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To: Salaries and Wages  
Human Resources  
Pension Contacts

Circular 01/2025

16 January 2025

At: All Employing Authorities

Dear Colleagues,

**The Local Government Pension Scheme (Northern Ireland) 2024 – Department for Communities consultation on draft statutory guidance on the implementation of the McCloud Remedy**

The Department for Communities issued the above consultation on 11 December 2024 and it closes on 19 February 2025. I understand that the Department circulated the consultation to all employers with current active members in the Scheme. Details of the consultation are also on [NILGOSC's website](#).

Most of this draft guidance is for the Scheme Manager i.e. NILGOSC and provides clarification on the implementation of the McCloud Remedy. The guidance closely mirrors that separately issued by MHCLG in England and Wales for their LPGS on 14 June 2024. Since the Regulations were made in Northern Ireland to introduce the McCloud Remedy, on 28 September 2023, NILGOSC has been working towards implementing the McCloud Remedy. That means that steady progress has been made in the absence of this guidance and, in some areas like recommendations relating to software programming, the software has already been programmed.

The main section of the consultation document that applies to employers is Section 3: Data collection and verification. As employers will be aware, NILGOSC has now conducted two extensive data collection exercises to collect a full history of hours and service breaks for all eligible employees during the period from 1 April 2015 to 31 March 2022. The second of

these was following the Regulations being made in September 2023, when we had to gather further data in respect of the expanded scope of eligible members. While some data remains outstanding, most employers have already returned that to us. Thank you for your continued support. I expect that any further data collections will be on an individual basis as we become aware of a member who should have protections. These cases are not expected to be numerous.

**Action: If you have not already returned the data that you have been asked to provide, please can this be prioritised as these members' records cannot be amended until that data is received and uploaded to their records.**

Implementing the McCloud Remedy is widescale and complex. There are significant steps needed to accurately update approximately 44,000 members' records back to 1 April 2015 and this is taking time. We are, however, pleased with the progress that has been made to date and we welcome that the Department is providing guidance. We will be providing a technical response to the consultation and will publish this on our website once it is issued.

Please do not hesitate to contact the Pensions Development Team or myself if you have any queries.

Yours sincerely

Zena Kee

Head of Pensions Policy