

# TECHNICAL BULLETIN

NO.1

AUGUST 2002



**TO ALL EMPLOYERS WITH MEMBERS IN THE LOCAL GOVERNMENT PENSION SCHEME. PLEASE ENSURE COPIES ARE PASSED TO RELEVANT STAFF.**

## **Introduction**

As you may be aware the SPFO has recently undergone a restructure with the creation of two new teams, Communications and Technical. You may already have had contact with the Communications team headed by Alistair Gray in their efforts to improve the flow of information between ourselves, employers, employees and pensioners.

The Technical team has been set up to give advice and backup to the staff of the SPFO in their efforts to provide a first class service. As a further part of our service we will endeavour to keep all our employers informed of any important changes to the regulations governing the scheme and to any office practices that may have an effect upon them. It is our objective to issue Technical Bulletins as and when required as well as posting the information on our website which can be located at [www.spfo.org.uk](http://www.spfo.org.uk).

## **Earnings Cap**

Members of the Local Government Pension Scheme who joined on or after 1 June 1989 are not permitted to pay contributions on, or have benefits calculated upon, earnings in excess of the 'earnings cap' which is set by the Inland Revenue. The earnings cap was raised on 6 April 2002 from £95,400 to £97,200. The Payroll Sections of employers participating in the Pension Fund should be made aware of this amount. Obviously the number of employees affected by this will be very limited and restricted to Chief Officers. If you have any questions regarding this please contact Tom Hammond on 0141 287 7441.