 2011, at the same time that it announced the reduction in APD rates for passengers on direct long haul flights from Northern Ireland, the Government announced that, in order to provide a more lasting solution, aspects of APD would be devolved to Northern Ireland. Part 3 of Schedule 1 includes changes which devolve to the Northern Ireland Assembly the rate of APD to be applied to passengers on direct long haul flights that take off from Northern Ireland, on or after a day to be appointed by order.
- Part 3 also makes provision for the setting up and maintenance of a separate register of aircraft operators with routes from Northern Ireland. The Commissioners may keep a register of aircraft operators operating routes from Northern Ireland, and if they do, operators currently registered for APD with routes that begin in Northern Ireland will need to register a second time and will need to account for APD on their Northern Ireland routes separately from their other routes. Operators who only operate routes that begin in Northern Ireland will only be required to register on the Northern Ireland register.
- 39. In addition, to allow for more effective management of the tax, Part 3 introduces provisions for HMRC to disclose information to the Secretary of State, the Treasury or the Department of Finance and Personnel in Northern Ireland.

## Part 4 of Schedule 1 - Other Provisions.

- 40. At Budget 2011 the Chancellor announced that, instead of replacing air passenger duty with a per plane tax, the Government had instead decided to extend the scope of APD to private jets and consulted on how this could be done.
- 41. There is no ready definition of a private jet, so, in order to extend the scope of APD to private jets, changes to the de minimis weight limit for APD are needed in order to bring smaller aircraft (including private jets) within the scope of the tax.
- 42. In recognition of the fact that private jets may be customised to provide exceptional standards of luxury travel, new rates of APD will be introduced to apply to these aircraft. These aircraft are to be defined on the basis of weight and seating capacity, so that large aircraft with an authorised weight of more than 20 tonnes and

authorised to seat fewer than 19 passengers will attract new rates of APD.

- 43. Changes are also required to the definition of a passenger. Under the current APD structure, exemptions apply to passengers who are not carried for reward. As private jet passengers are often carried for no reward or fare (for example, an aircraft owner may be flown in their own private jet) changes to the definition of a passenger are required.
- 44. Equally private jet passengers are not always flown as part of a formal arrangement or agreement, but instead may be flown as part of an informal agreement such as the type that may exist between family members or friends. In order to ensure that these types of passengers are included in the scope of APD, the interpretation of 'agreement for carriage' will be amended.
- 45. Part 4 of the Schedule also includes changes to reflect the devolution of direct long haul APD rates to the Northern Ireland Assembly and provides that the new rates to be applied for carriage on aircraft considered to provide exceptional standards of luxury travel (as defined by weight and seating capacity see para 50 above) are to be twice those to be applied to non standard class travel.
- 46. These changes apply to flights that take off on or after 1 April 2013.