STATUTORY RULES OF NORTHERN IRELAND

2009 No. 33

Local Government Pension Scheme (Administration) Regulations (Northern Ireland) 2009

PART 6

DETERMINATION OF QUESTIONS AND DISPUTES

First instance determinations: ill-health

- **51.**—(1) Where the Committee is considering whether a person who has ceased to hold a local government employment is entitled to a benefit under regulation 20 (early leavers: ill-health) or 31 (early payment of pension: ill-health) of the Benefits Regulations, it shall refer for decision to the independent registered medical practitioner, who is qualified in occupational health medicine and who has been appointed by the Committee under regulation 20(4) of those Regulations.
- (2) The independent registered medical practitioner must be in a position to certify and must include in his certification a statement that—
 - (a) he has not previously advised, or given an opinion on or otherwise been involved in the particular case for which the certificate has been requested; and
 - (b) he is not acting, and has not at any time acted, as the representative of the member, the employing authority or any other party in relation to the same case.
- (3) The Committee and the independent registered medical practitioner must have regard to guidance given by the Department when carrying out their function under this regulation, when making an ill-health determination.