

**Reference No:** P18/31/78;     **Date:** 07/06/79

**Circular 27/1979:- Amendment of Civil Service Widows' and Children's Contributory Pension Scheme**

A Dhuine Uasail,

I am directed by the Minister for the Public Service to inform you that, following discussions with staff interests, the above Scheme has been amended, with effect from 1 January, 1979, so as to provide for

(a) the award of children's pension in respect of a member's step-children at the same rate and subject to the same conditions as if they were the member's own children

(b) the payment of the enhanced rate of widow's pension due in respect of the first month of widowhood (under paragraph 2 (5) of Appendix I to Circular 15/76) before the end of that month.

2. Departments with delegated authority to award pensions under the Scheme may pay the amount due in respect of the enhanced rate of widow's pension as soon as they are satisfied that the widow is entitled to benefit under the Scheme. The amounts paid can then be recouped from the Accounts Branch, Department of Finance, as part of the normal quarterly recoupment in respect of superannuation payments.

Mise, le meas,

William P. Smith