



## Society of Actuaries in Ireland

### Press Release

17<sup>th</sup> September 2021

### **Society of Actuaries expresses concerns about regulation of pension schemes**

In its submission to the Pensions Authority on a draft Code of Practice for pension scheme trustees, the Society of Actuaries in Ireland has expressed concerns that the proposed new governance burden is excessive for some pension schemes and will not lead to optimal outcomes for members.

The Society supports the provision of a Code to assist trustees and their advisors in implementing the new governance requirements arising from the transposition of the IORP II Directive.

However, mindful that the Directive and the Code should seek to provide the best possible outcomes for pension scheme members, the Society is concerned that the minimum requirements proposed will be disproportionately onerous for small schemes and as a result, many schemes will cease to be viable.

The Society accepts that, for some schemes where governance falls short of reasonable expectations, the best outcome for members would be a transfer to an alternative arrangement. However, members of small, well managed schemes with strong employer support should not be forced into alternative arrangements – or wind-up, even – because of disproportionately onerous regulation.

The Society says that “The minimum should be pitched lower, with a requirement that larger/more complex schemes will do more. This reflects the intention set out in the Directive for proportionality in the application of its provisions.”

The Society’s submission can be viewed at <https://web.actuaries.ie/press/submissions>.

***Issued on behalf of the Society of Actuaries in Ireland by Setanta Communications.***

***For enquiries, please contact:***

Paul Torsney (Chair of Society of Actuaries in Ireland Pensions Committee), (086) 145 2871, [paul.torsney@lawdeb.com](mailto:paul.torsney@lawdeb.com)

Setanta Communications: Michael Moloney, (087) 258 7264, [mail@setanta.ie](mailto:mail@setanta.ie)

### ***Society of Actuaries in Ireland***

*The Society of Actuaries in Ireland is the professional body for actuaries practising in Ireland. Actuaries provide advice on and relevant solutions for financial, business and societal issues involving uncertain future events. Most of the Society's members work in the financial services industry, and members of the profession hold statutory or regulated roles relating to the financial management of pension schemes and insurance companies. The Society seeks to make an impartial contribution to public debate on social policy and public interest matters where an actuarial perspective can add value.*