

Aggregation of pensions for purposes of the Public Service Pension Reduction

REQUEST FOR PENSIONER DETAILS

To: All Government Departments / Offices

Dear Personnel Officer,

The Minister for Public Expenditure and Reform has decided that the aggregation of public service pensions for purposes of the Public Service Pension Reduction (PSPR) should commence shortly. The PSPR is currently imposed separately on each such public service pension, but following a recent amendment (see Part 4 of the *Public Service Pensions (Single Scheme and Other Provisions) Act 2012*), the relevant Act (the *Financial Emergency Measures in the Public Interest Act 2010*) now provides for the PSPR to be imposed on the aggregated value of **all** public service pensions held by a person who has more than one such pension. The Minister will shortly sign an order setting a commencement date for this change in PSPR arrangements.

In this connection you are requested, AS A MATTER OF URGENCY, to:-

- **supply information to the Department of Public Expenditure and Reform on ALL CURRENT public service pensions paid by your Department/Office (see attached *Technical Specification*), and**
- **convey this request for information to all relevant public service bodies under the aegis of your Department; those bodies should supply the information requested (in respect of the pensions which they pay) directly to the Department of Public Expenditure and Reform.**

On receipt of the above information, the Department of Public Expenditure and Reform will identify persons who receive more than one relevant public service pension, and will calculate a revised PSPR rate (based on aggregated pension values). The Department will then communicate with the relevant paying authorities. The authority paying the larger pension will be responsible for applying the revised rate to the aggregated pension figure and PSPR will be removed from the smaller pension. Paying authorities will inform affected persons of the revised position.

The details supplied must contain all of the data fields set out in the attached *Technical Specification*. Provided that these specified data fields are included it is acceptable to supply returns which may also contain other unrequested data fields, i.e. there is no requirement to re-format data as redundant information can be filtered out centrally. Returns should be made electronically directly to the Department of Public Expenditure and Reform by Departments / bodies as soon as possible but **no later than Friday 30 November 2012**.

A dedicated website has been set up to facilitate the secure transmission of the requested data (*see attached Technical Specification*), and a contact email: egov-tickets@per.gov.ie is available for advice or assistance on the secure transfer of the data. Any **general (non-technical) queries** arising may be pursued with the following officials of the Department of Public Expenditure and Reform:-

Richard Davis – tel: 01-669-6399, email: richard.davis@per.gov.ie

Henry O'Mara - tel: 01-604-5493, email: henry.o'mara@per.gov.ie

Eamonn Robbins - tel: 01-604-5485, email: eamonn.robbins@per.gov.ie

David Owens - tel: 01-604-5755, email: david.owens@per.gov.ie

Please bring this matter to the attention of all relevant bodies under the aegis of your Department. Your co-operation is requested and appreciated.

Yours sincerely,

John O'Connell
Assistant Secretary
Department of Public Expenditure and Reform
8 November 2012

Aggregation of pensions for purposes of the Public Service Pension Reduction

REQUEST FOR PENSIONER DETAILS – TECHNICAL SPECIFICATION

The following information is requested in respect of ALL public service pensions currently in payment by your Department/Office/Agency, etc.

Data Field	Sample Values
<i>Paying Authority details</i>	
Name of Paying Authority:	Department of Finance
Employer Registration Number:	123456789
<i>Pensioner details</i>	
Last Name:	Murphy
First Name:	Mary
PPSN:	1234567A
Date of Birth:	DD-MM-YYYY
Pension commencement date:	DD-MM-YYYY
Annual Public Service Pension (Gross amount, i.e. before application of PSPR):	€25,678
Type of Pension:	Member OR Spouse's / Civil Partner's OR Children's

Technical Notes:

- (i) Information should be supplied in CSV (comma-separated values) or fixed-width files.

- (ii) All data should be encrypted. A dedicated website has been set up to facilitate the encrypted transmission of your data. Login details are: <https://iafs.finance.gov.ie/>
username: **pspruser**
password: **psprpassword99**

- (iii) The Department of Public Expenditure and Reform (DPER) will also support encryption with GPG/Winzip, etc.

- (iv) A contact email: egov-tickets@per.gov.ie is available for advice or assistance on the secure transfer of data to the Department of Public Expenditure and Reform.

