

Bulletin index by issue

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Bulletin 7: April 2018

Calendar of events

FPS

- Amendments to Firefighter Pension Schemes
- Website resource update
- Spouse's pension on early retirement from FPS 2006 and FPS 2015
- 2017/18 scheme return – scheme specific data
- Top Up grant 2018

Other News and Updates

- The Pensions Ombudsman (TPO) signposting
- Outcome of Walker v Innospec Ltd and others – implications for PSPS
- New style ESA (contribution-based ESA)

HMRC

- HMRC newsletters/bulletins
- Contracting-out reconciliation update
- Annual allowance calculator – temporarily unavailable

Training

- Special Members of the 2006 Scheme Refresher Workshop
- Fire and Police Local Pension Board Governance
- GDPR and TPR data requirements

Legislation

Useful links

Contact details

Appendices

- Appendix 1: The Pensions Ombudsman signposting template.

Bulletin 6: March 2018

Calendar of events

FPS

- Contribution rates 2018-19
- Year End Update 2018
- TPO determination on pensionable pay
- FPS 2015 Additional Pension purchase limit applicable for 2018-19
- LPB survey research report

Other News and Updates

- TPR – managing service providers
- TPO public service pension scheme statistics

HMRC

- HMRC newsletters/bulletins
- Contracting-out reconciliation update
- User research into scheme administrators with multiple scheme administrator IDs

Training

- GDPR and TPR data requirements
- Special Members of the 2006 Scheme Refresher Workshop

Legislation

Useful links

Contact details

Appendices

- Appendix 1: Firefighters' Pensions Contribution Rates 2018-19 (Employee and Employer.)
- Appendix 2: Firefighters' Pensions Year End. (FPS 2015 Additional Pension purchase limit applicable for 2018/19. Public Service Pension Indexation and Revaluation 2018. HMRC limits applicable from 6 April 2018. Automatic Enrolment Earnings Bands.)
- Appendix 3: LPB survey research report. (Based on survey to monitor the progress of LPBs since their establishment.)
- Appendix 4: TPR – Managing service providers. (Managing commercial relationships. Risk management and business continuity planning. Resolving issues. Useful links.)
- Appendix 5: TPO – public service pension scheme statistics. (Complaints, investigations, resolutions.)

Bulletin 5: February 2018

Calendar of events

FPS

- Abatement
- FPS Regulations and Guidance website – NEW!
- Public sector age discrimination appeals – EAT update

Other News and Updates

- GDPR
- ITM GDPR Bulletin – IMPORTANT!
- Public Service Pension Indexation and Revaluation 2018
- Indexation of GMP in public service pension schemes – consultation outcome
- McDonald (Respondent) v Newton or McDonald (Appellant) (Scotland) – Supreme Court Ruling – Pensioner on Divorce
- TPAS dispute function moves to TPO

HMRC

- HMRC newsletters/bulletins
- Contracting-out reconciliation update
- New Pensions Online service – User Research
- Lifetime Allowance 2018-19
- Relief at Source for Scottish Income Tax

Training

- GDPR and TPR data requirements

Legislation

Useful links

Contact details

Appendices

- Appendix 1: Abatement and PPA workshop slides from the LGA Fire Pensions Conference October 2016.
- Appendix 2: Public sector age discrimination appeals – EAT update. (Appeals heard in December 2017.)
- Appendix 3: GDPR guidance. (Specific to FRAs, encompassing six practical steps.)
- Appendix 4: GAD note setting out the impact of the extended interim arrangement for GMP indexation on the application of some of the Schemes' actuarial factors.
- Appendix 5: GMP trustee checklist – steps to be taken after reconciliation.
- Appendix 6: Relief at source for Scottish Income Tax.

Bulletin 4: January 2018

FPS

- Commutation factors – Modified members.
- Ill-health retirement and the Firefighters' Compensation Scheme quick guide
- IQMP Guidance – Edition 4 – October 2012
- Circular FPSC 9/2010
- Voluntary Scheme Pays

Other News and Updates

- Re-engagement of Senior Fire Officers Post-retirement: Response to Government Consultation
- Pensions Dashboard development day
- The Pensions Ombudsman Service (TPOS) newsletter 3

HMRC

- HMRC newsletters/bulletins
- Contracting-out reconciliation update
- Contribution holiday. Unauthorised Payments to HMRC – England Fire Authorities only
- Rebate of NI for retained modified members
- Annual Allowance Pensions Saving Statements 2016-2017
- Lifetime Allowance – Event reporting

Training

- GDPR

Legislation

Useful links

Contact details

Appendices

- Appendix 1: LGA quick guide to ill-health and injury benefits.
- Appendix 2: IQMP Guidance – Edition 4 October 2012.
- Appendix 3: FPSC 9/2010: Appeals to Board of Medical Referees - Processing of medical appeals.
- Appendix 4: Voluntary Scheme Pays – LGA Guidance Note 15.1.2018 updated 23.1.2018.
- Appendix 5: Member VSP Election Forms.
- Appendix 6: Scheme Manager VSP Election Forms.
- Appendix 7: Guidance on proportioning Scheme Pays Debit.
- Appendix 8: Pensions Dashboard development day slides.
- Appendix 9: Pensions Ombudsman Newsletter Issue 3 - January 2018.

Bulletin 3: November/December 2017

FPS

- Backdated elections to the 2006 modified scheme (RDS)
- Pension sharing on divorce (transitional members)
- Survivor benefits quick guide
- Voluntary Scheme Pays
- Local Pension Board (LPB) survey
- Local Pension Board (LPB) resources

Auto-Enrolment

- Transitional delay

Other News and Updates

- Autumn budget 2017 – GAD technical bulletin
- The Pensions Ombudsman Service (TPOS) newsletter
- TPR Governance and Administration Survey
- We have moved!

HMRC

- HMRC newsletters/bulletins
- Contracting-out reconciliation update
- Contribution holiday – unauthorised payments to HMRC – England Fire Authorities only
- Rebate of NI for retained modified members

Training

- Tax awareness seminars
- Ill-health discharges and medical appeals
- GDPR

Legislation

Useful links

Contact details

Appendices

- Appendix 1: LGA quick guide to survivor benefits.
- Appendix 2: Pensions Ombudsman Newsletter Issue 2 – 2.9.2017.
- Appendix 3: Tax awareness seminar flyer.

Bulletin 2: September/October 2017

FPS

- 2017 amendment orders
- Added pension
- Annual conference 2017
- Scheme Advisory Board website
- Annual Fire (England) Scheme Advisory Board subscription levy

Auto-Enrolment

- Transitional delay
- The Employers' Duties (Miscellaneous Amendments) Regulations 2017 [SI 2017/868]

Other News and Updates

- Government response to scams consultation
- GDPR
- Pensions dashboard
- We are moving!

HMRC

- HMRC newsletters/bulletins
- Contracting-out reconciliation update
- Outstanding queries

Training

- Tax awareness seminars
- LPB training reminder
- Save the date – annual conference 2018

Legislation

Useful links

Contact details

Appendices

- Appendix 1: LGA summary of changes made by Amendment Orders SI 2017/892 and SI 2017/888.
- Appendix 2: LGA letter of 5 December 2017 setting out this year's Fire (England) Scheme Advisory Board levy.
- Appendix 3: TPR's presentation – data challenges in the pensions landscape and GDPR.
- Appendix 4: Pensions Dashboard Project – newsletter on developments.
- Appendix 5: Summary of outstanding FPS-related enquiries with HMRC.
- Appendix 6: Technical note on correct tax treatment of ill-health pensions paid from Compensation Scheme to retained firefighters employed before 6 April 2006.
- Appendix 7: Tax awareness seminars hosted and run by Barnett Waddingham.

Bulletin 1: July/August 2017

FPS

- Meet the bluelight team
- Home Office assumptions exercise
- tPR governance and admin survey
- Brewster case
- Voluntary Scheme pays

Other News and Updates

- GDPR
- State Pension Age review
- Supreme Court case – Walker v Innospec

HMRC

- HMRC newsletters/bulletins
- Contracting-out reconciliation update
- Outstanding queries

Training

- “Wrap-up” board training
- LGA pension update
- Save the date

Legislation

Useful links

Contact details

Appendices

- Appendix 1: HO letter: Financial arrangements for firefighter pensions – LOGASnet Returns: Pension Estimates 2017/18 to 2023/24.
- Appendix 2: Spreadsheet: Pension Top-up grant 2018. Pension Deficit/Surplus Estimates 2017/18 – 2023/24 Declaration of assumptions.
- Appendix 3: tPR presentation. Firefighters’ pension schemes. Full set of survey results 2016.
- Appendix 4: tPR presentation. Firefighters’ pension schemes.
- Appendix 5: LGA note - “Voluntary Scheme Pays” in the Firefighters’ Pension Schemes.
- Appendix 6: Summary of outstanding FPS-related enquiries with HMRC.
- Appendix 7: The procedure for each FRA to report and pay the tax due on unauthorised payments (contributions holiday).
- Appendix 8: A spreadsheet for each FRA to complete with details of unauthorised payments (contributions holiday).
- Appendix 9: Agenda for local pension board “wrap up” training.