Dear Sir/Madam

DRAFT REGULATIONS - The Local Government Pension Scheme (Transitional Provisions and Savings) (Scotland) Regulations 2014

1. I attach for your comments the draft Local Government Pension Scheme (Transitional Provisions and Savings) (Scotland) Regulations 2014.

2. The bulk of the proposed amendments in the draft Regulations are to preserve transitional protection for certain groups and ensure that active members within 10 years of normal pension age under the 2009 Scheme on 1st April 2012 remain entitled to draw benefits on retirement which are no less than they would have been able to draw if the 2009 Scheme had continued to exist.

3. Your technical comments on the draft regulations are now invited and they should be returned to SPPA NO LATER THAN CLOSE ON THURSDAY 7 AUGUST 2014.

4. The proposed changes are set out in detail in Annex A.

Handling your response

5. All respondents should be aware that the Scottish Government is subject to the provisions of the Freedom of Information (Scotland) Act 2002 and would therefore have to consider any request made to it under the Act for information relating to responses made to this consultation exercise.

6. A Respondent Information Form is also provided at Annex B for completion and return to SPPA. Using this form will simplify our task of collating responses and will make the process more efficient.
Next steps in the process

7. Where respondents have given permission for their response to be made public these will be made available to the public in the Scottish Government Library after the consultation period. We will check all responses where agreement to publish has been given for any potentially defamatory material before logging them in the library. You can make arrangements to view responses by contacting the SG Library on 0131 244 4556. Responses can be copied and sent to you, but a charge may be made for this service.

8. Once the consultation has closed we will consider all responses when preparing the final Regulations.

Completed information

9. The completed Respondent Information Form and any comments you wish to make should be returned, by the deadline of 7 August 2014, to Kim Linge, Policy Manager, Scottish Public Pension Agency, 7 Tweedside Park, Tweedbank, Galashiels TD1 3TE (tel: 01896 893229).

10. Copies of these proposals and the Respondent Information form can be accessed on the Local Government Consultations area of the SPPA website. Your responses and completed Respondent Information form can be sent electronically to loggivpensionsreform@scotland.gsi.gov.uk. If you would prefer to have a set of these consultation documents and draft regulations sent to you in hard copy, please do not hesitate to contact anette.greenslade@scotland.gsi.gov.uk to request a set.

Comments and complaints

11. Information on the Scottish Government Consultation Process can be found in Annex B of this letter. If you have any comments about how this consultation exercise has been conducted, please contact Philippa Brosnan by telephone on 01896 892474 or by e-mail to philippa.brosnan@scotland.gsi.gov.uk. If you wish to discuss the proposals for the new scheme in more detail please do not hesitate to contact myself either by telephone on 01896 893227 or by e-mail to kimberly.linge@scotland.gsi.gov.uk

Yours faithfully

K. Linge
Policy Manager, LGPS

Addressees
COSLA
TGWU
GMB
STUC
UNISON
AMICUS
Secretary, LGPC
Educational Institute for Scotland
Union of Construction, Allied Trades and Technicians
Audit Scotland
National Association of Pension Funds
Scottish Local Government Pension Scheduled Bodies
Scottish Local Government Pension Funds
CIPFA
Women’s National Commission
Other Relevant Government Departments
SOLACE
SLARC
NAC