



## **Public consultation on gender gaps arising within supplementary pensions in Ireland**

The Pensions Council (An Chomhairle Pinsean) was established by statute to “*advise the Minister, either on its own initiative or at the Minister’s request, on matters relating to pensions generally*”.

The Pensions Council invites submissions on gender gaps in supplementary pensions arising as a result of current practices within the supplementary pensions system in Ireland.

The Council has already published a wide-ranging report on '[Gender, Pensions and Income in Retirement](#)', pointing out that the elimination of the gender pension gap would require, among other points, changes that lie outside the domain of current pension rules, such as increased provision for childcare and other measures that would improve female participation in the workforce.

At the request of the Minister, the Council now seeks to review more specifically the rules governing supplementary pensions. Our aim is to identify current measures or gaps within those rules that may Give rise to gender gaps in supplementary pension income, and to advise the Minister accordingly.

In March 2021, the OECD launched the report '[Towards Improved Retirement Savings Outcomes for Women](#)', outlining a possible range of methods for reducing the gender gap. We would be glad to hear your views on these methods and how they might apply to Ireland.

Submissions are invited in writing from any interested party on this topic.

For the sake of clarity:

- This review covers only the rules and laws governing supplementary pensions.
- It does not cover State pensions such as the Contributory or Non-Contributory Old Age Pensions.
- We welcome examples of individual problems that illustrate aspects of gender discrimination in relation to supplementary pensions, but the Council has no powers to offer individual advice or to change the current rules applying to such cases.

### **How to respond**

Your comments, observations and submissions should be submitted, preferably by electronic mail, to: [info@pensionscouncil.ie](mailto:info@pensionscouncil.ie), or by post to the Pensions Council, Verschoyle House, 28-30 Lower Mount Street, Dublin 2, D02 KX27.



An Chomhairle Pinsean  
The Pensions Council

**The closing date for submissions is Monday 21 June 2021**

Please note that all comments, observations and submissions received are subject to the Freedom of Information Act 2014. Responses to the consultation may be published on the Pensions Council website.

The Pensions Council [privacy statement](#) sets out how the Authority operates Data Protection principles and rules.