



STRONGER TOGETHER

CONGRESS

Irish Congress of Trade Unions
Northern Ireland Committee

23rd September 2011

Conor Murphy MLA,
Chair, DFP Assembly Committee
Stormont
Belfast

Dear Mr. Murphy

N.I. Civil Service Equal Pay Settlement

I understand that your Committee is investigating this Settlement and that you may be taking evidence from the Civil Service Pensioners' Alliance (CSPA) in the near future. CSPA is very much involved in our Retired Workers Group and we have a keen interest in the outcome of your enquiries.

Whilst the main function of the Trade Union movement is to improve and protect the conditions of service of the current workforce, including the negotiation of pensions, we cannot let this case of discrimination against retired workers pass without comment. Our understanding is that the Minister has laid great store on the fact that he is not legally obliged to compensate the pensioners who have lost out. But Governments do a great deal that they are not legally obliged to do because, in their view, it is right to do so. There is, so far as we are aware, no legal reason why the pensioners should not be compensated and since they have done the work and earned the money then, in our view, they are entitled to it.

I do hope that you will give the CSPA delegation a sympathetic hearing and that once you have completed your enquiries you will be able to make a firm recommendation to the Minister that the pensioners should be compensated for their loyal service.

Yours sincerely

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Assistant General Secretary

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