



NEWS RELEASE

APRIL 7 2010

Good news for “farm pensioners”

The Minister for Social and Family Affairs, Éamon Ó Cuív T.D., has announced that following a review by his Department, which included advice from the Office of the Attorney General, the decision in relation to the withdrawal or reduction of State Pension (Contributory) from certain people who had availed of commercial partnership arrangements, has been rescinded.

This decision will be backdated to the date on which State Pensions were withdrawn or reduced and all arrears due will be paid. Overpayments will no longer be sought. Applications received or applications refused before 31 December 2009 will be dealt with under the legislation at that time. This process will be completed within the next four weeks.

Applications received from 1 January 2010 will be processed under current legislation.

“I am delighted that, based on further legal advice, it has been possible to make this decision. I am aware of the distress this issue was causing and I am pleased that the matter has now been brought to a satisfactory conclusion”. Éamon Ó Cuív

PRESS RELEASE ENDS