



28 July 2009

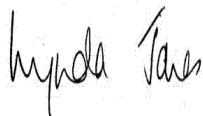
Supplementary Guidance for Independent Registered Medical Practitioners qualified in occupational medicine (IRMPs)

Attached is guidance issued jointly by Communities and Local Government and the Faculty of Occupational Medicine, to help Independent Registered Medical Practitioners (IRMPs) who are asked to make an assessment under the ill health provisions in the Local Government Pension Scheme (LGPS) Regulations.

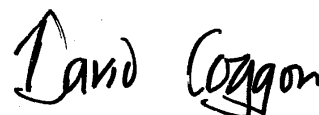
Under revised LGPS Regulations, a completely new ill health retirement benefits scheme came into effect from April 2008, and this supplementary guidance has been developed to address various concerns that have been brought to our attention by occupational physicians who advise local government employers.

The supplementary guidance does not replace the regulations or CLG's earlier guidance on them that was published in November 2008. Rather, it aims to clarify further the role of the IRMP and the medical advice that is being sought when a referral is made under the LGPS ill health regulations. Importantly, it aims to ensure that IRMPs do not give advice that extends beyond their professional competence (e.g. relating to an employee's aptitude for different types of work rather than just the effects of illness or injury on his/her capacity to obtain and carry out paid work).

Any queries on the LGPS ill health regulatory framework should be sent, in the first instance, to Nicola Rochester (Nicola.rochester@communities.gsi.gov.uk or 020 7944 6016)



Lynda Jones
CLG



Professor David Coggon
President
Faculty of Occupational Medicine