

## **DE/2026-078 – Freedom of Information Request**

### **Request:**

Under the Freedom of Information Act 2000, I would be grateful if you could provide the following information in relation to the administration of the Northern Ireland Teachers' Pension Scheme.

1a. For the financial year 2022/23, how many members of the Northern Ireland Teachers' Pension Scheme were identified as having received pension overpayments?

1b. Of those overpayment cases identified in 2022/23, how many were attributed to administrative or processing errors by Teachers' Pensions staff, systems, or pension calculation processes?

1c. What was the highest pension overpayment identified in 2022/23?

1d. What was the lowest pension overpayment identified in 2022/23?

2a. For the financial year 2023/24, how many members of the Northern Ireland Teachers' Pension Scheme were identified as having received pension overpayments?

2b. Of those overpayment cases identified in 2023/24, how many were attributed to administrative or processing errors by Teachers' Pensions staff, systems, or pension calculation processes?

2c. What was the highest pension overpayment identified in 2023/24?

2d. What was the lowest pension overpayment identified in 2023/24?

3a. How many complaints relating to the Northern Ireland Teachers' Pension Scheme were referred to the Pensions Ombudsman in:

- 2022/23
- 2023/24
- 2024/25

3b. Of those referrals, how many resulted in:

- findings of maladministration.
- compensation awards.
- or recommendations/directions against the scheme administrator?

### **Department Response:**

Thank you for your request for information, received by email on 02 May 2026, which is being dealt with under the terms of the above legislation.

I wish to confirm that the Department has now completed its search for the information which you requested, as follows:

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**1a. For the financial year 2022/23, how many members of the Northern Ireland Teachers' Pension Scheme were identified as having received pension overpayments?**

639 members.

**1b. Of those overpayment cases identified in 2022/23, how many were attributed to administrative or processing errors by Teachers' Pensions staff, systems, or pension calculation processes?**

16 cases.

**1c. What was the highest pension overpayment identified in 2022/23?**

\* Between £110,000 and £115,000.

**1d. What was the lowest pension overpayment identified in 2022/23?**

\*Less than £10

**2a. For the financial year 2023/24, how many members of the Northern Ireland Teachers' Pension Scheme were identified as having received pension overpayments?**

369 members.

**2b. Of those overpayment cases identified in 2023/24, how many were attributed to administrative or processing errors by Teachers' Pensions staff, systems, or pension calculation processes?**

22 cases.

**2c. What was the highest pension overpayment identified in 2023/24?**

\*Between £120,000 and £125,000.

**2d. What was the lowest pension overpayment identified in 2023/24?**

\*Less than £10.

**3a. How many complaints relating to the Northern Ireland Teachers' Pension Scheme were referred to the Pensions Ombudsman in:**

The Department of Education is not aware of the number of complaints relating to the Northern Ireland Teachers' Pension Scheme that were referred to the Pensions Ombudsman (TPO). The Department only becomes aware of such cases if they are accepted by TPO for investigation.

The number of cases accepted by TPO for investigation: -

- **2022/23**                      Less than 5
- **2023/24**                      0
- **2024/25**                      0

**3b. Of those referrals, how many resulted in:**

- **findings of maladministration – 0**
- **compensation awards – 0**
- **or recommendations/directions against the scheme administrator? – 0**

\* Disclosure of the exact figure could create a risk of identifying an individual, particularly when combined with other information that may be available. As such, this information is exempt under Section 40(2) of the Freedom of Information Act (personal data). A range has been provided to balance transparency with the need to protect personal data. As Section 40(2) is an absolute exemption a public interest test is not required.