

25 February 2025

Implementation of Partial Retirement

The Health and Social Care Pension Schemes (Partial Retirement etc.) Regulations (Northern Ireland) 2024 came into operation on 1st April 2024.

I request under the Freedom of Information Act all information (including correspondence, forms, dates and consultation) held by the Trust in respect of the implementation of Partial Retirement.

The information has now been published in respect of Flexible Retirement.

Please find attached a copy of the Flexible Retirement Guidance BHSCT December 2024.

I would advise that Section 22 of the FOI Act and Section 36(2)(b)(ii) of the Freedom of Information Act 2000 – ‘Prejudice to Effective Conduct of Public Affairs’ exemption still applies.

Section 22

The out-workings of the regional group have been published as guidance, FAQs and relevant forms associated with the implementation of partial retirement

Draft versions of guidance or forms could have resulted in incorrect or outdated information being in circulation resulting in miscommunication or confusion

Section 36

Internal e-mail exchanges and regional discussions between HR colleagues were for the purpose of deliberating over the availability, source and timing of funding for additional resources to implement and administer the new partial retirement arrangements. The opinions expressed within are individual’s perspectives on what they considered to be the way forward based on their departmental and organisational needs to help inform implementation arrangements.