Scottish Teachers' Superannuation Scheme consultees

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Dear Colleague

**Scottish Teachers' Superannuation Scheme (STSS) Consultation
Employee contribution rate increases – draft amendment regulations**

The Scottish Government recently published a consultation on proposals for potential increases in the level of contributions scheme members will be required to make to the STSS from 1 April 2012, which ran from 7 October 2011 to 17 November 2011.

Responses from that consultation have been reviewed and considered and the attached regulations outline the proposed rates for 2012/13. An analysis of the responses received will be available on the SPPA website shortly. The rates contained in these draft regulations mirror the rates we expect the UK Government to introduce for the Teachers' Pension Scheme in England and Wales. They also apply what we understand to be the UK Government's proposal that an employee's contribution rate should change each time they receive an increase or decrease in salary which took them into a higher/lower tier. We will consider the position here again if a different method is adopted in England and Wales.

The Scottish Government continues to face a very tight timetable to achieve effective legislation to introduce employee contribution increases by 1 April 2012. However, it is offering this further consultation on the draft regulations until 3 February 2012. During that time, the Scottish Government will continue to monitor the UK Government's plans to identify and consider any further changes the UK Government may make. Any comments on the draft regulations should be sent by email to stsspensionsreform@scotland.gsi.gov.uk or by mail to the following address no later than Friday, 3 February 2012:

STSS Pension Reform
Policy Branch
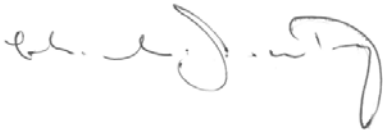SPPA
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A copy of the consultation documentation will also be available on the Agency's website at www.sppa.gov.uk/stss/consultations.

If you ask for your response not to be published we will regard it as confidential and we will treat it accordingly. All respondents should however be aware that the SPPA is subject to the provisions of the Freedom of Information (Scotland) Act 2002 and would therefore have to consider any request made to the Agency under the Act for information relating to responses made to this consultation exercise.

The Scottish Government expects affected employers to prepare for the introduction of employee increases on the basis of these draft regulations. Given the commitment above to monitor UK Government plans, any change to these rates that the Scottish Government determines may be necessary will be communicated to affected employers and other stakeholders as timeously as possible.

Further consultations will take place in 2012 with regard to the employee contribution rates for 2013-14 and 2014-15.

Yours sincerely

Chad Dawtry
Director of Policy

Copies to:

COSLA
Scottish Local Authorities
Colleges of Further and Higher Education
Scotland's Colleges
Scottish Further Education Unit
Higher Education Establishments
Scottish Independent Schools
Scottish Council for Independent Schools
Workers Educational Association
Scottish Qualifications Authority

Educational Institute for Scotland
Scottish Secondary Teachers' Association
VOICE the union
National Association of Schoolmasters/Union of Women Teachers
Association of Headteachers and Deputes
School Leaders Scotland
University and College Union
Association of Teachers and Lecturers

Scottish Government
HM Treasury
Government Actuary's Department
Department for Education, England & Wales
Department for Education, Northern Ireland
NHS Pensions Agency
Department of Communities and Local Government
Department for Work and Pensions
Ministry of Defence
Audit Scotland

General Teaching Council
Scottish Funding Council
Scottish Council for Research in Education
Women's National Commission