

OCOP(99)6  
15 June 1999

**HM TREASURY**

**OFFICIAL COMMITTEE ON OCCUPATIONAL PENSIONS**

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**ELECTRONIC DATA INTERCHANGE WITH THE NI CONTRIBUTIONS OFFICE  
(NICO)**

**Note by the Treasury**

As you may be aware the National Insurance Contributions Office (NICO) (formerly the Contributions Agency) has developed a system for submitting data electronically on certain forms relating to Appropriate Personal Pensions. OCOP (98)4 set out proposals for extending the scope of their existing EDI link to forms used by Contracted Out occupational pension schemes.

2. The attached letter of 10 June from NICO provides an update. Those public service schemes interested in the possibility of the electronic exchange of data with NICO, or who have already expressed interest, will wish to note

**DEANE M GABLE (Miss)**

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**Our Reference: John Smith  
IR COEG TSG**

**Date: 10 June 1999**

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Dear Alison

**Extending the Electronic Data Interchange (EDI) Service**

It is nearly 12 months since some representatives attended a meeting here in Newcastle about extending the scope of our existing EDI link to a number of forms used in the administration of Contracted Out Salary Related and Contracted Out Money Purchase Schemes. This note is simply to keep you informed of recent developments.

I have enclosed a copy of a letter that we have recently issued to those Pension Scheme Administrators who expressed an interest in using the facility.

Yours Sincerely

John Smith  
NI Technical Support Group  
Contracted Out Employments Group



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Dear

### **Extending the Electronic Data Interchange (EDI) Service**

- 1 It is nearly 12 months since some representatives attended a meeting here in Newcastle about extending the scope of our existing EDI link to (initially) a limited number of forms used in the administration of Contracted Out Salary Related and Contracted Out Money Purchase Schemes
- 2 The purpose of this letter is to let you know that despite the loss of momentum in recent months, the project is still very much alive and I hope that you have not been put off by the lack of significant progress. As you may be aware, difficulties are still being experienced with our replacement computer system (NIRS2) which has meant that new initiatives, like this one, have had to take a bit of a back seat. However it is not all bad news! Since April this year the Contributions Agency has become part of the Inland Revenue and the Revenue is very keen to promote EDI as a means of data submission. Inland Revenue has set up recently an Electronic Business Unit (EBU) whose role it is to look at electronic delivery of services across the board - not just in relation to COEG forms - and it is hoped, with the help of the EBU, to progress work on extending the existing EDI service in the not too distant future.
- 3 In the meantime I would like to apologise for the continuing delay and, rest assured, I will be contacting those who have expressed an interest in using the EDI facility about the way forward in due course.

Yours sincerely

John Smith  
NI Technical Support Group  
Contracted-Out Employments Group