

# HSC Pension Scheme

## Estimate of Benefits Factsheet

### How to obtain an estimate of pension benefits

The accuracy of an estimate provided by HSC Pensions is largely dependent on the information recorded on the member's pension record. It is vital that employers record accurate details of pension contributions, earnings and hours worked at the end of each financial year, for every employee.

### Getting started

Please ensure that a member's pension record is fully updated to the end of the last financial year by completing form 55A.

The estimate request form can be downloaded from the employer forms section of our website [www.hscpensions.hscni.net](http://www.hscpensions.hscni.net).

When completing the estimate request form please give the member's actual and notional whole time total superannuable remuneration (TSR) or total pensionable pay (TPP) for the last 365 days. At retirement we will use the best of the last 3 years for our calculation. **This paragraph applies to the 1995 section of the HSC Pension Scheme only.**

Pensionable Pay is all salary, wages, fees and other regular payments paid to a member in respect of pensionable employment as an officer. It is the amount on which contributions will be collected but not all pay is pensionable. Generally speaking, pensionable pay does not include bonuses payments made to cover expenses, or payments for overtime.

You will also need to decide the retirement date that is to be used for the estimate calculation and the type of estimate you require (Age, Incapacity, Redundancy etc).

If a member works part time, you will need details of their contracted weekly hours. If a member works as a bank employee it is very difficult to estimate future benefits, as we cannot predict the hours they will work.

Please note that an estimate requested from HSC Pension Service will take about 6 weeks, but if further information is required from a 3<sup>rd</sup> party, it may take longer.

Estimate requests that include the following scenario should always be referred to HSC Pensions:

- Member works as part time Mental Health Officer;
- Member works as a General Practitioner;
- Member has more than one ongoing employment;
- Member has Scheme membership restricted to 45 years.
- Member has added years contract starting after 1 April 2008;
- Member requires an A-day estimate at 6 April 2006;
- Estimate of commutation of retirement benefits required;
- Member has a definite intention of taking Voluntary early retirement in next 12 months. HSC Pensions will check that benefits are greater than the guaranteed minimum pension.

## How do I request a pension estimate from HSC Pensions?

Send the completed estimate request form to HSC Pension Service. Please include the member's full name, national insurance number, type of estimate required and retirement date to be used. We will also need details of the actual and notional whole time pensionable pay.

## Where can I find help?

- The employer section of the HSC Pension Service website  
[www.hscpensions.hscni.net](http://www.hscpensions.hscni.net)