



# RCPSA

RETIRED CIVIL AND PUBLIC SERVANTS ASSOCIATION

Comhachas Iar-Sheirdhiseach Poiblí Agus Stáit

Established 1945

NEWSLETTER

JANUARY 2021

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[www.rcpsa.ie](http://www.rcpsa.ie)

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## OVERVIEW FROM THE PRESIDENT

Dear Fellow Members,

I trust you and your families are safe and well.

Since I last penned some words for the Autumn Newsletter matters have greatly disimproved. It appeared as we approached Christmas and the arrival of the first vaccine that the future looked brighter. However Covid 19 had other plans as it mutated into a more contagious form. Now we are in a more severe lockdown to at least the end of January and quite possibly longer. But on a positive note the second vaccine. Moderna, has been authorised and it is hoped that the Astrazeneca/Oxford vaccine will follow in due course.

In early December the Government and Unions reached agreement on a draft pay agreement that will run until 31 December 2022. It provides for similar pay increases of 1% or €500 whichever is greater on 1 October 2021 and 1 October 2022.. This draft is being considered by the individual unions and we should have their decision by mid-February.

As I stated in the previous newsletter many experts reckoned the virus would have a serious impact until the end of March 2021. Events since have reinforced that expectation. Last January I visited many branches to attend their Annual General Meetings. Unfortunately this will not be possible this year. However it may be possible for branches to hold virtual AGMs and the Association has offered to provide assistance, see page 4.

For the future the vaccination programme is now underway and our age cohort will be inoculated soon. The Council has set the date for our next AGM as Thursday 27 May 2021 and provisionally booked the usual venue, see page 5. I look forward, with hope, to seeing many of you there. In the meantime keep safe!

Yours sincerely,  
Paul Monks,  
President RCPSA.



# RCPSA

RETIRED CIVIL AND PUBLIC SERVANTS ASSOCIATION  
Comhlachas Iar-Sheirbhíseach Poiblí Agus Stáit      Éascaibhéal 1945

## BRANCH AGM's 2021

Many thanks for the hard work of local Branch members who give voluntarily of their time and who arrange for Branch AGMs and Branch meetings. Council is conscious that the measures taken by the Government to control the spread of COVID-19 have, of necessity, disrupted the normal activities of Branches. At time of going to press, it seems unlikely that Branches will be in a position to hold AGMs in the next few months, the time when most Branch AGMs have traditionally been held.

Many of us have become familiar with the technology that has facilitated holding 'Virtual Meetings' since March 2020. Any Branch that wishes to consider holding a virtual AGM and would like assistance in doing so, can contact Council at [info@rcpsa.ie](mailto:info@rcpsa.ie) or on 0871317062.

Although the longer-term position is still by no means certain, the Council of the RCPSA has decided to set a provisional date of 27 May 2021 for the RCPSA AGM 2021. The details are shown on Page 5, along with an invitation for Branches and members to attend and to submit nominations and motions to form part of the Agenda.

The RCPSA continues to represent members interests and the Officers and Council have been holding virtual meetings as appropriate. We hope that it will not be too much longer before we can all meet in person. In the meantime, take care.

*Ann Walsh*  
*RCPSA Secretary*

*Cloda Ryan*  
*Executive Assistant*



## Notice of RCPSA Annual General Meeting 2021

The RCPSA 2021 has been provisionally arranged for

**Thursday 27th May 2021**

**in the Ashling Hotel, Parkgate St., Dublin 8**

**at 2.00 pm**

*Please note: These arrangements may be subject to change, depending on Government Guidelines in respect of Covid-19.*

### **Invitations to Branches/Members:**

All members are invited to attend the AGM.

Branches and/or Members are invited to submit nominations for the Offices of President, Vice President, Honorary Secretary, Honorary Treasurer and Executive Assistant, for membership of the Council, for membership of the Standing Orders Committee and for positions as Trustees. Elections will take place at the AGM.

Branches and/or Members are invited to propose Motions/Nominations to form part of the Agenda of the AGM. Proposed Motions should be submitted in writing to the Honorary Secretary – see postal address and email address below. The deadline for receipt of proposed Motions/Nominations by the Honorary Secretary is **1st April 2021**.

Branches and/or Members are invited to propose Rule changes to form part of the Agenda of the AGM. Proposed Rule changes should be submitted in writing to the Honorary Secretary. The deadline for receipt of proposed Rule changes by the Honorary Secretary is 1st March 2021.

*Ann Walsh (RCPSA Honorary Secretary)*

*PHONE: 087 1317062*

**Email:** [info@rcpsa.ie](mailto:info@rcpsa.ie)

**Postal Address:** Honorary Secretary, RCPSA, PO Box 908, South City DSU, Togher, Cork T12 C825



## Updates on Policy Motions passed at AGM 30 May 2019 and earlier years.

### TAXATION/ Revenue Customer Service (Motion 1)

Meeting(s) that were envisaged to be held following the successful meeting held in November 2019 haven't taken place to date due to Government/HSE Guidelines on Covid-19. This situation is being monitored.

### COMMUNICATIONS: (Motions 3, 4, 6, 8 and 9):

Details of our pre-Budget submission made for Budget 2021 are available in the Autumn 2020 Newsletter (pp 33-37). It included our concerns regarding hard copies of pension slips, formal recognition of and consultation with pensioner groups and restoration of access to the Employee Assistance Service.

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### ACCESSING PENSION SLIPS ONLINE

The RCPSA has an ongoing request for hard copies of payslips to be provided to members when needed for proof of income purposes. The request has been refused to date for cost reasons. As a result of our request, in an effort to address some of the concerns of our members, **the NSSO has obtained the agreement of the HSE that a printout of online payslips will be acceptable by the HSE for purposes of the Fair Deal.** If you encounter any difficulty in having a printout of online pension slips being accepted for means-testing purposes by any Government Department/Agency, please email [info@rcpsa.ie](mailto:info@rcpsa.ie), so that we can raise the general issue again. A detailed guide to viewing pension slips online on the Payroll Shared Services Centre website has been posted to the RCPSA website and was published in the Autumn 2020 Newsletter.

### PAYMENT OF PENSIONS: (Motions 10, 11, 12, 13, 14, 16, 18, 19, 20, 23, 24, 25, 26, 27)

We continue to press for the removal of the FEMPI legislation, the achievement of full restoration and the prompt payment of such restoration and of pension increases in the fora available to us (such as the Alliance of Retired Civil Servants and the Retired Workers Committee of the ICTU and by making pre-Budget submissions). RCPSA's understanding is that under the provisions of the proposed new PSSA 20-21 (Building Momentum) the preservation of 'parity' would secure until the end of 2022 and that the Minister for the Department of Public Reform is to give detailed consideration to the long term approach to pension increase policy closer to the end of 2022. We also continue to seek the removal of the anomalies in the USC system and the Household Benefits Package.

There have been some encouraging developments recently:

- 1 The date for the final phase of the removal of the PSPR has been fixed as 01/07/21.

- 2 Under the Public Service Stability Agreement (PSSA) 2018–2020, by end 2020, the FEMPI Act pay reductions will have been reversed for all public servants earning up to €70,000, which equates to some 90% of public servants. It is expected that, in accordance with the Public Service Pay and Pensions Act 2017, pay restoration for public servants on salaries under €150k will be restored to pre-FEMPI levels by 1 July 2021 and for those earning above €150k, by 1 July 2022.
- 3 Under the provisions of the proposed new PSSA 2021-2022 (Building Momentum) the preservation of ‘parity’ would be secure until the end of 2022. RCPSA’s understanding is that the Minister for the Department of Expenditure and Public Reform is to give detailed consideration to the long term approach to pension increase policy closer to the end of 2022.
- 4 A brief outline of the pay increases provided for in Building Momentum is:

1% on 1 October 2021 and  
1% on 1 October 2022.

*There is also provision for the equivalent of a 1% increase in annualised basic salaries to be used as a Sectoral Bargaining Fund, for payment on 1 February 2022 to alleviate/settle sectoral anomalies.*

The individual Unions are to ballot on the proposed Agreement before mid-February 2021.

The application to pensions of the above proposed increases and/or FEMPI restoration could depend on a number of factors (including date of retirement and level of pay on which the pension is based).

If you have any queries about the calculation of your pension, or about the application of any past increases to your pension, you can email the **Payroll Shared Service Centre (PSSC)** on [helpdesk@pssc.gov.ie](mailto:helpdesk@pssc.gov.ie) (citing two of the following:

Your Personnel Number,  
Your PPSN  
or your Date of Birth)

Alternatively you can contact them by **phone on 0761002702** (09:00 to 13:00 Monday to Friday).

The email contact details for retired members of the Defence Forces and military retirees are: [soldiershelpdesk@pssc.gov.ie](mailto:soldiershelpdesk@pssc.gov.ie); [officershelpdesk@pssc.gov.ie](mailto:officershelpdesk@pssc.gov.ie); [reserveshelpdesk@pssc.gov.ie](mailto:reserveshelpdesk@pssc.gov.ie) and [militarypensions@pssc.gov.ie](mailto:militarypensions@pssc.gov.ie).

### *BENEFITS (Motions 28 and 30)*

We continue to seek the restoration of full medical cards for people aged 70 and over. The qualifying weekly income limit for people aged 70 and over has increased. From 1 November 2020 the weekly income limit for a single person aged 70 or over is €550 and the weekly limit for a couple is €1,050. The assessment of a couple is based on the age of the older person. If you do not qualify for a medical card, you may, depending on your income, qualify for a GP visit card. Further details are available on the HSE website [www.hse.ie](http://www.hse.ie) and on [www.citizensinformation.ie](http://www.citizensinformation.ie).

### *WAIVER OF PASSPORT FEES:*

We also continue to seek the restoration of free passports for people aged 65 and over.

### *ASSOCIATION (Motions 34 and 35)*

The provision of membership lists to Branches remains under active consideration, with due regard to the Association's obligations under GDPR.

### *Motion passed at AGM of the RCPSA on 24 May 2018 requesting an Official Side circular on the steps to be taken on the death of a member:*

RCPSA has regular contacts on this matter and while the issuing of a Circular continues to be followed up, the National Shared Services Office provides the Association with relevant information to publish in each edition of the Newsletter.

### *Motion passed at AGM of the RCPSA on 25 May 2017 regarding the Spouses' and Children's Scheme and pensioners who entered into civil partnership or same-sex marriage after retirement:*

Circular 18/20 (30 November 2020) deals with the implementation of Part V11A of the Pension Act 1990 which allows for a right of entitlement to pension benefit in respect of some same sex couples where the scheme member was unable to enter a marriage or civil partnership prior to reaching a certain age or date of retirement. The Circular is available on the RCPSA website and on [www.gov.ie/en/circulars/](http://www.gov.ie/en/circulars/)

### *Eir Superannuation Funds:*

Chairmen of the Trustees have advised that the company has made a request to the Ministers to approve the payment of the 0.9% increase and if this is approved, the Trustees will communicate with members.

*Ann Walsh*  
*RCPSA Secretary*

*Cloda Ryan*  
*Executive Assistant*



**IMPORTANT: IF YOU HAVE ENTERED INTO A CIVIL PARTNERSHIP OR A SAME SEX MARRIAGE, YOU ARE ADVISED TO READ CIRCULAR 18/20 IN DETAIL AS A MATTER OF URGENCY**

**Circular 18/20 deals with the Recognition of same sex marriages/civil partnerships under Public Service ‘Original’ Spouses’ and Children’s Contributory Pension Schemes.** The Circular is of limited (**but highly significant**) application as it is relevant only to the category of individuals named in the legislation and who meet certain conditions, including a particular timeframe.

In brief, paragraphs 8 to 13 of the Circular deal with Entitlement to Receive Benefits. Paragraphs 8 and 9 which give the main qualifying criteria are reproduced below for ease of reference. Paragraphs 14 to 23 deal with the Payment of Contributions. Attention is drawn to paragraph 19, aspects of which apply only for a period of one year following the date of issue of the Circular. The Circular issued on 30 November 2020.

### ***Paragraphs 8 and 9 of Circular 18/20***

8. In order for a former public servant to come within the category of individuals named in the legislation, he or she must be, or have been:

- a former member of an original public service S&C scheme; or
- a former pensionable public servant who elected not to join an original S&C scheme when the membership option was made available to them.

Note that the legislation does not provide for a right to pension benefits in respect of persons who are not, or never were, members of a public service pension scheme. Note also that reference to ‘member’ includes a member who has died.

9. Under the legislation, the right of entitlement of a former public servant to pension benefits is specifically linked, and limited, to:

a) the individual having been in a committed relationship with another person of the same sex at the time he or she reached the date of retirement, [*footnote 2: The legislation also addresses itself to scheme rules that fix as a condition for entitlement to benefits the age by which the member shall have married or entered into a civil partnership – this rule is not relevant to the vast majority of public service pension schemes and so is not referred to further in this Circular.*]

b) he or she having, within a period of three years from the date of enactment of the relevant legislation enabling legal recognition of same sex relationships in Ireland (i.e. the *Civil Partnership and Certain Rights and Obligations of Cohabitants Act 2010* and the *Marriage Act 2015*), entered into a civil partnership or marriage with that other person or had their foreign civil partnership or marriage legally recognised within the State under that legislation, [*footnote 3: Where a civil partnership was entered into on a date later than three years following enactment of the 2010 Act, that civil partnership would not qualify under the legislation. However, if the same couple then entered into a marriage within three years of enactment of the 2015 Act, that marriage would qualify.*] and

c) payment being made in respect of the contributions, and any interest applied in respect of those contributions, that are required to be paid into the scheme for the purpose of obtaining entitlement to those benefits.

# Additional Information on Public Service Pension Reduction (PSPR) for Retired Civil Servants

10 December 2020

## Public Service Pension Reduction (PSPR)

### 1 What is PSPR?

PSPR is a further reduction under the legislation and it applies to people who retired before 01 April 2019 only. All PSPR deductions are listed on your payslip as "pension reduction", showing a minus value.

The PSPR rates, under various categories, are outlined in [Circular 02/2018](#).

### 2 When will the PSPR adjustment for 2020 be applied to my pension?

All 2020 identified cases have been processed and any arrears due have been included in pension payment. These adjustments are shown as a positive figure across from "pension reduction" on the pay slip.

The table below details the current position in relation to PSPR adjustments.

Year	Percentage Complete
2016	100%
2017	100%
2018	99.97%
2019	99.93%
2020	99.97%

It is now anticipated that the 2018, 2019 and 2020 cases outstanding for completion will be completed in early 2021.

#### Example:

PSPR adjustment given at the same time.

Gross Earnings		Deductions	
PENSION REDUCTION	165.59	USC	59.78
PENSION	1741.50	PAYE	179.50

# Public Service Pension Reduction (PSPR) Changes from 2011 to 2020

## 3 How is a PSPR Pensioner Identified?

Group A – PSPR on pre-March 2012 pension up to €34,132\* Group B – PSPR on pre-March 2012 pension above €34,132\* Group C – PSPR on Post-March 2012 Pension above €32,500

\*Before the PSPR is applied to pre-2012 retirees. This was expressed as €32,500. (After PSPR) in the FEMPI Act 2013

## 4 What annual pension is not subject to PSPR?

### Group B Pre March 2012

Year	Value
2017	Up to 22K
2018	Up to 30K
2019	Up to 39K
2020	Up to 54K

### Group C Post March 2012

Year	Value
2017	Up to 39K
2018	Up to 60K
2019	Up to 60K
2020	Up to 60K

Below is a summary table of PSPR changes from 2011 to 2020.

In line with circular 02/2018 a Ministerial order on PSPR is to be issued by end of 2020.

(Source: The information contained in the summary table was collated from Circular 02/2018: Pension increase policy in the public service until end-2020 - Appendix 3 - page 15/16.)

## Key Points

This section is aimed at addressing queries as to how you can identify PSPR on your pay slip.

Key Points
PSPR is applied to your Pension Salary.
PSPR is shown as 'Pension Reduction' on your payslip which is a minus figure.
A normal deduction will be shown as follows: 'Pension Reduction' - 60.50
Any arrears of PSPR will be shown beside this heading with a positive figure.
For example, a refund of PSPR will appear on the Payslip under 'Pension Reduction' 31.29

## Queries

### 5 If I have a query who do I contact?

If you have a query please contact the following:

Telephone: NSSO Helpdesk 076 - 1002702

(This service is available from 9.00am until 1.00pm Monday to Friday)

Email: [pmpensions@nss.gov.ie](mailto:pmpensions@nss.gov.ie) inserting 'PSPR Query' in the subject line Post: NSSO Pensions Section, Central Business Park, Tullamore, Co. Offaly.



## PSPR Rates 2011 to 2020

Group A PSPR on pre-March 2012 retirees with pensions up to €34,132*							
2015		2016		2017		2018	
Band	Rate	Band	Rate	Band	Rate	Band	Rate
Up to 12k	0%	Up to 18.7k	0%	Up to 26k	0%	Up to 34,132	0%
12k-24k	6%	18.7k - 24k	6%	26k+	9%		
24k+	9%	24k+	9%				

\* Before the PSPR is applied to pre-2012 retirees. This was expressed as €32,500 (after PSPR) in the FEMPI Act 2013.

Group B PSPR on pre-March 2012 retirees with pensions above €34,132*																	
2015			2016			2017			2018			2019			2020		
Band	Rate	Band	Rate	Band	Rate	Band	Rate	Band	Rate	Band	Rate	Band	Rate	Band	Rate	Band	Rate
Up to 12k	0% (0%)	Up to 12k	0%	Up to 17k	0%	Up to 22k	0%	Up to 30k	0%	Up to 39k	0%	Up to 54k	0%				
12k-24k	6% (6%)	12k - 24k	8%	17k - 24k	8%	22k - 24k	3%										
24k - 60k	9% (9%)	24k - 60k	12%	24k - 60k	12%	24k - 60k	12%	30k - 60k	12%	39k - 60k	12%	54k - 60k	12%				
60k - 100k	12% (12%)	60k - 100k	17%	60k - 100k	17%	60k - 100k	17%	60k - 100k	17%	60k - 100k	17%	60k - 100k	17%				
100k +	20% (12%)	100k+	28%	100k+	28%	100k+	28%	100k+	28%	100k+	28%	100k+	28%	100k+	28%	100k+	28%

2011 rates shown in brackets

Group C PSPR on retirees from March 2012 onward - pensions above €32,500																	
2015			2016			2017			2018			2019			2020		
Band	Rate	Band	Rate	Band	Rate	Band	Rate	Band	Rate	Band	Rate	Band	Rate	Band	Rate	Band	Rate
Up to 12k	0%	Up to 29.3k	0%	Up to 39k	0%	Up to 60k	0%	Up to 60k	0%	Up to 60k	0%	Up to 60k	0%				
12k-24k	2%																
24k - 60k	3%	29.3k - 60k	3%	39k - 60k	2%												
60k - 100k	5%	60k - 100k	5%	60k - 100k	5%	60k - 100k	5%	60k - 100k	5%	60k - 100k	3%	60k - 100k	1%				
100k +	8%	100k +	8%	100k +	8%	100k +	8%	100k +	8%	100k +	8%	100k +	6%				

Group D Retirees after 1 April 2019 - No PSPR

Sunset Clause - Ministerial Order to be made by end-2020 to set a date, as yet unknown, for ending PSPR. The 2020 rates will apply indefinitely from 2020. A Ministerial Order is required for these rates to be stood down

## Status update from the NSSO, up to Pay period 52 of 2020

Reproduced by kind permission of the NSSO

FEMPI STATUS		202052							
	In Scope	Identification			Applying Increase				
		Identification by BI report	Identification manually	Total Identified needing Increase	Total identified not needing increase	Total Identified increase applied	Total still to be checked / processed	Ongoing Data Deficit	% Applied
PSPR 2016	11451	11451	0	11451	0	11451	0	0	100.00%
PSPR 2017	6,677	6677	0	6677	0	6677	0	0	100.00%
PSPR 2018	6,370	6370	0	6370	0	6368	2	0	99.97%
PSPR 2019	2,900	2900	0	2900	0	2898	2	0	99.93%
PSPR 2020	2,887	2887	0	2887	0	2886	1	0	99.97%
Sep-17	27,716	26700	1016	5091	21881	5016	744	75	99%
Jan-18	27,716	26817	899	8434	18484	7960	798	474	94%
Oct-18	27,716	26798	918	10094	16805	9287	817	807	92%
Jan-19	27,716	27028	688	1599	25434	1491	683	108	93%
Apr-19	27,716	27716	0	208	27508	190	0	18	91%
Sep-19	27,716	26864	852	15994	10971	13974	751	2020	87%
Jan-20	27,716	26970	746	2915	24068	2747	733	168	94%
Oct-20	27,716	26864	852	22735	4224	19326	757	3409	85%

### NOTES:

- 1 There are still some issues outstanding regarding increases to Prison Officer pensions. These are being followed up with DPER by the NSSO.
- 2 As yet we do not have a full list of Fixed and Variable Allowances. Again, this is being followed up with DPER by the NSSO. In general, variable allowances have been identified as allowances which are calculated as a percentage of pay. Some fixed allowances have been identified and an increase paid where appropriate.

# Pension Payments FAQ

Frequently Asked Questions  
10 December 2020



## FEMPI Restoration for Pensioners

### 1. What is this for?

This FAQ has been produced to assist you understand your calculation and entitlement to increases in your pension. It also explains why you are getting these increases and how it is processed.

### 2. Does this effect my current pension paid to me?

No, these increases are additional payments due to you which we are in the process of calculating.

### 3. What is FEMPI (the Financial Emergency Measures in the Public Interest) Act?

When the global financial crisis began in 2008, the Government had to reduce expenditure to stabilise the public finances.

As a result, the FEMPI legislation was enacted as a savings measure.

### 4. What has changed? Dismantling the emergency legislation

The process of unwinding this emergency financial legislation began following the Lansdowne Road Agreement (2016-2018) and will be completed under the Public Service Stability Agreement (2018-2020).

### 5. What is the legislative basis for this restoration?

The Government secured approval for the Public Service Pay and Pensions Act 2017. This Act provides the legal basis for the restoration of pay and pensions.

This was detailed in the Public Service Stability Agreement 2018 - 2020, which was approved by Government and was ratified by the Public Services Committee of the Irish Congress of Trade Unions.

All the information is included in the two Department of Public Expenditure and Reform Circulars; [Circular 20/2017](#) and [Circular 02/2018](#).

### 6. What does this mean for me as a pensioner?

As a pensioner, when your case has been processed, you will notice an adjustment to your pension amount and your payslip will indicate the increase/adjustment. The full detail of all eligibility criteria is available in the Department of Public Expenditure and Reform Circulars; [Circular 20/2017](#) and [Circular 02/2018](#).

#### Example 1

Pension increase and arrears.

Gross Earnings	
PENSION	51.66
PENSION ARREARS	7.82

### 7. Do I have to apply for this increase?

No, you do not have to apply for the increase. A dedicated team of staff is working through all the cases to identify all pensioners who are entitled to the increase.

The work is manual in nature and will take time to process. 92% of pensioners have now received their FEMPI increases due up to and including 1<sup>st</sup> October 2020.



**8. Who is eligible for these increases?**

Full details on who is eligible for an increase are provided in the two Department of Public Expenditure and Reform Circulars; [Circular 20/2017](#) and [Circular 02/2018](#).

**9. Will I get these increases on my allowances?**

Yes - except in the case of fixed rate allowances, as outlined in [Circular 02/2018](#).

Some pensioners have their allowances added in to their pension amount, others have them listed separately. Once the review of all cases is completed, this will change for all pensioners with allowances. Each allowance will be listed separately.

**Example 2**

Showing a pension increase with an allowance already listed separately.

Gross Earnings	
PENSION	1924.20
PENSION ARREARS	77.21
ALLOW. (GEN/SPEC. INCRE	878.69
ALLOWANCE AVERAGE	25.26

After this review has been completed, you will notice a minus value on your payslip across from "pension arrears". This represents the separated allowance amount. This is not a deduction, it is a calculation requirement with no negative impact on the pension amount. Subsequent payslips will not have this minus.

**Example 3**

Showing allowances separated from pension, with a minus across from "pension arrears".

Gross Earnings	
PENSION	36.18
PENSION ARREARS	-162.03
ALLOW. (GEN/SPEC. INCRE	174.09
ALLOW. (GEN. INCREASES	5.31

## Public Service Pension Reduction (PSPR)

**10. What is PSPR?**

PSPR is a further reduction under the legislation and it applies to people who retired before 01 April 2019 only. All PSPR deductions are listed on your pay slip as "pension reduction", showing a minus value.

The PSPR rates, under various categories, are outlined in [Circular 02/2018](#).

**11. When will the PSPR adjustment be applied to my pension?**

All 2020 identified cases have been processed and any arrears due have been included in pension payment. The table below details the current position in relation to PSPR adjustments.

Year	Percentage Complete
2016	100%
2017	100%
2018	99.97%
2019	99.93%
2020	99.97%

It is now anticipated that the 2018, 2019 and 2020 cases outstanding for completion will be processed in early 2021.

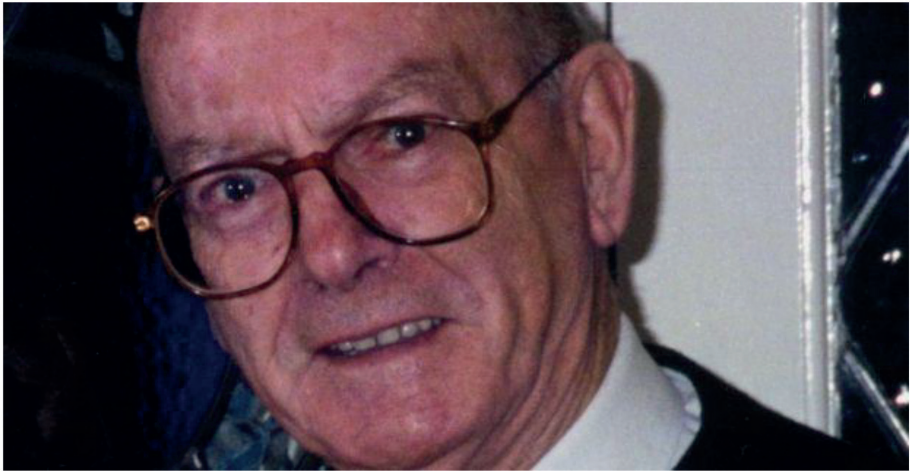
PSPR adjustments are shown as a positive figure across from "pension reduction" on the payslip.

**Example 4**

PSPR adjustment given at the same time

Gross Earnings		Deductions	
PENSION REDUCTION	165.53	GEN	44.79
PENSION	1741.51	SALE	1741.51

## Paddy Terry – An Appreciation ( reproduced with the agreement with the Terry Family)



Paddy Terry: his career was one of high achievement. It was also unique in that it continued long after normal retirement age and spanned over 70 years of public service. (J Brosnan. Irish Times Sun Oct 18 2020)

Paddy Terry (March 11th, 1920 – September 28th, 2020), a former senior official in the Department of Justice and parliamentary draftsman in the Attorney General’s Office who made a major contribution to justice policy, administration and law reform, has died aged one hundred years.

His career was one of high achievement. It was also unique in that it continued long after normal retirement age and spanned over 70 years of public service. Paddy first retired in 1985 after a full generalist career, nearly all in the Department of Justice, culminating in 15 years as assistant secretary there. He then went on to spend over 20 more highly productive years as a specialist, first as a legal adviser and then as a parliamentary draftsman, retiring finally in 2008, aged 88.

Paddy was born in Abbeyside, Co Waterford, in 1920 and received his secondary education from the Christian Brothers. At the age of 17 he moved to Dublin and joined the civil service as a clerical officer in the Revenue. He furthered his education, acquiring a Diploma in Public Administration, a B Comm and a BA from Trinity College. In his mid-twenties he was assigned to the Department of Justice as an administrative officer and progressed through the ranks, working in several areas of the department over the years and developing a comprehensive knowledge of its range of work.

He was called to the Bar in 1955 and throughout the 1960s he played a central part in developing and delivering the department’s law reform programme, which had a high political profile at the time under ministers Charles Haughey and Brian Lenihan.

He was promoted to assistant secretary in charge of the Prisons Division in 1970 and worked with then-minister Des O’Malley in the very difficult early years of the Northern Ireland Troubles when riots, hunger strikes and attempted breakouts were a recurring feature and a serious political problem.

Early in 1973, following Ireland’s entry to the European Communities, he was chosen to head the department’s newly formed EC Division. In essence, Paddy was responsible for steering and managing Ireland’s transition into the EC in the justice area, which he did very effectively, drawing on his legal expertise and previous experience dealing with the Council of Europe in Strasbourg. Subsequently he

headed up the law division, managing a wide programme of law reform, mostly in the criminal sphere. This included working with [Michael Noonan](#) on the Criminal Justice Act 1984, dealing with Garda powers relating to people in custody and safeguards for the rights of those detained.

On reaching retirement age in 1985, his deep knowledge of the law and finely honed drafting skills were considered too valuable to lose. Soon afterwards his services were retained as a legal adviser and later he worked with minister [Mervyn Taylor](#) in the new Department of Equality and [Law](#) Reform, preparing legislation on matters such as employment equality, the matrimonial home, maintenance and powers of attorney.

In 1997, he was engaged on contract as a parliamentary draftsman in the Attorney General's Office drafting the final text of legislation. Michael McDowell as attorney general and later as minister for justice regarded him highly as an utterly reliable, speedy draftsman. Paddy retained this role until his final retirement in 2008. By then his total contribution to shaping Ireland's statute book was immense. Thereafter he retained his lifelong interest in public affairs and often responded to public consultations in his capacity of interested citizen.

Throughout his career, as a pillar of public service staff associations, he was deeply committed to defending and furthering the rights and interests of people across the Civil Service. He served as chairman of the Association of Higher Civil Servants and later a member of the Council of the Retired Civil and [Public Servants Association](#). He was deeply trusted by association members and highly respected by the management side.



Rialtas na hÉireann  
Government of Ireland

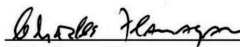
## Distinguished Service Award

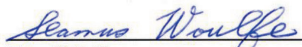
A presentation to

*Paddy Terry*

on the occasion of his 100th birthday, to celebrate his contribution to Irish life throughout his distinguished career of public service and as a citizen.

From all his friends and former colleagues in the Department of Justice and Equality and the Office of the Attorney General.

  
Charles Flanagan TD  
Minister for Justice and Equality.

  
Séamus Wolfe SC  
Attorney General of Ireland.



## Note on Taxation January 2020

*The following is intended as outline information only; (full details should be obtained on revenue website [www.revenue.ie](http://www.revenue.ie))*

### **PAYE Services:**

- [Review your tax for a previous year - PAYE customers](#)
- [Manage your tax for the current year - PAYE customers](#)
- [View your pay and tax](#)
- [File an Income Tax return: PAYE customers](#)
- [Create a summary of your pay and tax details](#)
- [Claim an unemployment repayment](#)
- [Add a job or a pension](#)

### **Tax Credit Certificates for 2021**

Tax Credit Certificates for 2021 are being issued at the moment. Members are advised to check their certificates to ensure that their entitlements are correctly reflected, particularly if there was any change in personal circumstances during 2020.

### **Tax Returns for 2020**

Members are reminded that P60s are no longer issued by employers/pension providers. Since 1 January 2019, the information on our pensions is being updated to the Revenue Commissioners on an ongoing basis. Details of earnings and tax deducted in 2020 can be accessed online by logging in to the myAccount section of the Revenue Commissioners website.

You can make your 2020 tax return by completing your Form 12 and/or make a Med 1 or Med 2 Health Expense claim or HK1 claim (allowance for employing a carer) or any other claims, online. Revenue is encouraging all taxpayers to use Revenue's online facility. The quickest and easiest way to complete an Income Tax Return is through PAYE Services in [myAccount](#). For all years you must complete an Income Tax Return to claim additional tax credits or declare additional income. You can do this by following these steps:

- sign in to myAccount
- click the 'Review your tax 2017 -2020' link in PAYE Services
- select 'Submit your Income Tax Return' for the appropriate year.

All Pay As You Earn (PAYE) customers must complete an Income Tax Return to:

- claim additional tax credits, reliefs or expenses
- declare additional income
- obtain a Statement of Liability for the year
- claim refunds of any tax or USC overpaid
- confirm any liability of any tax or USC underpaid.

**Four year time limit:** Claiming all the tax credits you are due ensures you receive your correct entitlements and pay the right amount of tax. There is a four year time limit on claiming tax refunds, so it is important to claim your entitlements on time. From 1 Jan 2021, you can claim your entitlements for tax years 2017 to 2020.

If you are unable to use myAccount you must complete and submit a paper [Income Tax Return](#) to receive a Statement of Liability. You can contact your local tax office (in writing or by phone – public offices are not

currently open due to Covid-19). The mailing address should be on previous correspondence you received from them.

In addition, the following are the Telephone helplines in operation at 4<sup>th</sup> January 2021 (per Revenue websire numbers shown on the Revenue website 4<sup>th</sup> January 2020).

<b>Helpline</b>	<b>Contact number</b>	<b>Opening hours</b>
National Employer Helpline	01 7383638	09:00 – 17:00
ROS Technical Helpdesk	01 7383699	09:00 – 17:00
National PAYE Helpline	01 738 3636	09:30 – 13:30
Local Property Tax Helpline	01 7383626	09:30 – 13:30
Business & Self Assessed	01 7383630	09:30 – 13:30
Collector General	01 7383663	09:30 – 13:30
Capital Acquisition Tax (CAT)	01 7383673	09:30 – 13:30
myAccount Registration	01 7383691	09:30 – 13:30
Central Repayments Office	01 7383671	09:30 – 13:30
Charities and Sporting Bodies	01 7383680	09:30 – 13:30
National Excise Licence Office (NELO)	01 7383640	09:30 – 13:30
Vehicle Registration Tax (VRT)	01 7383619	09:30 – 13:30
National Stamp Duty Office	01 7383646	10.00 – 13.00 ( <i>Tues &amp; Weds only</i> )

Further information will issue as the other Revenue telephone helplines continue to open.

- Enquiries and correspondence on any matter can be sent through [MyEnquiries](#), our secure online service available in both [myAccount](#) and [ROS](#).

**Telephone Service Arrangements effective from Monday 4 January 2021:**

The following telephone services will open from 9.30 to 13.30:

- PAYE, CRO, CAT, MyAccount, VRT, Appointments Service and Charities
- IT/CT/CGT/RCT/ VAT/Registrations



- National Excise License Office
- Medium Enterprises Division
- Collector General's

The following telephone services will open from 9.00 to 17.00:

- Employers Helpline
- ROS Helpline
- E-Customs Helpline

Other services will open as follows:

- Local Property Tax from 9.30 to 16.30
- Customs Helpline from 00.00 to 24.00

The 24/7 Confidential Line for reporting suspicious or shadow economy activity will be open throughout the holiday period.

## **CAPITAL ACQUISITIONS TAX**

### **FORM IT38**

You may complete the IT38 form through Revenue Online Services (ROS) or myAccount.

If using ROS, we recommend that you complete the IT38 form using the ROS Offline Application and upload the saved file online. The online version of the form does not save to Work in Progress and it may time out before you have entered all the details.

For further information, please visit the [ROS Offline Application](#) section.

### **PAYMENTS:**

You can pay CAT for yourself or on behalf of a beneficiary using the following methods.

If you are a ROS customer, you can pay by:

- ROS Debit Instruction (RDI) at the time of filing if this is set up in advance
- Single Debit Instruction (SDI)
- Credit or Debit Card.

If you are using a TAIN certificate, you can pay by:

- Single Debit Instruction (SDI)
- Credit or Debit Card

by accessing any client services page and selecting the 'Submit A Payment' option.

Customers not registered for ROS can make a payment through [myAccount](#).

For further information, please visit the Revenue website at [revenue.ie](http://revenue.ie) [Gains, gifts and inheritance](#) section .

# Budget 2021

## Main social welfare changes and rates of payments



An Roinn Gnóthaí Postafóich  
agus Coimírce Sóisialaí  
Department of Employment Affairs  
and Social Protection

## €25.13 billion to be spent on Social Welfare in 2021

**State Pension** – Qualifying age to remain at 66 years

**Fuel Allowance** – an extra €3.50 in Fuel Allowance payment per week

**Living Alone Allowance** – €5 increase per week

**Carers** – Carer's Support Grant to be increased by €150 to €1,850

**Increases for Qualified Children** – €5 weekly increase for children age 12 and over;  
– €2 weekly for children up to age 12

**Illness Benefit** – number of 'waiting days' will reduce from 6 days to 3 days

**Parent's Benefit** – increases to 5 weeks for children born or adopted from 1 November 2019

**Disability Allowance** – earnings disregard will be increased by €20 per week to €140

**People with disabilities** – €1,000 grant to help people with disabilities to access employment

**Hot School Meals programme** – €5.5 million boost for programme extension in 2021

**Working Family Payment threshold** – €10 increase in weekly threshold (up to three children)

**Working Lone Parents** – income limit of €425 from employment to be removed

**Widowed Parents** – grant increases to €8,000 (up from €6,000) for recently bereaved partners

**Island Allowance** – increases from €12.70 to €20 per week

**Employment Supports** – additional €10 million in funding to help people get back to work with specific focus on youth unemployment

**Self-employed workers** – can earn up to €480 a month and keep their Pandemic Unemployment Payment

**Funding for €1,000 COVID-19 Enterprise Support Grant for self-employed** – doubled from €12m to €24m

**Christmas Bonus will be paid in early December 2020** – 15 month requirement reduced to 4 months for PUP and Jobseekers

## Improvements for Pensioners

- State Pension Qualifying Age to remain at age 66 from January – legislation to be implemented by end 2020.
- €5 increase in the weekly Living Alone Allowance from €14 to €19 paid to people aged 66 and over who are living alone – over 221,000 pensioners, widows/widowers and people with disabilities to benefit.
- Over 600,000 pensioners will benefit from the Christmas Bonus Double Payment.
- Fuel Allowance will increase by €3.50 to €28.00 per week – over 375,000 households to benefit.
- Island Allowance (paid to people living on certain offshore islands) to increase to €20 per week from January – an increase of €7.30 - first increase to the Island Allowance since it was introduced in 2000.
- Grant of up to €500 will be paid for hearing aids without requiring it to be matched by the customer.
- Hearing Aid repairs of up to €100 will no longer require matching funding by the customer.

## Families and Children

- Hot School Meals programme – Additional €5.5m for programme commencing in January 2021.
- €5 increase for qualified child dependants aged 12 and over, in all weekly payments.
- €2 increase for qualified child dependants up to age 12, in all weekly payments.
- Parent's Benefit increases to 5 weeks for parents of children born or adopted from November 2019 – an increase of 3 weeks.
- €10 increase in the weekly income threshold for Working Family Payment for families with up to three children – to help working parents on low incomes.
- Working lone parents will no longer lose their One-Parent Family Payment when their employment income exceeds the current €425 limit. This limit of €425 will be removed from April 2021.
- Newly widowed parents with dependent children will receive a grant of €8,000 from January 2021 – an increase of €2,000.

## Supports for People in Work

- The number of 'waiting days' for Illness Benefit will reduce from 6 days to 3 days for all new claims from the end of February 2021.
- Parent's Benefit increases to 5 weeks for parents of children born or adopted from November 2019 – an increase of 3 weeks.
- €10 increase in the weekly income threshold for Working Family Payment for families with up to three children – to help working parents on low incomes.
- Working lone parents will no longer lose their One-Parent Family Payment when their employment income exceeds the current €425 limit. This limit of €425 will be removed from April 2021.

## Supporting Carers and People with Disabilities

- €5 increase for qualified child dependants aged 12 and over, in all weekly payments.
- €2 increase for qualified child dependants up to age 12, in all weekly payments.
- Fuel Allowance will increase by €3.50 to €28.00 per week – over 375,000 households to benefit.
- Highest ever Carer's Support Grant of €1,850 per year (increase of €150) to be paid in 2021 – to benefit over 130,000 carers.



## Supporting Carers and People with Disabilities (continued)

- €5 increase in the weekly Living Alone Allowance from €14 to €19 for people with disabilities who are living alone – over 221,000 to benefit.
- Earnings disregard for people receiving Disability Allowance who are working to increase by €20 per week to €140.
- New €1,000 Training Grant to help people with disabilities who are seeking employment.

## Supports for People who are unemployed or on PUP

- A Christmas Bonus of 100% will be paid on an exceptional basis this year to recipients of the Pandemic Unemployment Payment and equivalent recipients of Jobseeker's Payments who have been on these payments for four months or more.
- Self-employed workers will be able to earn up to €480 a month gross and keep their Pandemic Unemployment Payment.
- Funding for €1,000 COVID-19-Enterprise Support Grant doubled to €24 million.
- The Part-Time Job Incentive scheme to be made available to the self-employed who intend to resume their business but can only do so intermittently or on a limited/reduced basis when they leave the PUP.
- €10 million is being provided towards employment supports for people who are unemployed, with specific focus on youth unemployment. This is in addition to the €112 million provided in the July Stimulus package.

## Christmas Bonus to be paid to 1.5 million people this year

### €349.3 million to be paid to long-term welfare recipients in December 2020

A 100% Christmas Bonus will be paid in December 2020 to recipients of long-term Social Welfare payments (min €20 payment).

**People in receipt of the following payments will receive the Bonus:**

- State Pensions and Widow's/Widower's/Surviving Civil Partner's Pensions
- Invalidity Pension, Blind Pension, Disability Allowance, Carer's Allowance, Carer's Benefit, Partial Capacity Benefit, Disablement Benefit, Domiciliary Care Allowance and Guardian's payments.
- One-Parent Family Payment, Long-term Jobseeker's Allowance, Jobseeker's Transition Payment, Deserted Wife's Benefit and Allowance and Farm Assist.
- Back to Work Enterprise Allowance, Community Employment, Rural Social Scheme, TÚS, Gateway and Job Initiative, Supplementary Welfare Allowance, Daily Expenses Allowance, Magdalene Commission Scheme.
- On an exceptional basis this year, recipients of the Pandemic Unemployment Payment and equivalent recipients of Jobseeker's Payments who have been on these payments for four months or more.

For more information check [www.gov.ie/deaso](http://www.gov.ie/deaso) and [www.citizensinformation.ie](http://www.citizensinformation.ie). Telephone the Department of Employment Affairs and Social Protection on 071 919 3302 or 1890 800 024 from 9a.m. to 5p.m., Monday to Friday. Telephone the Citizens Information Phone Service on 0761 07 4000, 9a.m. - 8p.m., Monday to Friday. This Fact Sheet is intended as a guide only and does not purport to be a legal interpretation.

# An Roimn Gnóthaí Fostaíochta agus Coimirce Sóisialaí

## Department of Employment Affairs and Social Protection

Maximum Weekly Rate (from week beginning 5 January 2021)	Personal Rate	Increase for a Qualified Adult	Increase for a Qualified Child
<b>Social Insurance Payments</b>			
State Pension (Contributory)			
- Personal Rate - Under 80	€248.30		Under 12
- Personal Rate - Aged 80 and over	€259.30		Age 12 + over
- Increase for Qualified Adult - Under 66		€165.40	
- Increase for Qualified Adult - 66 and over		€222.50	
Widow's / Widower's / Surviving Civil Partner's (Contributory) Pension / Deserted Wife's Benefit			
- Under 66	€208.50		€38
- Aged 66 and under 80	€248.30		€38
- Aged 80 and over	€259.30		€38
Invalidity Pension	€208.50	€148.90	€38
Carer's Benefit / Constant Attendance Allowance	€220		€38
Disability Benefit	€234		€38
Jobseeker's / Illness / Health & Safety / Injury Benefit	€203	€134.70	€38
Maternity / Paternity / Adoptive / Parental Benefit	€245		
Death Benefit (Occupational Injuries Scheme)			
- Under 66	€233.50		€38
- Aged 66 and under 80	€252.70		€38
- Aged 80 and over	€262.70		€38
Maximum Weekly Rate (from week beginning 5 January 2021)			
<b>Social Assistance Payments</b>			
State Pension (Non-Contributory)			
- Aged 66 and under 80	€237		Under 12
- Aged 80 and over	€247		Age 12 + over
- Increase for Qualified Adult - Under 66		€156.60	€38
Carer's Allowance - Under 66	€219		€38
- Aged 66 and over	€257		€38
Disability Allowance / Blind Pension	€203	€134.70	€38
Widow's / Widower's / Surviving Civil Partner's (Non-Contributory) Pension			
One-Parent Family Payment	€203		€38
Jobseeker's Allowance - Aged 26 or over	€203	€134.70	€38
Age 25	€203	€134.70	€38
Supplementary Welfare Allowance	€201	€134.70	€38
- Aged 25	€201	€134.70	€38
- Under 25 living independently with State support	€201	€134.70	€38
- Under 25 not living independently	€112.70	€112.70	€38
Firm Asist	€203	€134.70	€38

Working Family Payment (Weekly Family Income Supplement)	Family Size	2021 Income Limit
	1 Child	€541
	2 Children	€642
	3 Children	€743
	4 Children	€834
	5 Children	€960
	6 Children	€1,076
	7 Children	€1,212
	8 Children or more	€1,308
<b>Child Benefit</b>		
		2021 Rate
		€140 per child
Twins - Child Benefit is paid at one and half times (150%) the normal monthly rate for each child. All other multiple births - Child Benefit is paid at double (200%) the normal monthly rate for each child.		
<b>Other Social Welfare Payments</b>		
Guardian's Payment (Contributory and Non-Contrib)		2021 Weekly Rate
Fuel Allowance - Increase from January 2021		€86
Living Alone Allowance		€28
Island Allowance (specified offshore islands)		€19
		€20
<b>Other Social Welfare Payments</b>		
Domiciliary Care Allowance		2021 Monthly Rate
		€309.50
<b>Other Social Welfare Payments</b>		
Carer's Support Grant		2021 Annual Rate
Back to School Clothing & Footwear Allowance - each qualified child aged 4-11		€150
Back to School Clothing & Footwear Allowance - each qualified child aged 12 and over		€275
Widowed or Surviving Civil Partner Grant		€8,000
<b>Enhanced Illness Benefit for COVID-19 Absences</b>		
Personal Rate	Increase for a Qualified Adult	Increase for a Qualified Child
€350	Under 12	Under 12
	€134.70	€38
		Age 12 + over
		€45
<b>COVID-19 Pandemic Unemployment Payments (PUP)</b>		
Gross Weekly Earnings for or claiming PUP		PUP rate from 1 February 2021
Under €300		€203
Over €300		€250



# Cabinet approves publication of new Public Sector Pay Legislation

From Department of Public Expenditure and Reform

Published on 8 December 2020

Last updated on 8 December 2020

The Minister for Public Expenditure and Reform Michael McGrath TD, today (Tuesday), secured cabinet agreement for the publication of the Public Service Pay Bill (2020) which will enable progress on implementation of the Sláintecare Consultant Contract - a key element of the Sláintecare health reform agenda. The contract will require consultants employed by the State to focus 100 per cent of their time on public-only work within the public health system.

Under the Financial Emergency Measures in the Public Interest (FEMPI) Acts, no changes may be made to public service pay for particular groups or individuals in the absence of legislative amendment. This limits the Government's ability to deliver key policy commitments as they arise.

Minister McGrath commented,

"The Government is committed to reform of our health services and the Sláintecare Consultant Contract is key to that. This legislation will enable this Contract to be progressed by my colleague the Minister for Health over the coming months."

The Government also approved the signing of an order, as required under The Public Service Pay and Pensions Act 2017, for the completion of the operation of the Public Service Pension Reduction (PSPR) introduced under the Financial Emergency Measures in the Public Interest Acts. This means that PSPR will cease to apply to any public service pensions from 1st July 2021.

Minister McGrath said

"The Public Service Pension Reduction has made a significant contribution to stabilising the public finances since its introduction in January 2011. There has been an ongoing process of unwinding both pay cuts and pension reductions in recent years. As required by legislation, we are now at the point where the remaining 3% of public service pensioners must be removed from the impact of PSPR in the period ahead.

"Section 27 of the 2017 Act provided for the longest deferral, which was legally permissible, to the restoration of the pension reductions. It requires an order to be made by the 31st of December 2020 providing a date for the restoration of the pension reductions and I am advised that this requires the reduction to be restored within a reasonable time from the making of the Order which, having regard to the provisions of the Act, could not be later than the 1st of July 2021".

The unwinding of PSPR commenced in January 2016 and the requirement to set a date for its removal by 31st December 2020 was set out in the Public Service Pay and Pensions Act 2017. Approximately 4,000 current retirees will be impacted by the change.



**Alliance of Retired Public Servants**  
*Comhaontas Lucht Scortha na Seirbhísi Poiblí*

**Mr Michael McGrath T.D.**  
**Minister for Public Expenditure**  
**DPER**  
**Government Buildings**  
**Upper Merrion Street**  
**Dublin 2**

November 25<sup>th</sup> 2020

Dear Minister,

The Council of the Alliance of Retired Public Servants met by Zoom today, and agreed that you be requested to include the Alliance in discussions on a new Pay/Pensions agreement currently commencing. As you have already been informed, the Alliance which represents over 140,000 retirees from over 20 Organisations, has issues with the absence of a statutory forum for representation, and the repeated failure of Administrations to address our issues. The Alliance has noted your Party's commitment, while in Opposition, to facilitation representation of the Alliance at such talks.

Trusting you will see the wisdom in honouring that commitment

Yours truly

Joint Alliance Secretary,  
Chairperson,

The Alliance has not been idle over the last 9 months, ‘though their Biennial General Meeting due to have been held in May was cancelled. The Officer Board of the Alliance have met by Zoom several times and continued to campaign for its prioritised aims. Following the General Election, all Political Party leaders were written to, seeking to have the Alliance‘ aims included in the Programme for Government. Not only that, all 19 Independent T.Ds. were written to on the same basis. Following the formation of the Government, the Minister for Public Expenditure and Reform – Michael McGrath - was written to, seeking a meeting to explain to him in detail our priorities. Eventually we got an undertaking that he would meet us, but we still await a date (see below). The Council of the Alliance – which represents over 140,000 retirees in 20+ organisations – has met via Zoom recently. The Alliance supports the proposed I.R. amendments coming from Deputy Brid Smith, and they are very conscious of the need to retain parity. In the event of Deputy Smith’s amendments being successful, it is highly likely that the Alliance would be recognised as the representative body for all retired public servants, for the purpose of talks at the LRC – Labour Relations Commission, or other Fora.

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### **Meeting with DPER on December 17<sup>th</sup> 2020**

A short meeting between the Alliance Officers and DPER Officials took place at noon on December 17<sup>th</sup> 2020. The Agenda for this meeting included:

- the unwinding of the PSPR and FEMPI;
- an update on the new Pay Agreement – Building Momentum;
- CL 18/2020 on the extension of S/A provisions to retirees in single-sex arrangements;
- and the proposed meeting with Minister Michael McGrath set for the new year.

It was explained that the date for the final phase of PSPR has been fixed for 01/07/2021 which occurs during the lifetime of the new agreement effectively means that the provisions of the PSSA regarding the preservation of ‘parity’ is now secure until the end of 2022. We welcomed this but emphasised to the Officials that we believe we have a legitimate expectation for the preservation of Parity on a permanent basis. This will be our position when meeting with Minister McGrath.

The pay terms of ‘Building Momentum’ were briefly explained: 1% on 01/10/2021, and 1% on 01/10/2022. A further 1% from 01/03/2022 is available to alleviate/settle sectoral anomalies. It should be noted that this (latter) may not result in any increase to pensioned Public Servants if it is used for purposes which don’t affect all.

CI 18/2020 emanates from the Dept of Social Protection. It explains how amendments to the 1990 Pensions Act will allow partners/spouses of retirees in Single-sex arrangements to benefit from the S/A scheme. The circular is attached and you are asked to disseminate it as widely as you can among your members.

The meeting ended at 12.50 pm.

## YOUR WEBSITE

In order to keep our members abreast of developments between issues of our Newsletter and to give notice of Branch and other meetings, the website is updated regularly – see [www.rcpsa.ie](http://www.rcpsa.ie). The intention is that, over time, the website will become a valuable resource for members. Back copies of our Newsletter are available on the website. If you have any suggestions regarding the development of the website, please email them to RCPSA Admin at [techadmin@rcpsa.ie](mailto:techadmin@rcpsa.ie) and put Website in the subject title.

### **General Data Protection Regulation (GDPR) Statement by the RCPSA**

RCPSA takes data privacy seriously. We are committed to keeping your personal data secure and taking all reasonable precautions to do so.

#### **What are Your Rights?**

- You have the right of access to personal data we hold about you.
- You have the right to have incorrect or incomplete personal data we hold about you updated.
- You have the right to request that we erase the data we hold about you.

For the purposes of complying with GDPR the RCPSA confirms that the personal data supplied by our members (eg name, address, contact details) will be used only for the following purposes:

- The issuing of the RCPSA Newsletter.
- Making contact, by mail, email, text or webtext (individual or bulk messaging) as appropriate, about matters relating to or of relevance to membership of the RCPSA.
- Sharing information with the relevant pension provider in order to process/update the personal information of members.

We do our best to protect your data. The personal data of members will be retained securely for the abovementioned purposes and will be deleted when the specific activity has ceased/come to an end (i.e. end of membership of the Association or etc.)

If you do not wish to receive publications or to be contacted by the Association generally, or have any other queries about the use of your personal data, please contact **the Hon. Secretary RCPSA (GDPR issue) at An Post Box 908, South City Delivery Office, Togher Industrial Estate, Cork, T12C825 or at [info@rcpsa.ie](mailto:info@rcpsa.ie)**



## WHOM TO CONTACT REGARDING PENSION IF A MEMBER DIES

If a civil service pensioner dies, the next of kin should, as soon as is practicable, notify the pension provider of the death. The Payroll Shared Services Centre (PSSC) pays the pensions of civil servants and several other retired public service groups. The PSSC has been asked to provide a list of the groups for whom they pay pensions and this page will be updated as the information becomes available. The PSSC will send the next of kin information about the steps to be taken and, in particular, details of how to apply for a Spouses' and/or Children's Pension.

If the person who died was in receipt of a pension from the Department of Employment Affairs and Social Protection, the next of kin should, as soon as is practicable, notify that Department of the death.

### Contact information for the PSSC

#### Phone:

All employees <b>excluding</b> Dept of Defence Soldiers, Officers and Reservists	076 100 2702
Department of Defence Soldiers	076 100 2703
Department of Defence Officers	076 100 2703
Department of Defence Reservists	076 100 2703

#### Email:

**PMG Retirees** [PSSCPensions@pssc.gov.ie](mailto:PSSCPensions@pssc.gov.ie)

**Military Retirees** [militarypensions@pssc.gov.ie](mailto:militarypensions@pssc.gov.ie)

#### Department of Defence Soldiers, Officers and Reservists

**Soldiers:** [soldiershelpdesk@pssc.gov.ie](mailto:soldiershelpdesk@pssc.gov.ie)

**Officers:** [officershelpdesk@pssc.gov.ie](mailto:officershelpdesk@pssc.gov.ie)

**Reservists:** [reserveshelpdesk@pssc.gov.ie](mailto:reserveshelpdesk@pssc.gov.ie)

All employees **excluding** PMG and Military Retirees and Department of Defence Soldiers, Officers and Reservists [helpdesk@pssc.gov.ie](mailto:helpdesk@pssc.gov.ie)

#### Post:

Payroll Shared Service Helpdesk, Deerpark Road, Killarney, Co Kerry, V93 KH28  
PSS Soldiers Helpdesk, Payroll Shared Service, Áras an tSáile, Renmore, Galway, H91 AN2E  
PSS Officers Helpdesk, Payroll Shared Service, Áras an tSáile, Renmore, Galway, H91 AN2E  
PSS Reservists Helpdesk, Payroll Shared Service, Áras an tSáile, Renmore, Galway, H91 AN2E

#### Widow's, Widower's or Surviving Civil Partner's Pension

If there is a surviving spouse, he or she may qualify for a Widow's, Widower's or Surviving Civil Partner's Pension. It is advisable to write to the Department of Employment Affairs and Social Protection as early as possible or to call in to a Citizens Information Centre. There is a Citizens Information Centre in each county in Ireland for personal callers.

The Citizens Information website has a lot of very useful information to help members through the very difficult time following the death of a family member - see

[https://www.citizensinformation.ie/en/death/when\\_someone\\_dies\\_in\\_ireland.html](https://www.citizensinformation.ie/en/death/when_someone_dies_in_ireland.html)

## **Invitation to Join the Retired & Civil Public Servants' Association**

*There is strength in numbers*

*Ní neart go cur le chéile*

The Retired Civil and Public Servants Association was founded in 1945. Membership is open to all retired Civil Servants and Public Servants, including P&T members from An Post, Eircom, Irish Aviation Authority, Coillte, Teagasc and professional groups approved in accordance with Rules. This includes widowed persons in receipt of a pension.

### ***What do we do?***

Our mission is to defend and promote the interests of members.

### ***How do we do this?***

We engage on our own and with other organisations representing retired public servants, seeking full pension restoration, protection of pensions entitlements, improvements and better services for members. We engage directly with Government representatives, making submissions on relevant Annual Budget issues. We have representation on the Alliance of Retired Public Servants, the ICTU Retired Workers Committee and the National Federation of Pensioner Associations.

### ***Organisation***

We are governed by the Rules of the RCPSA that have been adopted by members and subject to change by the democratic agreement of the membership. We inform members on issues of interest through publication of regular Newsletters (currently 4 per year), use of our website, [www.rcpsa.ie](http://www.rcpsa.ie), Facebook and attendance by Council members at Branch AGM's.

### ***Invitation:***

We would like to invite retired colleagues to join the Association. A strong membership is needed to ensure an authoritative voice.

The annual membership subscription is €20. The Payroll Shared Services Centre (PSSC) and An Post will deduct this in fortnightly instalments of 77c; Eir will deduct €1.67 in monthly instalments. Members from other professional groups can pay the Hon. Treasurer directly as outlined in the attached membership form.

**If you wish to become a member, please complete the application form and return it to the address shown below. Payment methods are outlined on the form.**

*Contact/Teagmháil*

**Address:**

**Membership Application, The Hon. Secretary RCPSA, An Post Box 908,  
South City Delivery Office, Togher Industrial Estate, Cork, T12C825**

**Email:** [info@rcpsa.ie](mailto:info@rcpsa.ie) **Mobile:** 087 1317062 **Website** [www.rcpsa.ie](http://www.rcpsa.ie)

# RCPSA

RETIREED CIVIL AND PUBLIC SERVANTS' ASSOCIATION  
COMHLACHAS IAR-SHEIRBHÍSEACH POIBLÍ AGUS STÁIT Established 1945

**Membership Application Form**

**001/2021**

**I wish to apply for membership of the Retired Civil and Public Servants' Association**

Official Name/Ainm: (Block caps)

Former Department/State Body:

Home Address/Seoladh: (Block caps)

Email Address:

Mobile:

Landline:

## **General Data Protection Regulation (GDPR)**

For the purposes of complying with GDPR the RCPSA is seeking your consent with regard to:

- o I consent to RCPSA issuing its Newsletter to the private address that I have provided.
- o I consent to sharing my information with my pension provider to process/update my personal information
- o I consent to the use of email for email communications.
- o I consent to the use of bulk texting services for scheduled texting communications.
- o I consent to the use of webtext for ad-hoc text communications.
- o I understand that my personal data will be retained for the achievement of the purposes of the association and will be deleted when the specific activity has ceased/come to an end (i.e. end of membership of the Association or etc.)

If you do not wish to be contacted by the Association, or receive publications, please tick this box.

**SIGNATURE:** \_\_\_\_\_ **DATE:** \_\_\_\_\_

**Payment Methods – see overleaf**

**Membership Application Form (contd)**

**Payment Methods**

**Deduction from Pension** – Payroll Shared Services Centre (PSSC), An Post & eir.  
Please go to **Panel 1**.

**Direct Payment** – Coillte and other professional members wishing to pay directly.  
Please go to **Panel 2**.

**Panel 1**

*Please send completed form to the address below.*

**To: Payroll Shared Services Centre (PSSC)**       **An Post Pensions Section**

*Tick appropriate box.*

I authorise the deduction from my pension the sum of 77c a fortnight (€20 annual) until further notice in respect of my subscription to the Retired Civil and Public Servants' Association.

**To: Eir Superannuation Division**

I authorise the deduction from my pension the sum of €1.67 a month (€20 annual) until further notice in respect of my subscription to the Retired Civil and Public Servants' Association.

**Pension number:**

**Group number:**

**PPS number:**

Signed/Síniú ..... Date/Dáta .....

**Panel 2**      *Please send completed form (and, for option A, subscription of €20) to the address below.*

Coillte       Other Professional Member       *Tick appropriate box.*

**(A) Payment by Cheque/Postal Order:**

To Hon Treasurer: I enclose a completed Membership Application Form and my payment of €20.

Signed/Síniú ..... Date/Dáta .....

**(B) Payment by Bank Transfer [Please remember to include your name/reference on the EFT]**

**Bank Account Name** – Retired Civil and Public Servants Association, Current Account

Bank of Ireland, Dundrum, Dublin 14; **Branch Code** 90-10-95; **Account no** 42444283

**Bank Identifier Code (BIC)** – BOFIE2D; **IBAN** IE48BOFI90109542444283

Payment of €20 will be deducted from my bank account during the month of: .....

Signed/Síniú ..... Date/Dáta .....

**Address:**

**Membership Application, The Hon. Secretary RCPSA, An Post Box 908, South City Delivery Office,  
Togher Industrial Estate, Cork, T12C825**