

**Chief Executive of each HSC Body
GP Practices
Out of Hours Providers
Directional Bodies**

**Waterside House
Room G33
75 Duke Street
Londonderry
BT 47 6FP**

Staff Representative Bodies

Tel: 028 71 319122

3 February 2016

Dear Colleague,

Consultation on amendments to the Health and Social Care (HSC) Pension Scheme Regulations

1. This letter is to give you notice of consultation on proposed amendments to:
 - i) The Health and Personal Social Services (Superannuation) Regulations (Northern Ireland) 1995;
 - ii) The Health and Social Care (Pension Scheme) Regulations (Northern Ireland) 2008; and
 - iii) The Health and Social Care (Pension Scheme) Regulations (Northern Ireland) 2015.

Purpose of the amendments

2. The amendments will provide access to the HSC Pension Scheme for employees of GP Federations.

3. I have attached an explanation of the amendments contained in the draft statutory rule. A copy of the draft rule titled ***“The Health and Personal Social Services (Superannuation), Health and Social Care (Pension Schemes) (Amendment) Regulations (Northern Ireland) 2016”*** is also attached.

Powers under which the amendments are made and territorial affect

4. The Department of Health, Social Services and Public Safety proposes to make these regulations under the powers conferred by Articles 12(1) and (2), 14(1),

(2) and (3) of, and Schedule 3 to, the Superannuation (Northern Ireland) Order 1972 and sections 1 and 2 and Schedule 3 to, the Public Service Pensions Act (Northern Ireland) 2014.

Consultation

5. Consultation on the amendments will run **from Wednesday 3 February 2016 to Tuesday 26 April 2016**.

6. The draft regulations may be subject to change in the light of comments flowing from this consultation exercise. Regulations to implement pension scheme changes are subject to final agreement by Minister and the Department of Finance and Personnel.

7. Unless we are specifically asked to treat a response as confidential, the Department may wish to publish, in due course, responses to this consultation.

8. Responses to consultation should be sent by close of business on **26 April 2016** to:

Email: hscpensioncontribs@dhsspsni.gov.uk

or by post to:

DHSSPS Pension Policy Unit
Room G33
Waterside House
75 Duke Street
Londonderry
BT47

Yours sincerely,

Phil McCusker

DHSSPS – Pension Policy Unit