
STATUTORY RULES OF NORTHERN IRELAND

2000 No. 177

**Local Government Pension Scheme
Regulations (Northern Ireland) 2000**

Part H

General Provisions Concerning Benefits

Forfeiture of pension rights after conviction of employment-related offences

H4.—(1) If—

- (a) a person has been convicted of an offence in connection with an employment as respects which he was a member;
- (b) he has (whether before or after the conviction) ceased to hold that employment in consequence of that offence;
- (c) his employing body, where it has suffered a financial loss as a direct result of the offence, has taken reasonable steps to recover such loss (including the exercise of its powers under regulations L8 and L9); and
- (d) on an application made within three months after the conviction by the body which was his employing authority in that employment, a Minister of the Crown has certified that the offence—
 - (i) was gravely injurious to the State, or
 - (ii) is liable to lead to serious loss of confidence in the public service,

then the Committee may direct that all or any of the rights enjoyed by or in respect of him under these regulations as respects his previous membership shall, subject to paragraph (2), be forfeited.

(2) No direction may be given under paragraph (1) which would deprive a convicted person of his guaranteed minimum pension or would, in the event of his leaving a surviving spouse, deprive that spouse of any widow's or widower's guaranteed minimum pension, unless the convicted person ceased to hold his employment in consequence of—

- (a) an offence of treason, or
- (b) one or more offences under the Official Secrets Acts 1911 to 1989⁽¹⁾ for which he has been sentenced on the same occasion to a term of imprisonment of, or to two or more consecutive terms amounting in the aggregate to, at least 10 years.

(3) If—

- (a) a person has ceased to hold an employment as respects which he was a member in consequence of an offence in connection with his employment, and

(b) the body which was his employing authority has neither notified a decision under Part J on any question as to entitlement to a benefit nor given any direction under paragraph (1), the Committee shall, if so directed by that body, make interim payments of such amounts as may be specified in the direction to any person so specified who appears to the body to be a person who would be entitled to receive payment of a benefit under these regulations if no direction under paragraph (1) were given.

(4) Directions under paragraph (3) shall not require any person to be paid more than it appears to the body giving the direction that he would for the time being be entitled to have been paid on the assumption that no direction under paragraph (1) will be given, but such directions do not constitute decisions under Part J as to any person's entitlement to a benefit.

(5) Payments made to a person in accordance with directions under paragraph (3) shall be deemed to have been payments in respect of a benefit to which he was entitled, notwithstanding any direction given under paragraph (1) or any decision under Part J as to entitlement to the contrary.

(6) A body applying for a certificate under paragraph (1)(d) in respect of a convicted person shall at the same time send copies of the application to him and to the Committee.