Reports that the Government is considering a u-turn on the agreement reached for members of the current pension schemes will have alarmed teachers and other staff in the public sector.

These concerns have been highlighted by the imminence of the report of the Pensions Committee, chaired by Lord Turner.

The press reports are pure speculation. The National Union of Teachers, alongside the other teachers’ organisations; public service unions; and the TUC, was party to the agreement reached with the Government. The agreement was reached in good faith. The Union has received no indication from Government sources to doubt its implementation. Talks on the application of the agreement to teachers will continue.

The NUT will act swiftly to protect the interests of teachers if the agreement is now called into question.

NUT General Secretary, Steve Sinnott, said:

“The agreement that members of the current pension scheme should continue to be able to retire at age 60 on full pension is a ‘done deal’.

NUT members will be kept informed by the Union. We will respond strongly and urgently if there is any move by the Government to ‘unpick’ what has been agreed.”