

OCOP (99) 7
23 July 1999

HM TREASURY

OFFICIAL COMMITTEE ON OCCUPATIONAL PENSIONS

NOTE BY THE SECRETARIAT

NATIONAL FRAUD INITIATIVE (NFI): PENSIONS DATA MATCHING

Issue: National Fraud Initiative Pensions Data Matching

Action: Recipients to note that they may be approached or may wish to participate in next year's exercise

Background

The Audit Commission has been undertaking a National Fraud Initiative (NFI) by a process of data matching. Briefly this involves the cross referencing of material contained on many databases held within the public sector to throw up possible anomalies, eg detecting continuing payments to deceased pensioners by reference to the records of deceased persons held by the Contributions Agency

- 2 The Audit Commission is scheduled to run the exercise again next year in May 2000 and wishes to consult with interested parties about involving a wider tranche of the public sector in the future. Public service occupational pension schemes may therefore be approached to be asked if they wish to participate. Given that the exercise throws up potential fraudulent and overpayment claims, it is in schemes' interests to participate in the exercise. The Cabinet Office took part in this year's exercise and produced some fruitful leads on potential fraudulent claims

Further details

- 3 If you wish to know more about the work of the Audit Commission's Pensions NFI Data Matching project please contact: Peter Yetzes, Associate Director IT, Audit Commission, 1 Vincent Square, London SW1P 2PN, Tel 0171-828 1212, Fax 0171-976 6187

Action for departments with NDPBs

- 4 Sponsoring departments may wish to make non-departmental public bodies, for which they have responsibility which have occupational pension schemes, aware of this initiative

Enquiries

- 5 If you have any queries about this notice please contact, Gary Hansman, PSP team, HM Treasury, Parliament Street, London SW1P 3AG. Tel: 0171-270 4469, GTN 270 4469, Fax: 0171-270 5152

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