STATUTORY RULES OF NORTHERN IRELAND

2026 No. 16

HEALTH AND PERSONAL SERVICES

PUBLIC SERVICE PENSIONS

The Health and Social Care Pension Scheme (Member Contributions) (Amendment) Regulations (Northern Ireland) 2026

Made - - - -	*6th February 2026*
Coming into operation	*2nd March 2026*

The Department of Health makes the following Regulations in exercise of the powers conferred by Articles 12(1), (2) and (3) of, and (14)(1) and (2) of, and Schedule 3 to the Superannuation (Northern Ireland) Order 1972(**a**) ("the 1972 Order") and sections 1(1) and (2)(e), 2(1) and 3(1) to (3) of, and paragraph 5 of Schedule 2 and Schedule 3 to, the Public Service Pensions Act (Northern Ireland) 2014(**b**)("the 2014 Act").

In accordance with Article 12(4) of the 1972 Order and section 22(2)(a) of the 2014 Act, the Department of Health has consulted such persons as appear to the Department of Health likely to be affected by these Regulations.

In accordance with section 22(2)(b) of the 2014 Act, the Department has laid a report before the Assembly.

In accordance with Article 12(1) of the 1972 Order and section 3(5) of the 2014 Act, these Regulations are made with the consent of the Department of Finance.

Citation, commencement and effect

1. These Regulations may be cited as the Health and Social Care Pension Scheme (Member Contributions) (Amendment) Regulations (Northern Ireland) 2026.

2. These Regulations come into operation on 2nd March 2026 and will have retrospective effect from 1st April 2025.

(**a**) 1972 N.I 10 Section 12(1) was amended by sections 32 and 34(3) and Schedule 6 of the Health and Social Care (Reform) Act (Northern Ireland) 2009 and section 37(2) of the Public Service Pensions Act (Northern Ireland) 2014.

(**b**) 2014 c. 2 Section 3(1) and (2) were amended by section 94(2) and (3) of the Public Service Pensions and Judicial Offices Act 2022 (c.7).

Amendment to the Health and Social Care Pension Scheme Regulations (Northern Ireland) 2015

3.—(1) The Health and Social Care Pension Scheme Regulations (Northern Ireland) 2015(**a**) are amended as follows.

(2) In regulation 30 (members' contributions: employees)(**b**)—

(a) in paragraph (3), for the table substitute—

"Table Scheme Years 2025/26 to 2027/28

Column 1	*Column 2*
Pensionable earnings band	***Contribution percentage rate***
Up to £13,259	5.20%
£13,260 to £27,797	6.70%
£27,798 to £33,868	8.50%
£33,869 to £50,845	10.00%
£50,846 to £65,190	10.90%
£65,191 and above	12.70%".

(3) In paragraph (3A)—

(a) for the table substitute—

"Table Scheme Years 2025/26 to 2027/28

Column 1	*Column 2*
Pensionable earnings band	***Contribution percentage rate***
Up to £13,259	5.20%
£13,260 to £27,797	6.70%
£27,798 to £33,868	8.50%
£33,869 to £50,845	10.00%
£50,846 to £65,190	10.90%
£65,191 and above	12.70%".

(4) In paragraph (7), for "2025/26" substitute "2026/27".

(5) In paragraph (8)(d), for "2025" substitute "2026".

Amendment of regulation 31

4. In regulation 31 (members' contributions: practitioners and non-GP providers)(**c**)—

(a) for table 4 substitute—

"Table Scheme Years 2025/26 to 2027/28

Column 1	*Column 2*
Pensionable earnings band	***Contribution percentage rate***
Up to £13,259	5.20%
£13,260 to £27,797	6.70%
£27,798 to £33,868	8.50%
£33,869 to £50,845	10.00%
£50,846 to £65,190	10.90%
£65,191 and above	12.70%".

(**a**) S.R. 2015 No.120.
(**b**) Regulation 30 was amended by S.R. 2019 No.62, S.R. 2022 No. 244 and S.R. 2023 No.23.
(**c**) Regulation 31 is amended by S.R. 2019 No.62, S.R. 2022 No.33, S.R. 2022 No.244., S.R. 2024 No.116 & S.R. 2024 No 117.

(2) In paragraph (11), for "2025/26" substitute "2026/27".

(3) In paragraph (12)(d), for "2025" substitute "2026".

Sealed with the Official Seal of the Department of Health on 6th February 2026.

(L.S.)

Philip Rodgers
A senior officer of the Department of Health

The Department of Finance consents to the foregoing Regulations.

Sealed with the Official Seal of the Department of Finance on 6th February 2026.

(L.S.)

Patrick Neeson
A senior officer of the Department of Finance

EXPLANATORY NOTE

(This note is not part of the Regulations)

These Regulations amend the Health and Social Care Pension Scheme Regulations (Northern Ireland) 2015 (S.R. 2015 No. 120) ("the 2015 Regulations").

Regulation 2 amends the 2015 Regulations to update the pensionable earnings bands that determine a member's contribution rate for the 2025/26 scheme year.

Regulation 3 amends regulation 30 (members' contributions: employees) to update the pensionable earnings bands used to determine member contribution rates for scheme years 2025/26 to 2027/28, for employees.

Regulation 4 amends regulation 31 (members' contributions: practitioners and non-GP providers) to update the pensionable earnings bands used to determine member contribution rates for scheme years 2025/26 to 2027/28, for practitioners and non-GP providers.

These Regulations come into operation on 2nd March 2026 and have effect retrospectively from 1st April 2025.

Article 14(1) of the Superannuation (Northern Ireland) Order 1972 and section 3(3)(b) of the Public Service Pensions Act (Northern Ireland) 2014 (c. 2) provide that Scheme Regulations may make retrospective provision.

A full impact assessment has not been produced for this statutory rule as no, or no significant, impact on the private, voluntary of public sector is foreseen.

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