



SCOTTISH PUBLIC PENSIONS AGENCY

The Secretary General, Convention of Scottish Local Authorities
The Directors of Education, Directors of Finance and HR Managers of
Scottish Local Authorities,
Principals of Further and Higher Education Institutions,
Principals of Independent Schools
Official Correspondents of other Participating Organisations

7 Tweedside Park
Tweedbank
Galashiels
TD1 3TE

Telephone: 01896 893232
Fax: 01896 893214
Neville.Mackay@scotland.gsi.gov.uk

26th August 2005

Dear Sir/Madam,

SCOTTISH TEACHERS' SUPERANNUATION SCHEME (STSS) CIRCULAR 2005/4

Changes in the Administration of the Scottish Teachers Superannuation Scheme.

I am writing to inform you about a major change programme being undertaken at the SPPA and to ask you to ensure that the relevant staff within your organisation are made aware of this.

The UK Government's proposals to introduce substantial reforms to the various public sector pension schemes in 2006, coupled with the significant changes in the taxation arrangements for pension schemes being introduced from April 2006 has prompted the Agency to carry out a review of its current arrangements for administering the STSS superannuation scheme.

SPPA's current casework management process is dependent upon a bespoke IT system developed in 1994. The system allows SPPA to provide a wide range of services to over 110,000 pension scheme members and beneficiaries in the STSS superannuation scheme. It is clear that the scale of changes necessary to respond to the pension reforms will require the Agency to replace its existing IT system.

The Agency has therefore established a dedicated Project Team to develop and implement a new pension's administration system. Contact details for the core members of the Project Team can be found at the end of this letter.

This Project will require the support and involvement of all our key stakeholders, especially STSS employers, in order to ensure that the new system meets all the Agency's business requirements whilst also providing business benefits to employer organisations. We are also acutely aware of the importance of maintaining a high quality service to our pension scheme members during the development period and we are confident that the Project will not impact adversely on our day to day service.

To ensure effective liaison between STSS employers and the Agency during the Project, we intend to work closely with the individual employers and members of the Management Advisory Group (Scotland) (MAG(s)). We will supplement this by contacting all our known Payroll Manager contacts

for each individual employing organisation to discuss current arrangements and any improvements that may be desirable for both parties.

I trust that these arrangements will ensure that an effective two-way dialogue develops between the Agency and STSS employers during the duration of this Project. Information about the Project will shortly be made available on the SPPA website at www.sppa.gov.uk and I will write to you again periodically with further updates as the Project progresses. In the meantime I look forward to working with your colleagues on this important piece of work.

If you have any further queries please do not hesitate to contact myself or any of the Project Team listed below.

Yours faithfully,



Neville Mackay
Chief Executive
Scottish Public Pensions Agency

Pensions Project 2006 Team		Telephone	Email Address
Pam Lane	Project Manager	01896 893238	Pamela.Lane@scotland.gsi.gov.uk
Billy Stevenson	IT Project Lead	01896 893237	William.Stevenson@scotland.gsi.gov.uk
Eleanor Guthrie	Business Project Lead	01896 893235	Eleanor.Guthrie@scotland.gsi.gov.uk
Jim Murray	Business Project Team Member	01896 893091	Jim.Murray2@scotland.gsi.gov.uk
Brian Casson	Business Project Team Member	01896 893239	Brian.Casson@scotland.gsi.gov.uk