

## Freedom of Information Request

**Request:**

Perhaps you could clarify where the pension contributions of all NHS staff are sent. furthermore if this data is not held - how are pensions now worked out in the NHS.

**Status:** Complete**Response Date:** 30 June 2010

Pension contributions for individual scheme members are collected by the NHS Employer and are forwarded to NHS Pensions electronically. From NHS Pensions' the monies are forwarded to Central Government Accounts, which come under the control of the Treasury.

Whilst the individual contributions paid by scheme members form a percentage of their pensionable pay (ie pay excluding overtime, certain bonuses and allowances etc), NHS pensions are also funded by NHS Employer pension contributions for each scheme member. These Employer contributions are treated in the same way as the employee pension contributions and move through to Central Government Accounts.

The resulting pensions themselves are worked out from the final pay on which the pension contributions were collected. In the case of most ordinary NHS employees (like Registered Nurses) pensions are generally based on the formula "Final pay X total pensionable service in years, divided by 80". For (self employed) General Practitioners the calculation is different but still works the pension out from pay. So, unlike personal pension schemes, there is no straight link between the pension contributions paid in and the pension paid out.

For more information about how NHS pensions are calculated you may wish to visit our website [www.nhsbsa.nhs.uk/pensions](http://www.nhsbsa.nhs.uk/pensions) and peruse our general Scheme Guide.