



Commissioner for **Older People**
for Northern Ireland

16 December 2014

Stephen Todd
Assistant Assembly Clerk
Committee for Social Development
Room 410
Parliament Buildings
Stormont
Belfast
BT4 3XX

Dear Mr Todd

RE: COPNI Feedback on Draft Pensions Bill

I am writing to you in response to the Committee for Social Development's call for evidence on the Pensions Bill which is currently at the Committee scrutiny stage. I welcome the chance to give feedback on the Bill as it is constituted at the present time.

The State Pension is widely relied upon by older people and can be the most significant source of finance in retirement for many older people. It is important that any reform of Pensions impacts equally on all older people and improves older peoples' ability to both draw-on the pension they are entitled to plan adequately prior to retirement .

I have attached more detailed feedback on the Pensions Bill to this cover letter. I thank you again for the opportunity to make a submission to the Committee and look forward to continued engagement on the issue.

Yours sincerely

Emer Boyle
Head of Legal and Policy Advice
Commissioner for Older People for Northern Ireland