A Chara,

I am directed by the Minister for the Public Service to refer to the revision of the above scheme, as outlined in Circular Letter 1/86, and in particular to paragraphs 6-7 of that Circular Letter, concerning option arrangements for serving employees.

I am to say that at the request of the Union Side, it has been agreed that the closing date for the exercise of options by serving employees (i.e. employees serving prior to 1 June 1986) should be extended by one month, up to 30 June 1986. Employees in your Department/Office who have not yet completed and returned their option forms should be notified accordingly.

It should be noted that the provisions of Circular Letter 1/86 are not otherwise affected by the extension referred to above. Specifically, the extension does not affect -

(a) Paragraph 4, whereby membership of the revised Scheme is compulsory for employees appointed on or after 1 June 1986, or

(b) Paragraph 10, which fixes 1 June 1986 as the commencement date for the deduction of periodic contributions in the case of serving employees who were not members of the existing Scheme and who opt to join the revised Scheme.

Mise le meas,

John Mc Hale
Principal
Pensions Section