



HSC Pension Service

Provided by



Business Services Organisation

EMPLOYER TECHNICAL UPDATE

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1. Foreword

The ETU provides an update on the recent Public Sector Pension Schemes Consultation. It also provides important details on the dates of submission, contact details etc. for the annual disclosure of information relating to Senior Managers Cash Equivalent Transfer Values.

We have also included a reminder of the suspension of some regulations pertaining to retired HSC Pension Scheme members returning to HSC employment to assist the service in the fight against Coronavirus.

2. Public Sector Pension Scheme Consultation Update - McCloud Case

The Public Service Pension Scheme consultation to remove the discrimination identified by the courts in the 2015 pension reforms closed on 18th November 2020 and feedback is being analysed by the Department of Finance.

The Department of Finance will publish its response, including options for legislative changes to the Public Service Pensions Act (Northern Ireland) 2014 to implement the solution.

An update will be available to view on the [Public service pensions consultation](#) page when this has been completed.

HSC pension Service will continue to keep members, employers and other stakeholders informed of all legislative changes as soon as this information becomes available.

3. Senior Managers Cash Equivalent Transfer Value Figures

All requests for disclosure information as a result of the Greenbury Report must be received by HSC Pension Service Payroll Pension Team (PPT) on or before 01st February 2021 to enable us to provide you with the necessary disclosure information by 9th April 2021. This will allow you time to prepare and submit your draft accounts by 24 April 2021. Please note, we cannot guarantee that requests or queries received after 01st February 2021 will be dealt with by 9th April 2020.

Who should employers request Greenbury figures for?

The definition of 'Senior Managers' given in the Department of Health Group Manual for Accounts 2015-16 (para 2.33) is:

"...those persons in senior positions having authority or responsibility for directing or controlling the major activities of the NHS body. This means those who influence the decisions of the entity as a whole rather than the decisions of individual directorates or departments."

It goes on to say that *"The Chief Executive or Accounting/Accountable Officer should be asked to confirm whether this covers more than the executive and non-executive directors (for CCGs – attendees at Governing Body meetings). It is usually considered that the regular attendees of the entity's board meetings are its senior managers."*



3. Senior Managers Cash Equivalent Transfer Value Figures - Cont

General Data Protection Regulation

There is a presumption that information about named individuals will be given in all circumstances. However, organisations must inform individuals in advance of the intention to disclose information about them, invite them to see what is intended to be published and notify they can object under Article 21 of the General Data Protection Regulation (GDPR).

Requests/Templates should be sent to monica.smyth@hscni.net no later than 01st February 2021

Action for Employers: Please ensure that all requests for disclosure information are submitted to HSC Pension Service before the required date

4. Coronavirus Act 2020 - Change to Pension Legislation - Reminder

Following the introduction of the Coronavirus Act 2020 a number of temporary adjustments have been made to the HSC Pension Scheme Regulations. These adjustments are listed and summarised below.

- Omission of Regulation 84 of The Health and Personal Social Services (Superannuation) Regulations (Northern Ireland) 1995 and equivalent in 2008 & 2015 Schemes

The omission of this regulation broadly means that the rule restricting recent retirees from working any more than 16 hours per week in HSC Employment in the first month following their retirement is no longer applicable.

- Amendment of Regulation 85 of The Health and Personal Social Services (Superannuation) Regulations (Northern Ireland) 1995

The amendment of this regulation broadly means that members of the HSC Pension Scheme who retired whilst holding Special Class Status will temporarily have the restriction on their commitment/earnings allowed on re-employment with the HSC removed.

This omission and amendment of these regulations will permit retired scheme members to give greater commitment to the Service in the fight against Covid 19 without fear that their HSC pension will be impacted.

Further information including a comprehensive list of FAQ's can be found by clicking [here](#)

If and when there is a change in legislation HSC Pension Service will notify employers immediately.

Action for Employers: Ensure all relevant heads of service and relevant personnel are aware of these rules when recruiting retirees to assist the Service in the fight against Covid 19



5. Contact Us

By writing to us at:-

HSC Pension Service

Waterside House

75 Duke Street

Londonderry

BT47 6FP

By Telephone: 028 7131 9111

10.00 am to 12.00pm / 2.00 pm to 4.00pm - Monday to Thursday

10.00 am to 12.00pm - Friday

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If you have any suggestions for the newsletter or would like a particular topic covered in future publications please do not hesitate in contacting us by emailing: hscpensions@hscni.net

