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STATUTORY INSTRUMENTS

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**2008 No. 653**

**The National Health Service Pension Scheme Regulations 2008**

**PART 2**

**BENEFITS FOR OFFICERS**

**CHAPTER 2.D**

**MEMBERS' RETIREMENT BENEFITS**

*Options to exchange pension for lump sum*

**2.D.15 Option for members in serious ill-health to exchange whole pension for lump sum**

(1) An active member, a deferred member or a pension credit member may opt to exchange a relevant pension for a lump sum if the Secretary of State is satisfied that the conditions for the lump sum to be a serious ill-health lump sum for the purposes of the 2004 Act will be met (see paragraph 4 of Schedule 29 to that Act).

(2) For the purposes of paragraph (1), a “relevant pension” is a pension payable to that member under regulation—

- (a) 2.D.1 (normal retirement pensions),
- (b) 2.D.2 (pension credit members' pensions),
- (c) 2.D.8 (early payment of pensions: ill-health), or
- (d) 2.D.10 (early retirement on ill-health(deferred members)).

(3) The option may only be exercised—

- (a) in the case of a pension payable under regulation 2.D.1 or 2.D.2, before or at the time when the pension becomes payable,
- (b) in the case of a pension payable under regulation 2.D.8 or 2.D.10, before the pension becomes payable to the member.

(4) An active member aged 65 or over who exercises the option is to be paid, as soon as is reasonably practicable and before reaching the age of 75, an amount equal to the sum of—

- (a) the maximum lump sum to which the member could have become entitled on exercising the option under regulation 2.D.14 if at the appropriate time the member had become entitled to a pension under regulation 2.D.1, and
- (b) the total annual amount of the pension to which the member would have been entitled under regulation 2.D.1 after exercising that option, multiplied by 5.

(5) A pension credit member who exercises the option is to be paid, as soon as is reasonably practicable and before reaching the age of 75, an amount equal to the annual amount of the pension to which the member would have been entitled under regulation 2.D.2, multiplied by 5.

(6) An active member entitled to a pension under regulation 2.D.8 who exercises the option is to be paid, as soon as is reasonably practicable, an amount equal to the sum of—

- (a) the maximum lump sum to which the member could have become entitled on exercising the option under regulation 2.D.14 at the appropriate time, and
  - (b) the total annual amount of the pension to which the member is entitled under regulation 2.D.8 after exercising that option, multiplied by 5.
- (7) A deferred member entitled to a pension under regulation 2.D.10 who exercises the option is to be paid, as soon as is reasonably practicable, an amount equal to the sum of—
- (a) the maximum lump sum to which the member could have become entitled on exercising the option under regulation 2.D.14 at the appropriate time, and
  - (b) the total annual amount of the pension to which the member is entitled under regulation 2.D.10 after exercising that option, multiplied by 5.
- (8) In this regulation “the appropriate time” means—
- (a) for the purposes of paragraph (4) and (5) the time when the option under this regulation is exercised, and
  - (b) for the purposes of paragraphs (6) and (7) the time payment of the pension under regulation 2.D.8 or, as the case may be, 2.D.10 would otherwise first be due.
- (9) In this regulation references to the “annual amount” of a pension are to the amount of the annual pension to which the member would be entitled, together with any increases payable under the Pensions (Increase) Act 1971, calculated as at the appropriate time.
- (10) The option under this regulation may only be exercised by notice in writing to the Secretary of State in such form as the Secretary of State requires.