

TECHNICAL BULLETIN

NO.14

DECEMBER 2005



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

The Civil Partnership Act 2004

With effect from 5 December 2005, the Civil Partnership Act 2004 will allow same sex partners to register a civil partnership. The Local Government Pension Scheme regulations have now been amended (SSI 2005 No.554) to take this Act into account and once the partnership has been legally registered surviving dependents benefits will be payable.

The scheme regulations have been amended in respect of membership from 6 April 1988. At some future date it may be possible for members to count service between 1 April 1972 and 5 April 1988, however this is presently under consultation and no details are available other than that it will be at the member's own cost.

These provisions apply to current, deferred and pensioner members on service accumulated after 5 April 1988 and benefits will be calculated in the same way as spouse's benefits.

If any member registers a civil partnership this office should be notified in the same way that we should be informed of a marriage. We require the date that the partnership was registered, the partners name and Date of Birth along with verification that an authorised person within your authority has seen the civil partnership document. The member should also be made aware of the Nomination Form, which would enable prompt payment of any future death gratuity if completed.

If you have any further questions regarding this matter please contact either Tom Hammond on 0141 287 7441 or Sarah Mallon on 0141 287 7348.