



Príomhoifigeach Daoine

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Each Assistant Chief Finance Officer
Each Regional Director of People
Each Regional Director of Finance
Each CEO Section 38 Agencies
Each HR Manager Section 38 Agencies
Each Employee Relations Manager
Each Group Director of Nursing & Midwifery
Each Group Director of Midwifery
Each Clinical Director
Head of HR, PCRS
Director National Ambulance Service

From: Anne Marie Hoey, Chief People Officer

Date: 15th October 2024

Subject: HR Circular 024/2024 - Limited Appeals Process for option to join Public Service Spouses' and Children's Contributory Pension Schemes

Dear Colleagues

I wish to advise that the Department of Health (DOH) has issued **DOH Circular 12/2024 Limited Appeals Process for option to join Public Service Spouses' and Children's Contributory Pension Schemes** (Appendix 1) which should be read in conjunction with **Department of Public Expenditure NDP Delivery and Reform Circular 23/2022 Limited Appeals Process for option to join Public Service Spouses' and Children's Contributory Pension Schemes** (Appendix 2).

The purpose of Department of Public Expenditure NDP Delivery and Reform (DPENDR) Circular is to set out the arrangements for operation of a limited appeals process for reviewing the exercise of past options not to join Spouses' and Children's pension ('S&C') schemes in particular circumstances, as recommended by the Commission on Public Service Pensions (CPSP), and to give delegated authority for the granting of appeal cases that meet specific criteria.

DPENDR Circular 23/2022 is of limited application as the appeals process is relevant only to the historical option given to serving staff when the 'original' and 'revised' spouses' and children's contributory pension schemes were first introduced in the public service, and under limited circumstances only.

This circular does not apply to membership of the Single Public Service Pension Scheme 2013.

Please refer to DPENDR Circular 23/2022 for further details of the appeals process (Appendix 2).

Managers should remind their staff who are members of pre-existing public service pension schemes (HSE Superannuation Scheme, VHSS and NHASS) to check whether or not they are a member of an S&C scheme, and the terms of that scheme. Having established their position with regards to S&C membership, employees may wish to advise their spouse/partner accordingly.

Please ensure that this Circular is brought to the attention of all relevant managers in your area of responsibility including HR and Pension managers, and staff of your organisation as appropriate.

Queries

Queries from individual employees and managers should be referred to local Pensions Area Offices ([contact pensions – HSE staff](#))

Requests for clarification from Pensions and HR Managers in the HSE should be directed to Teresa Coss, HSE Pensions Quality & Standards Manager – HR Shared Services, email PensionsQualityAndStandards@hse.ie

Requests for clarification from Pensions and HR Managers in the Section 38 organisations should be directed to VHSS/NHASS National Pensions Management Unit – HR Shared Services, email Pensions.Management@hse.ie

Yours sincerely



Anne Marie Hoey
Chief People Officer