

E157/19/2000

29 July 2008

Circular 17/2008: Retirement lump sums of groups covered by the recommendations of the Review Body on Higher Remuneration in the Public Sector

A Dhuine Uasail

1. I am directed by the Minister for Finance to refer to retirement lump sums of groups covered by the recommendations in Report No. 42 of the Review Body on Higher Remuneration in the Public Sector.
2. On 8 July 2008 the Government decided that all of the pending increases recommended by the Review Body on Higher Remuneration in the Public Sector in Report No. 42 dated 14 September 2007 will not be implemented. The issue will be reviewed in September 2010 but without commitment at this stage to the outcome.
3. In view of this decision, it has now been decided that from 8 July 2008 retirement lump sums will be based on the pensionable remuneration payable at the time of retirement only, subject to the rules governing superannuation including averaging. The death gratuity of an officer who dies in service after 8 July 2008 should be calculated on the same basis. Therefore, subject to Paragraph 5 below, from 8 July 2008 retirement lump sums and death gratuities will **not** be based on the full increases recommended by the Review Body. This revision alters from 8 July 2008 the terms previously sanctioned in Circular 35/2007, dated 2 November 2007. Pensions of the relevant grades are not affected by this decision.
4. The terms of this Circular will apply as appropriate to the public service groups covered by the terms of reference of the Review Body (as set out in the Body's report) **and** those whose remuneration is adjusted by reference to these groups.

5. In accordance with an earlier Government decision, groups covered by the terms of reference of the Review Body (other than Ministerial and Parliamentary office-holders) have received an increase of 5% from 14 September 2007, the date of the report of the Review Body, or where the total increase was less than 5%, the full increase from that date. Accordingly, some groups have already received the full increase recommended by the Review Body (since the increase was in the region of 5% or less) and are not affected by the terms of this Circular.

General

6. The terms of this Circular should be brought to the attention of the relevant organisations and persons coming within the remit of Departments.
7. Queries in relation to this letter from bodies/agencies should be dealt with by the line Department in the first instance, or, in the case of queries from line Departments, should be directed to Tony Jordan at tony.jordan@finance.gov.ie

Electronic Copies of Circular

8. This circular is also available on the Department's web-site at <http://www.finance.gov.ie>.

Mise le meas

Brendan Duffy
Assistant Secretary