EXPLANATORY NOTE

(This note is not part of the Regulations)

These Regulations amend the National Health Service Pension Scheme Regulations 1995 ("the principal Regulations") which provide for the superannuation of persons engaged in the National Health Service.

Regulation 3 amends the interpretation provisions in regulation A2 of the principal Regulations to add further definitions concerned with the introduction of piloted dental services under the National Health Service (Primary Care) Act 1997.

Regulation 4 amends regulation B2 of the principal Regulations to add a further restriction on membership of the National Health Service Pension Scheme.

Regulation 5 amends regulation D1(5) of the principal Regulations in order to comply with the provisions of section 49(8) of the Pensions Act 1995.

Certain providers and performers of piloted services are excluded from regulations E3 and E4 which are concerned with pensions for early retirement on grounds of redundancy, or with the employer's consent (regulations 6 and 7).

A new regulation R11 is substituted in regulation 8, which provides for the application of the principal Regulations in relation to persons engaged in the provision of services under dental pilot schemes introduced in accordance with the National Health Service (Primary Care) Act 1997.

Regulation 9 makes minor amendments to Schedule 2 to the principal Regulations.

These Regulations do not impose any costs on business.