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Bulletin 76: December 2023

Calendar of events

FPS

- 2020 Valuation – Firefighters’ Pension Scheme (England)
- Matthews – Deceased members
- Matthews – Supporting documents
- Matthews – Breaches of law
- Age Discrimination Remedy – Immediate Choice Remediable Service Statement (IC RSS)
- Firefighters’ Pension Scheme Contacts
- Technical query log

FPS England SAB Updates

- Festive Greetings from the SAB Chair
- SAB meeting 14 December 2023
- SAB response to Consultation on the amendments to the Firefighters’ Pension Scheme (England) Regulations 2014

Other News and Updates

- The Pensions Dashboard Programme – proposed staging date and timeline
- The Pensions Dashboard Programme – Frequently Asked Questions Newsletters
- The Pensions Dashboard Programme – Blog on recent queries
- PASA dashboard guidance
- The Pensions Ombudsman – Annual report 2022/23
- The Pensions Ombudsman – Response to Court of Appeal ruling
- The Pensions Regulator – Cyber security guidance

HMRC

- Lifetime allowance guidance newsletter – December 2023
- Pension Schemes Newsletter 154 – November 2023

Events

- FPS coffee mornings
- Local Pension Board Training

Useful links

Legislation

- Statutory Instruments

Contact details

Bulletin 75: November 2023

Calendar of events

FPS

- Matthews – GAD calculator
- Matthews – Deceased members
- Matthews – Monitoring and reporting
- Matthews – Supporting documents
- Matthews – Consequential loss claims
- Age Discrimination Remedy – Member Contingent Decisions guidance
- Firefighters' Pension Scheme Valuation
- Short Guide to the Firefighters' Pension Scheme 2015
- Retirement FPS 2015 factsheet
- Eligibility to join FPS 2015
- Firefighters' Pensions – Payroll working group
- Technical query log

FPS England SAB Updates

- SAB LPB effectiveness committee vacancy
- SAB website

Other News and Updates

- Cumbria FRS Job Vacancy
- New pensions minister
- The Pensions Regulator – 2022/23 Governance and Administration survey results
- Pensions Dashboard Programme (PDP) latest news
- Pensions Dashboard Programme (PDP) publishes research into the public value of dashboards

HMRC

- 2022/23 Event Reporting – Annual Allowance Statements & Lifetime allowance

Events

- FPS coffee mornings

Useful links

Contact details

Bulletin 74: October 2023

Calendar of events

FPS

- Matthews – Supporting documents
- Matthews – Data Sharing Agreement
- Matthews – GAD Calculator: Input and Output Specification
- Matthews – Corrective action
- Matthews – Pay assumption
- Matthews – Reference pay
- Matthews – Individuals who defaulted on payments in the first options exercise
- Age Discrimination Remedy – GAD tax and interest calculator
- Age Discrimination Remedy – Contingent Decisions guidance
- Age Discrimination Remedy – Accounting information
- Firefighters' Pension Scheme Adjustment in respect of 2021 and 2022 Revaluation
- Technical query log

FPS England SAB Updates

- SAB LPB effectiveness committee vacancy
- SAB website

Other News and Updates

- LGA vacancy – Firefighters' Pensions Adviser
- LGA vacancy – Programme Support Officer
- Isio pension training programme for FRAs
- The Pensions and Lifetime Savings Association (PLSA) – updated guidance
- The Pensions Regulator blog
- Automatic enrolment bill gets Royal Assent
- The Pensions Dashboards Programme – FAQs newsletter

HMRC

- Age Discrimination Remedy – HMRC member tax adjustment calculator
- Age Discrimination Remedy – Pension Saving Statements and Pension Input Amounts

Events

- FPS coffee mornings

Legislation

- Statutory Instruments

Useful links

Contact details

Bulletin 73: September 2023

Calendar of events

FPS

- Firefighters' Pension Schemes (England) (Amendment) Order 2023
- Matthews – supporting documentation
- Disclosure Requirements
- Age Discrimination Remedy – terminology
- Age Discrimination Remedy – GAD Tax and Contribution Calculator
- Age Discrimination Remedy – funding update
- Age Discrimination Remedy – member videos
- Fire England updated Government Actuary's Department (GAD) factors
- Concurrent Service – interbrigade transfers
- Annual Allowance factsheet
- Annual Allowance 2022/2023 note
- Firefighters' Pensions (Remediable Service) (Wales) Regulations 2023
- Firefighters' Pensions (Remediable Service) (Scotland) Regulations 2023
- Firefighters' Medical Appeals Board – Tender outcome
- Technical query log

FPS England SAB Updates

- SAB meeting 14 September 2023

Other News and Updates

- Public Service Pensions (Valuations and Employer Cost Cap) Directions 2023
- Publishing Annual Benefit Statements 2023 to 2025
- PASA's dashboard data accuracy guidance
- TPR's Pension Scams Reporting campaign
- Pensions Dashboard Programme – introduction to dashboards webinar

HMRC

- Public Service Pensions Remedy – member calculator
- Abolition of the LTA – our consultation response
- HMRC Managing Pension Schemes Service Newsletter – September 2023

Events

- FPS coffee mornings
- Firefighters' Pensions Annual Conference

Legislation

- Statutory Instruments

Useful links

Contact details

Bulletin 72: August 2023

Calendar of events

FPS

- Age discrimination remedy:
Warm up letters, Remediable Service Statements
- Age discrimination - Contributions Calculator
- Technical query log

FPS England SAB Updates

- SAB website

Other News and Updates

- Firefighters Pensions Team
- The Pensions Dashboards (Amendment) Regulations 2023
- Pensions Dashboards Programme Newsletter
- The Pension Regulator (TPR) – Scheme Return
- The Pensions Ombudsman – Incorrect information member factsheet
- Pensions Administration Standards Association – Data guidance on DB benefit accuracy
- Government Actuary appointed
- The Money and Pensions Service publish 2023/24 corporate plan
- The Money and Pensions Service publish review into pension scams

HMRC

- Secure Data Exchange Service (SDES)
- The Public Service Pension Schemes (Rectification of Unlawful Discrimination) (Tax) (No.2) Regulations 2023
- HMRC Public Service Pensions Remedy Newsletter

Events

- FPS coffee mornings
- Firefighters' Pensions AGM – London – 19 and 20 September 2023

Legislation

- Statutory Instruments
- Directions Orders

Useful links

Contact details

Bulletin 71: July 2023

Calendar of events

FPS

- Home Office collection of FPS forecasts for 2023-24 to 2028-29
- Age discrimination remedy:
 - Retrospective remedy, Contributions Calculator inputs, Interest and Tax, Pension scams, Warm up letters, Ill-health reassessment member outcome letters
- Firefighters' Pension Scheme Adjustment in Respect of 2021 and 2022 Revaluation
- Government Actuary's Department (GAD) – updated factors
- Member benefit illustrations – FPS Northern Ireland
- Pension entitlements for Retained Firefighters 2023 – FPS Wales
- Technical query log

FPS England SAB Updates

- Government Actuary's Department (GAD) – Matthews benefit Calculator
- Cost Effectiveness Committee Meeting
- Cost Effectiveness Committee Appointment

Other News and Updates

- Firefighters' Pensions – Pension Advisor Role(s) vacancy
- The Public Service Pensions and Judicial Offices Act 2022 (Commencement No. 2) Regulations 2023
- The Pensions Regulator (TPR) – survey
- Staging dates – The Pensions Regulator (TPR) expectations
- The Pensions Dashboards Programme (PDP) video: An introduction to the dashboards available point
- Pensions Dashboards (Amendment) Regulations 2023
- The Police Pensions (Remediable Service) Regulations 2023
- The Teachers' Pension Scheme (Remediable Service) Regulations 2023

HMRC

- Pension Schemes Newsletter 151 – June 2023
- Pension Schemes Newsletter 152 – July 2023
- Abolishing the pensions lifetime allowance
- Age discrimination remedy – Member tax calculator

Events

- FPS coffee mornings
- Firefighters' Pensions AGM – London – 19 and 20 September 2023

Legislation

- Acts
- Statutory Instruments

Useful links

Contact details

Bulletin 70: June 2023

Calendar of events

FPS

- Consultation on retained firefighters' pensions: Proposed changes to the Firefighters' Pension Scheme (England) 2006
- Consultation on The Public Service Pension Schemes (Rectification of Unlawful Discrimination) (Tax) (No.2) Regulations 2023
- Data collection for 2015 remedy
- Firefighter Pay Scales
- Home Office collection of FPS forecasts for 2023-24 to 2028-29
- Added Years Factsheet
- Government Actuary's Department (GAD): Data Projects and Long-Term Strategy
- Remedy readiness self-assessment tool
- Data Conference Q&As – Pensions Dashboards
- Remedy member examples by GAD
- Technical query log

FPS England SAB Updates

- SAB meeting 8 June 2023
- SAB response to the Consultation on retained firefighters' pensions: Proposed changes to the Firefighters' Pension Scheme (England) 2006
- SAB response to HMRC Consultation on The Public Service Pension Schemes (Rectification of Unlawful Discrimination) (Tax) (No.2) Regulations 2023

Other News and Updates

- McCloud – unions granted right to appeal cost cap mechanism
- Pensions Dashboard Programme
- The Pension Regulator's (TPR) dashboard blog
- TPR's response to the delay in the dashboard deadline
- Dashboard Values Guidance
- TPO expands network of volunteers
- Voluntary NI contributions deadline extended

HMRC

- Pension Schemes Newsletter 150

Events

- FPS coffee mornings

Useful links

Contact details

Bulletin 69: May 2023

Calendar of events

FPS

- Consultation on The Firefighters' Pensions (Remediable Service) Regulations 2023
- The Pensions Regulator (TPR) data requirements – 2023 scheme return
- Ill-health re-assessment IQMP template referral letters available
- Government Actuary's Department (GAD) – updated factors
- Age Discrimination remedy – Data Sharing
- Technical query log

FPS England SAB Updates

- SAB response to the Consultation on The Firefighters' Pensions (Remediable Service) Regulations 2023
- SAB Guidance Note on Pensionable Pay Remedies
- SAB collaboration session on Matthews remedy
- SAB website

Other News and Updates

- The Scottish Firefighters' Pension Scheme: Consultation on implementing the 2015 Remedy
- The Police Pension Schemes' Consultation response to Retrospective remedy
- Public Service Pensions – cost control mechanism and reformed scheme only design
- Automatic enrolment – call for evidence
- Consent and authorisation wording for dashboards
- Pensions Dashboards latest news
- Pensions Dashboards (Prohibition of Indemnification) Act 2023
- "Where to go for help with your pension complaint" factsheet
- Capita cyber security incident
- Club transfers – extending the 12-month time limit
- NHS Pension Scheme consultation: changes to contribution thresholds

HMRC

- The Public Service Pension Schemes (Rectification of Unlawful Discrimination) (Tax) (No.2) Regulations 2023
- Proposed Public Service Pension Schemes – Rectification of Unlawful Discrimination – Tax Administration Regulations Summary
- Remedy newsletter – May 2023

Events

- Fire and Police Data Conference
- FPS coffee mornings

Legislation

Useful links

Contact details

Bulletin 68: April 2023

Calendar of events

FPS

- Consultation on the Firefighters' Pension Schemes (Remediable Service) Regulations 2023
- Consultation on the Retained Firefighters' Pensions: Proposed changes to the Firefighters' Pension Scheme (England) 2006
- Fire England – Commutation on retirement factors and guidance update
- Secondary Contracts – Injury and death benefits
- Matthews Poster
- Annual Benefit Statements 2023
- FPS 1992 Commentary
- Ill Health process guide
- LTA Factsheet
- Annual Allowance – impact of backdated pay award
- Generic text for estimate/retirement letters
- Industrial Action template letter
- Request for contact details
- HMRC retained firefighter bulletin
- Technical query log

FPS England SAB Updates

- SAB representation at Matthews Technical Working Group
- SAB website

Other News and Updates

- Scape Discount Rate Methodology Consultation Response
- The Pensions Regulator (TPR) dashboard webinar
- The Pensions Regulator Corporate plan 2023/24
- Voluntary NI contributions deadline extended
- McCloud remedy consultation – Welsh firefighters

HMRC

- Lifetime allowance guidance newsletter – March 2023
- HMRC issues newsletter 149

Events

- FPS coffee mornings
- Fire and Police pensions data conference – 17 May 2023

Useful links

Contact details

Bulletin 67: March 2023

Calendar of events

FPS

- Consultation on the Firefighters' Pension Schemes (Remediable Service) Regulations 2023
- Top up grant 2023 – Collection of pensions accounting data
- FPS annual update 2023
- Website downtime
- Technical query log

FPS England SAB Updates

- SAB meeting 23 March 2023

Other News and Updates

- Farewell from Claire Hey
- Judgement on cost cap mechanism
- DWP supports expansion of auto enrolment
- DWP announces delays to dashboard connection deadlines
- Spring budget 2023
- PDP issues March newsletter
- GAD publishes blog on pensions dashboards data matching
- Police remedy consultation launched
- The Pension Regulator publishes blog
- SCAPE Discount Rate methodology consultation response

HMRC

- Pension schemes newsletter 148

Events

- FPS coffee mornings
- Fire and Police pensions data conference – 17 May 2023
- Training and events – 2022/23 facts and figures

Legislation

- Statutory Instruments

Useful links

Contact details

Bulletin 66: February 2023

Calendar of events

FPS

- New webpage on the FPS Member website
- Data collection for the 2015 Remedy
- FPS Contribution Bandings for 2023-24
- Matthews pre-work factsheet for FRAs
- Technical query log

FPS England SAB Updates

- SAB meeting 23 January 2023

Other News and Updates

- Appointment to the Bluelight team
- DWP appoints new chair of MaPS
- DWP appoints Mary Starks to lead review of TPR
- Pensions dashboards newsletter
- The Bereavement Benefits (Remedial) Order 2022
- Tax rules for 2015 remedy laid
- Public Service Pension Indexation and Revaluation 2023

HMRC

- Pension schemes newsletter 146 and 147

Events

- FPS coffee mornings
- LGA/National Police Chiefs' Council data conference – London – 17 May 2023 (save the date)
- FPS AGM – London – 19 to 20 September 2023 (save the date)

Legislation

- Statutory Instruments

Useful links

Contact details

Bulletin 65: January 2023

Calendar of events

FPS

- Ill-health reassessment factsheet updated
- Template member consent letters available
- Potential Industrial Action
- Technical query log

FPS England SAB Updates

- Barnett Waddingham Case Study on FPS Remedy 2015 – Your Questions Answered Member Communications
- SAB levy 2022-23 – Reminder for Purchase Order numbers
- SAB remedy engagement sessions

Other News and Updates

- PDP publishes consumer protection video
- Automatic Enrolment trigger remains the same
- Dominic Harris starts as Pensions Ombudsman
- Public sector unions granted judicial review over McCloud cost remedy

HMRC

- LGA and SAB responses to the consultation on the Public Services Pension Schemes (Rectification of Unlawful Discrimination) (Tax) Regulations 2023

Events

- FPS coffee mornings

Useful links

Contact details

Bulletin 64: December 2022

Calendar of events

FPS

- IQMP central list
- New address for Health Partners (Board of Medical Referees)
- New webpage created – Retrospective remedy
- Consolidated Regulation 65
- Retained firefighter Employment Tribunal pension claims
- Technical query log

FPS England SAB Updates

- Festive message from the Chair of the SAB
- SAB remedy engagement sessions

Other News and Updates

- HM Treasury publishes remedy Directions
- PDP approach to governance of standards
- Consultation on regulatory framework for dashboard operators
- Deferred connection guidance published
- Early connection guidance updated
- PDP December newsletter
- Deputy Pensions Ombudsman
- TPR's joint regulatory strategy update

HMRC

- HMRC publishes pension schemes newsletter 145

Events

- FPS coffee mornings

Legislation

- Statutory Instruments

Useful links

Contact details

Bulletin 63: November 2022

Calendar of events

FPS

- Age discrimination remedy – Ill-health factsheet on reassessment of cases
- Pension Scheme Transitional Protections: Injury to Feelings employment tribunal hearing 14-28 October – hearing vacated
- Technical query log

FPS England SAB Updates

- SAB levy 2022-23 – Request for Purchase Order numbers
- SAB remedy engagement sessions

Other News and Updates

- PDP publishes updated standards
- PDP Webinars
- TPO – Factsheets
- TPR consultation on dashboard enforcement
- Regulators issue scam warning to pension schemes and savers
- TPR blogs
- GAD blog on Public Service Pension Schemes
- Autumn Statement 2022
- New ministerial appointments

HMRC

- HMRC publishes newsletter 144
- Public service pensions remedy newsletter
- Consultation on The Public Services Pension Schemes (Rectification of Unlawful Discrimination) (Tax) Regulations 2023

Events

- FPS coffee mornings

Legislation

- Statutory Instruments

Useful links

Contact details

Bulletin 62: October 2022

Calendar of events

FPS

- Matthews – FPS member website update
- Matthews – Member warm up communications
- IQMP – Central list
- Fire and Rescue workforce and pension statistics published
- Technical query log

FPS England SAB Updates

- SAB remedy engagement sessions
- SAB letter to scheme managers on pension dashboards

Other News and Updates

- Public sector unions granted judicial review over McCloud cost remedy
- A day in the life of The Pensions Ombudsman (TPO)
- The Pensions Regulator (TPR) enforcement and prosecution policies updated
- The Pensions Regulator (TPR) speech at PLSA conference
- Pension Dashboards – Draft guidance on deferring staging date published
- Pension Dashboards – Progress update report
- Pension Dashboards – Videos published
- Department for Work and Pensions (DWP) respond to further consultation on dashboards
- Research on public value of dashboards published
- Update on connecting early participants to the dashboard ecosystem
- Financial Conduct Authority (FCA) warn that cost-of-living crisis could increase pension scams
- September 2022 CPI rate announced

HMRC

- Pension Schemes newsletter 143
- Message from HMRC on the 2021/22 event reporting mechanism
- Lifetime Allowance

Events

- FPS coffee mornings
- FPS AGM – Event summary

Legislation

- Statutory Instruments
- Draft dashboard regulations laid for approval

Useful links

Contact details

Bulletin 61: September 2022

Calendar of events

FPS

- Immediate Detriment Framework guidance updated
- Potential industrial action
- Member communications following eligibility factsheet
- Technical query log

FPS England SAB Updates

- SAB levy 2022-23
- SAB meeting 8 September 2022
- SAB remedy engagement sessions
- SAB collaboration sessions on the Matthews remedy

Other News and Updates

- TPR scheme return
- TPR warns employers about auto-enrolment duties
- PDP consultation response
- Public sector exit payments
- Pensions awareness campaign postponed

HMRC

- HMRC publishes Pension Schemes Newsletter 142

Events

- FPS coffee mornings
- AGM – 25 and 26 October

Useful links

Contact details

Bulletin 60: August 2022

Calendar of events

FPS

- Age discrimination eligibility – Factsheet
- Abatement guidance updated
- Electric vehicles salary sacrifice
- Technical query log

FPS England SAB Updates

- SAB remedy engagement sessions

Other News and Updates

- The Pensions Ombudsman (TPO) publishes corporate plan
- The Pension Regulator (TPR) publishes scam prevention strategy
- Draft LGA response to PDP consultation and call for input
- Data matching guidance updated
- Guidance on Value Data for pensions dashboards
- Pension awareness campaigns

Events

- FPS coffee mornings
- AGM – 25 and 26 October

Useful links

Contact details

Bulletin 59: July 2022

Calendar of events

FPS

- Administrator self-assessment survey results
- FPS 2006 special members – Corrective action
- Service history data for transitional FPS 2015 members
- Age discrimination remedy – Data sharing
- Duradiamond – Contract extension
- Technical query log

FPS England SAB Updates

- FPS 1992 Scotland – commutation provisions
- 2020 Valuation assumptions
- Contingent decisions
- Membership, committees, and training
- Software suppliers

Other News and Updates

- Public sector unions granted judicial review over McCloud cost remedy
- TPO Annual Report and Accounts for 2021/22
- TPO McCloud factsheet published
- TPR Annual Report and Accounts for 2021/22
- Dashboard Accuracy Data Guidance
- DWP responds to consultation on the draft pensions dashboards regulations
- LGA response to further consultation on pensions dashboards
- PDP launches consultation and call for input on standards and guidance
- Webinar for potential dashboard providers
- Cyber Risk Made Simple Guide

HMRC

- HMRC publishes Pension Schemes Newsletter 140 and 141
- Clarification received on annual allowance changes

Legislation

- The Public Service Pensions (Employer Cost Cap and Specified Restricted Scheme) Regulations 2022

Events

- FPS coffee mornings
- AGM – 25 and 26 October

Useful links

Contact details

Bulletin 58: June 2022

Calendar of events

FPS

- Home Office collection of FPS forecasts for 2022-23 to 2027-28
- Matthews – Lessons learned
- Immediate Detriment Framework costing and assumption guidance
- Bluelight inbox and query form
- Annual Benefit Statements 2022 – Information factsheet
- Technical query log

FPS England SAB Updates

- SAB respond to HM Treasury's letter

Other News and Updates

- DWP call for evidence – helping savers understand their pension choices
- Further consultation on Pensions Dashboards launched
- PDP update
- TPR Deadline Campaign for Pensions Dashboards
- TPR corporate plan 2022 to 2024
- TPR blog on pensions scammers
- State pension triple lock reinstated

Job vacancies

- Vacancy at Nottinghamshire Fire and Rescue Service
- Vacancy at West Midlands Fire Service
- Vacancy at London Fire Brigade
- Vacancy at West Sussex County Council

Events

- FPS coffee mornings

Useful links

Contact details

Bulletin 57: May 2022

Calendar of events

FPS

- Matthews – Second options exercise
- Ill-health “underpin”
- Abatement guidance
- Software workshop
- Annual Benefit Statements 2022
- FRA pension contacts
- Technical query log

FPS England SAB Updates

- TPR factsheet
- SAB remedy engagement sessions

Other News and Updates

- Vacancy at West Yorkshire Fire and Rescue Service
- Vacancy at London Fire Brigade
- TPO – New online application launched
- TPO webinars
- TPR – Enforcement and prosecution policies consultation
- PASA releases cybercrime protection checklist
- DLUHC publishes statutory guidance on special severance payments

HMRC

- HMRC publishes Pension Schemes Newsletter 139
- HMRC publishes Pension Schemes Newsletter 138

Events

- FPS coffee mornings
- Payroll workshop

Legislation

Useful links

Contact details

Bulletin 56: April 2022

Calendar of events

FPS

- Matthews – Second options exercise
- Payroll workshop
- FRA pension contacts
- Technical query log

FPS England SAB Updates

- Member benefit illustrations
- SAB respond to Home Office consultation response on prospective remedy

Other News and Updates

- Appointment to the Bluelight Team
- Vacancy at Mid and West Wales Fire and Rescue Service
- TPO – Early resolution factsheet updated
- TPO News – March 2022
- Combatting pension scams
- Annual allowance changes
- PASA publishes fraud guidance on pre-employment vetting
- PDP progress update report published

HMRC

- Managing pension schemes service newsletter – April 2022
- Guaranteed Minimum Pension (GMP) equalisation newsletter – April 2022

Events

- FPS coffee mornings
- FPS AGM – London – 25 and 26 October 2022 (save the date(s))
- CIPFA annual conference for Pension Board members

Useful links

Contact details

Bulletin 55: March 2022

Calendar of events

FPS

- Home Office consultation response and amending legislation
- Matthews – Second options exercise
- Member communications post 1 April 2022
- Contingent decisions – Optant outs
- Cost control valuation 2016 finalised
- Top up grant 2022 – Collection of pensions accounting data
- FPS annual update 2022
- Technical query log

FPS England SAB Updates

- FPS 1992 Scotland – commutation provisions
- HMT respond to the SAB on immediate detriment

Other News and Updates

- PSPJOA 2022 receives Royal Assent
- DWP consultation on pensions dashboards
- The Finance Act 2022
- Mandatory scheme pays deadlines are changing
- Job vacancy at the LGA

Events

- FPS coffee mornings

Legislation

Useful links

Contact details

Bulletin 54: February 2022

Calendar of events

FPS

- Immediate Detriment Framework – Update on current position
- Abatement update
- Preparation for 1 April 2022
- Scheme members with fixed or enhanced lifetime allowance (LTA) protection
- FPS contribution rates 2022-23
- Administrator self-assessment survey launched
- Technical query log

FPS England SAB Updates

- FPS Remedy 2015 – Your questions answered
- Joanne Livingstone responds to letter from South Yorkshire Local Pension Board
- SAB SMA committee vacancy

Other News and Updates

- Head of pensions
- DWP consultation on pensions dashboards
- TPO webinars
- State Pension age review: call for evidence
- Automatic enrolment trigger remains the same

HMRC

- HMRC publishes Pension Schemes Newsletter 137
- Managing Pension Schemes service – migration of schemes

Events

- FPS coffee mornings

Legislation

Useful links

Contact details

Bulletin 53: January 2022

Calendar of events

FPS

- Immediate Detriment Framework – Update on position from FRAs
- LGA response to Home Office consultation
- Age discrimination remedy help and support
- Administrator remedy self-assessment survey
- Technical query log

FPS England SAB Updates

- LGA vacancy – Firefighters’ Pensions Adviser – Governance
- SAB response to Home Office consultation
- SAB levy 2021-22 – Request for Purchase Order numbers
- SAB SMA committee vacancy

Other News and Updates

- DWP consultation on pensions dashboards
- Public Service Pension Indexation and Revaluation 2022
- TPO webinars
- Judicial review challenging McCloud consultation dismissed
- DWP responds to “stronger nudge” consultation
- Vacancy at Avon Fire and Rescue Service

HMRC

- HMRC newsletters/bulletins
- Managing Pension Schemes service – message to FRAs

Events

- FPS coffee mornings

Legislation

Useful links

Contact details

Bulletin 52: December 2021

Calendar of events

FPS

- Immediate Detriment Framework update
- Technical query log

FPS England SAB Updates

- FRA remedy self-assessment survey research report and Chair's Christmas message
- Open letter from SAB to HMT on withdrawal of ID guidance
- SAB SMA committee vacancy

Other News and Updates

- Appointment to the Bluelight Team
- Vacancy at West Yorkshire Fire and Rescue Service
- Vacancy at North Wales Fire and Rescue Service
- PDP December newsletter
- New TPO resources

HMRC

- Enrolment on MPS

Events

- FPS coffee mornings

Legislation

Useful links

Contact details

Bulletin 51: November 2021

Calendar of events

FPS

- Home Office consultation: Amendments to the FPS in England 2022
- Immediate Detriment Framework updates
- Age discrimination remedy – member letters 1 April 2022
- Guide to combining pension scheme service updated
- A to Z of pension terms updated
- Technical query log

FPS England SAB Updates

- SAB SMA committee vacancy

Other News and Updates

- Finance (No.2) Bill 2021/2022
- Proposed amendments to the PSPJO Bill
- Legal challenge: remedy costs and cost control mechanism
- Pension scams: new restrictions on transfers
- PDP November newsletter
- TPO stakeholder survey

HMRC

- HMRC newsletters/bulletins
- Managing Pension Schemes service
- 2020/21 Event Reporting – Annual Allowance Statements and Lifetime Allowance

Events

- FPS coffee mornings

Legislation

Useful links

Contact details

Bulletin 50: October 2021

Calendar of events

FPS

- Immediate Detriment Framework
- FPS Member website resources added
- Fire and Rescue workforce and pensions statistics published
- Consultation on FPS Wales
- Technical query log

FPS England SAB Updates

- SAB LPB effectiveness committee vacancy

Other News and Updates

- HMT consultation response: cost control mechanism
- The Public Service Pensions (Valuations and Employer Cost Cap) (Amendment) Directions 2021
- September 2021 CPI rate announced
- New webpage on how to avoid the Ombudsman
- PDP staging call for input summary

HMRC

- HMRC newsletters/bulletins
- Contracting-out reconciliation update

Events

- FPS coffee mornings

Useful links

Contact details

Bulletin 49: September 2021

Calendar of events

FPS

- Two pension award case study
- LGA vacancy – Firefighters’ Pension Adviser - Employers
- Technical query log

FPS England SAB Updates

- SAB LPB effectiveness committee vacancy

Other News and Updates

- Public Service Pensions and Judicial Offices Bill receives Second Reading
- Government suspends earnings part of “the triple lock”
- Auto-enrolment news
- PLSA publishes “An Employer’s Guide to Talking About Workplace Pensions”
- HM Treasury responds to Committee’s report on public service pensions

HMRC

- HMRC newsletters/bulletins

Events

- FPS coffee mornings

Legislation

Useful links

Contact details

Bulletin 48: August 2021

Calendar of events

Actions arising from Bulletin

FPS

- PSP&JO Bill Home Office guidance
- LGA update on the PSP&JO Bill
- Technical query log

FPS England SAB Updates

- SAB response to HMT consultations
- TPR publishes interim response to code of practice consultation

Other News and Updates

- Farewell from Clair Alcock
- Briefing paper on the PSP&JO Bill published
- TPR scheme return
- Guidance on GMPs and new State Pension
- Action Fraud webinars

HMRC

- Managing Pension Schemes (MPS) service
- HMRC newsletters/bulletins

Events

- FPS coffee mornings

Legislation

Useful links

Contact details

Bulletin 47: July 2021

Calendar of events

FPS

- PSP&JO Bill introduced
- Knowledge Hub technical forum reinstated
- Technical query log

FPS England SAB Updates

- TPR 2020-21 Governance and Administration survey
- Template FPS Administration Strategy published
- SAB response to pensions dashboards staging call for input

Other News and Updates

- Clair Alcock leaves the team
- HMT response to consultation on implementation of increased NMPA
- MHCLG consultation on special severance payments
- TPO's term of office extended
- Stronger nudge to pensions guidance consultation
- Actuarial, Benefits and Governance Consultancy Services Framework

HMRC

- HMRC newsletters/bulletins
- Contracting-out reconciliation update
- Pension Scheme Pays reporting: information and notice deadlines

Events

- FPS coffee mornings

Legislation

Useful links

Contact details

Bulletin 46: June 2021

Calendar of events

FPS

- Home Office informal immediate detriment guidance (June 2021)
- LGA immediate detriment information note – version 2
- Factsheets updated
- Technical query log

FPS England SAB Updates

- IDRP data request update
- FRA remedy self-assessment survey closing date

Other News and Updates

- GAD review of the cost control mechanism published
- HMT consultations published: cost control mechanism and discount rate methodology
- Pensions Dashboards Programme: Staging call for Input
- TPR publishes Equality, Diversity and Inclusion Strategy
- Finance Act 2021 receives Royal Assent
- MaPS MoneyHelper goes live
- DWP publishes consultation response on TPR powers

Events

- FPS coffee mornings

HMRC

- HMRC newsletters/bulletins

Legislation

Useful links

Contact details

Bulletin 45: May 2021

Calendar of events

Actions arising from Bulletin

FPS

- FPS member website launched
- Annual Benefit Statements 2021
- Technical query log

FPS England SAB Updates

- FRA remedy self-assessment survey launched
- Open letter from SAB to HMT on remedy consultation response

Other News and Updates

- PDP Call for Input on dashboard staging dates
- National Audit Office publish public service pensions report
- DWP consultation on pension scams
- Guidance for employers on providing support with financial matters

Events

- Virtual SAB update event
- FPS coffee mornings

HMRC

- HMRC newsletters/bulletins
- Migration to the Managing Pension Schemes service

Useful links

Contact details

Appendix

Appendix 1: HMRC letter to Pension Scheme Administrators and Practitioners “Migration to the Managing Pension Schemes service”

Bulletin 44: April 2021

Calendar of events

Actions arising from Bulletin

FPS

- Remedy data collection tools
- Annual Benefit Statements 2021
- Technical query log

FPS England SAB Updates

- IDR data collection: action needed
- FRA remedy self-assessment survey

Other News and Updates

- Hampshire and Isle of Wight FRSs combine
- Focus on. . . Pension Scams
- TPO turns thirty

Events

- Virtual SAB update event
- FPS coffee mornings

HMRC

- The Pension (Non-Taxable Payments Following Death) (Real Time Information) Regulations 2021
- Guidance on pension scheme rates and allowances

Legislation

Useful links

Contact details

Appendix

Appendix 1: IDR data collection spreadsheet

Bulletin 43: March 2021

Calendar of events

Actions arising from Bulletin

FPS

- LGA project management approach to age discrimination remedy
- Remedy data collection guidance
- FPS annual update 2021
- Top Up Grant 2021: Collection of pensions accounting data – action required
- March query log

FPS England SAB Updates

- SAB Administration and Benchmarking committee renamed
- FRA remedy self-assessment survey warm-up

Other News and Updates

- Government publish response to consultation on GMP indexation in Public Service Pension Schemes
- TPR consult on new modular code of practice
- Tax Day
- PASA guide to preparing for pensions dashboards

Events

- FPS coffee mornings

HMRC

- Setting the standard Lifetime Allowance from 2021/22 to 2025/26
- HMRC newsletters/bulletins
- Managing Pension Schemes service
- Contracting-out reconciliation update

Legislation

- **Welsh circular W-FRSC(2021) 04**

Useful links

Contact details

Bulletin 42: February 2021

Calendar of events

Actions arising from Bulletin

FPS

- Age discrimination remedy consultation response published
- Valuation (2016 and 2020)
- Transitional protections pensions claims: Schedule 22 appeal judgement
- Immediate Detriment
- Draft remedy data collection guidance
- FPS contribution rates 2021-22
- Lifetime allowance factsheet updated
- February query log

FPS England SAB Updates

- SAB LPB effectiveness committee vacancy

Other News and Updates

- Exit payments cap revoked
- HMT consult on implementation of increased normal minimum pension age
- Pension Schemes Bill becomes law
- PASA publishes GMP equalisation guidance on tax issues

Events

- FPS coffee mornings
- LGA Annual Fire Conference March 2021

HMRC

HMRC newsletters/bulletins

Legislation

Useful links

Contact details

Bulletin 41: January 2021

Calendar of events

Actions arising from Bulletin

FPS

- Age discrimination remedy consultation update
- Factors extended for FPS 2006 special member transfer service credits
- Firefighters' Compensation Scheme
- January query log

FPS England SAB Updates

- IQMP assessments
- TPR six key processes factsheet 2021
- SAB LPB effectiveness committee vacancy

Other News and Updates

- Public Service Pension Indexation and Revaluation 2021
- Restriction of exit payments update
- The Pensions Ombudsman (TPO) stakeholder newsletter
- Pensions Dashboards Programme – welcome to 2021
- Automatic enrolment (AE) earnings trigger annual review
- FCA publishes DB transfer advice tool
- Government updates Brexit pension guidance

Events

- FPS coffee mornings

Useful links

Contact details

Bulletin 40: December 2020

Calendar of events

Actions arising from Bulletin

FPS

- Joint statement on age discrimination remedy
- Standard wording for inclusion with CETVs in divorce cases (and others)
- December query log

FPS England SAB Updates

- Year-end message from the Chair
- SAB levy 2020-21 – Request for Purchase Order numbers reminder

Other News and Updates

- Cost-cap review stakeholder meeting
- Pension Dashboards Programme – key data standards published

Events

- FPS coffee mornings
- Training and events – 2020 facts and figures

HMRC

- HMRC newsletters/bulletins

Legislation

Useful links

Contact details

Bulletin 39: November 2020

Calendar of events

Actions arising from Bulletin

FPS

- Medical Appeal Boards service update
- Protected Pension Age – HMT easement ended
- Compensation Scheme – Qualifying Injury COVID-19
- FPS England actuarial factors and guidance notes
- FPS 2006 special member tax relief requests
- November query log

FPS England SAB Updates

- SAB levy 2020-21 – Request for Purchase Order numbers
- TPR 2019 Governance and Administration Survey

Other News and Updates

- Restriction of exit payments in the public sector
- TPR pledge to combat pension scams campaign
- ICO issue new statutory code of practice on DSARs
- DB schemes must equalise past GMP transfers

Events

- Joint Fire and Police CIPFA webinar – Sargeant/McCloud stakeholder management
- FPS coffee mornings

HMRC

- HMRC newsletters/bulletins

Legislation

Useful links

Contact details

Appendix

Appendix 1: Scheme Advisory Board Statutory Levy 2020/2021 – Form for FRAs to complete showing the number of their employees eligible for FPS membership (all schemes) as at 1 April 2019, together with a purchase order number.

Bulletin 38: October 2020

Calendar of events

Actions arising from Bulletin

FPS

- Age discrimination consultation responses
- Immediate detriment information note
- Special members of FPS 2006 – Second options exercise
- Scheme sanction charge
- Medical retirement IQMP certificates
- Fire and Rescue workforce and pensions statistics published
- Website and resources update
- October query log

FPS England SAB Updates

- Immediate detriment request for information – reminder
- SAB levy 2020-21 update

Other News and Updates

- Restriction of exit payments in the public sector
- Public Service Pensions GMP indexation consultation
- Update on TPR scheme return 2019-20
- TPO factsheet: Complaining to TPO on behalf of a deceased's estate
- Pensions Dashboard Programme update

Events

- Local Pension Board virtual training
- FPS coffee mornings

HMRC

- HMRC newsletters/bulletins

Legislation

Useful links

Contact details

Bulletin 37: September 2020

Calendar of events

FPS

- Home Office immediate detriment note update
- Website and resources update
- September query log

FPS England SAB Updates

- Template Pension Administration Strategy consultation response
- Immediate detriment request for information

Other News and Updates

- LGPS SAB draft McCloud response published
- Update on the single TPR Code of Practice
- Government confirms intention to increase minimum pension age

Events

- FPS AGM 22 and 23 September 2020 – event summary
- FPS coffee mornings

HMRC

- HMRC newsletters/bulletins

Useful links

Contact details

Appendices

Appendix 1: Template Pension Administration Strategy consultation response

Appendix 2: Immediate detriment request for information – link to Excel spreadsheet

Bulletin 36: August 2020

Calendar of events

Actions arising from Bulletin

FPS

- Home Office collection of FPS forecasts for 2019-20 to 2025-26
- Home Office immediate detriment note published
- Medical Appeal Boards – service update
- FPS England 2020 valuation data collection
- Consultation on FPS Wales
- Website and resources update
- August query log

FPS England SAB Updates

- New Chair of the FPS (England) Scheme Advisory Board
- SAB informal response to initial HMT remedy thinking
- COVID-19 FPS governance survey update

Other News and Updates

- The Pensions Regulator (TPR) scheme return 2019-20
- PSPS survey – modernisation of GAD's actuarial factors
- The Pensions Ombudsman (TPO) stakeholder newsletter

Events

- Virtual FPS AGM 22 and 23 September 2020
- FPS coffee mornings

HMRC

- HMRC newsletters/bulletins

Legislation

Useful links

Contact details

Appendices

Appendix 1: Home Office collection of FPS estimates for 2020-21 to 2025-26; formal commissioning letter

Appendix 2: Pension Deficit/Surplus Estimates 2019/2- to 2024/25; FRA's declaration of assumptions they have applied to calculate their pension estimates

Bulletin 35: July 2020

Calendar of events

Actions arising from Bulletin

FPS

- Sargeant remedy consultation published
- Raising tax awareness through job advertisements – update
- FPS England – 2020 valuation update
- Website and resources update
- July query log

FPS England SAB Updates

- Template administration strategy consultation – reminder
- SAB levy 2020-21

Other News and Updates

- Equalisation of male survivor benefits in public service pension schemes
- Government response to the consultation on restriction of exit payments in the public sector
- Government launch call for evidence on pensions tax relief
- TPO publish corporate plan 2020 – 2023
- TPR publish corporate plan 2020 – 2021
- PASA launches GMP equalisation guidance

Events

- FPS AGM – save the date(s): 22 and 23 September 2020
- FPS coffee mornings
- Local Pension Board wrap-up training 2020 – event summary

HMRC

- HMRC newsletters/bulletins

Useful links

Contact details

Bulletin 34: June 2020

Calendar of events

Actions arising from Bulletin

FPS

- FPS England – 2020 valuation final data specifications
- Protected Pension Age – HMT extension
- ABS 2020 – member communications
- Raising tax awareness through job advertisements
- Guide to linking benefits in the FPS
- IQMP patient confidentiality and the pension scheme rules
- Website and resources update
- June query log

FPS England SAB Updates

- COVID-19 FPS governance survey
- Template administration strategy consultation
- SAB minutes index

Other News and Updates

- TPO determine on data
- Pension dashboard update
- Transfer arrangements for CARE additional pension (FPS 2015)

Events

- FPS coffee mornings
- Annual Local Pension Board wrap-up training 2020

HMRC

- HMRC newsletters/bulletins

Legislation

Useful links

Contact details

Appendices

Appendix 1: Consultation on draft template FPS Administration, Management, Governance strategy

Appendix 2: Draft template FPS Administration, Management, Governance strategy

Bulletin 33: May 2020

Calendar of events

Actions arising from Bulletin

FPS

- Age discrimination update
- Protected Pension Age – HMT extension
- Claims for refunds of NICs – FPS 2006 special members – reminder
- Website and resources update
- IDRP guidance
- May query log

FPS England SAB Updates

- COVID-19 FPS governance survey
- Local Pension Board Knowledge Hub forum
- SAB policies

Other News and Updates

- LGA LGPS pensions team

Events

- FPS coffee mornings
- Annual Local Pension Board wrap-up training 2020

HMRC

- HMRC newsletters/bulletins
- Contracting-out reconciliation update

Useful links

Contact details

Bulletin 32: April 2020

Calendar of events

FPS

- Annual Benefit Statements (ABS) 2020
- Annual Benefit Statement 2019 survey results
- 31 March 2020 scheme valuation timeline
- Top Up grant 2020: Collection of pensions accounting data – action required
- Ill-health retirement applications
- It's good to talk . . . about pensions!
- FPS 2015 Added Pension factsheet
- April query log

Other News and Updates

- Letter from James Brokenshire MP
- The Pensions Ombudsman (TPO) newsletter 8
- Pension Dashboard Programme update

HMRC

- HMRC newsletters/bulletins
- Contracting-out reconciliation update

Legislation

Useful links

Contact details

Bulletin 31: April 2020 – interim bulletin

Calendar of events

FPS

- Top Up grant 2020: Collection of pensions accounting data
- FPS (England) – Factor Guidance Notes updated
- FPS annual update 2020

FPS England SAB updates

- IDRPs data collection: action needed

Useful links

Contact details

Appendix

Appendix 1: IDRPs data collection spreadsheet

Bulletin 30: March 2020

Calendar of events

FPS

- COVID-19 online survey: action needed
- Update on transitional protections remedy (Sargeant)
- FPS contribution rates 2020-21
- FPS annual update 2020
- Firefighters' Pension Schemes (England) – Factor Guidance Notes
- Suspension of medical appeal boards due to COVID-19
- March query log

FPS England SAB updates

- A fond farewell to our chair Malcolm Eastwood
- Malcolm Eastwood signs off
- IDRPs data collection: action needed
- Immediate event data request update

Other news and updates

- Spring Budget 2020

HMRC

- HMRC newsletters/bulletins

Training and events

- LGA annual fire conference – 10-11 March 2020 Blackpool

Legislation

Useful links

Contact details

Appendices

Appendix 1: Message from Malcolm Eastwood upon his retirement as chair of FPS England SAB

Appendix 2: IDRPs data collection spreadsheet

Bulletin 29: February 2020

Calendar of events

FPS

- Update on transitional protections remedy (Sargeant)
- Claims for refunds of NICs – FPS 2006 special members
- Firefighters' Pension Schemes (England) – Factor Guidance Notes
- Medical appeals forms
- Election to join FPS
- February query log

Other news and updates

- Public Service Pension Indexation and Revaluation 2020
- The Pensions Ombudsman (TPO) newsletter 7
- Auto Enrolment (AE) Earnings Trigger and Qualifying Earnings Band Review 2020
- DWP updates guidance on pensions after Brexit
- Pensions dashboards – Industry Delivery Group (IDG) blog

HMRC

- HMRC newsletters/bulletins

Legislation

Useful links

Contact details

Bulletin 28: January 2020

Calendar of events

FPS

- Update on transitional protections remedy (Sargeant)
- The Civil Partnership (Opposite-sex Couples) Regulations 2019
- Website resources updated
- Assistance required – national member website
- Recent TPO determinations
- January query log

FPS England SAB Updates

- Vacancy for the Chair of the FPS (England) SAB
- IDRPs data collection
- ABS 2019 survey – now closed

Other news and updates

- Progress of the Pension Schemes Bill

HMRC

- HMRC newsletters/bulletins
- Contracting-out reconciliation update
- Event report and voluntary scheme pays deadline

Training and Events

- 2020 events

Legislation

Useful links

Contact details

Appendix

- Appendix 1: Transitional protections remedy – information sheet for completion by FRAs to indicate number of members immediately affected

Bulletin 27: December 2019

Calendar of events

FPS

- Update on transitional protections remedy (Sargeant)
- Firefighters' Pension Schemes (England) – Factor Guidance Notes
- December query log

FPS England SAB Updates

- An end of year message from the Chair
- ABS 2019 survey – reminder of action required
- TPR data requirements – 2019 scheme return: update

Other news and updates

- Pension Schemes Bill reinstated

Training and Events

- 2019 facts and figures

Useful links

Contact details

Appendices

- Appendix 1: Home Office Factsheet (the Sargeant case) for issue to members
- Appendix 2: End of year message from Chair of FPS (England) SAB

Bulletin 26: November 2019

Calendar of events

FPS

- Fire and rescue workforce and pensions statistics published
- ABS 2019 survey – action required
- FPS England – 2020 valuation draft data specifications
- Accounting disclosures: Police and Firefighters Pension Schemes 2019/20
- November query log

Other news and updates

- TPR governance and administration survey 2019
- Pension Schemes Bill – second reading delayed
- LGA Pensions Adviser vacancy

HMRC

- HMRC newsletters/bulletins

Training and Events

- Pensions tax – event summary

Legislation

- The Civil Partnership (Opposite-sex Couples) Regulations 2019

Useful links

Contact details

Appendix

- Appendix 1: Hymans Robertson flier - service available to PCCs and FRAs for 2019/20 pensions accounting disclosures

Bulletin 25: October 2019

Calendar of events

FPS

- TPR – six key processes
- Fire Finance Network – a message from the Chair
- FPS forecasting guidance
- Revised Fire (England) factors: Non-Club Transfer-In
- Valuation data
- Eligibility factsheet updated
- TPR data requirements – 2019 scheme return
- GAD Fire pension accounting disclosures
- October query log

Other news and updates

- The Queen's Speech
- GAD PSPS newsletter
- TPO corporate plan 2019 - 2022

HMRC

- Contracting-out reconciliation update

Training and Events

- Pensions tax – London – 12 November 2019

Useful links

Contact details

Appendix

- Appendix 1: Guide for FRAs – calculation of pension forecasts for Firefighters' Pension Top-Up Grant
- Appendix 2: GAD table of consolidated factors (England)
- Appendix 3: Guidance – TPR data requirements 2019
- Appendix 4: Spreadsheet – TPR data requirements 2019
- Appendix 5: GAD flier – service available to PCCs and FRAs for 2019/20 pensions accounting disclosures
- Appendix 6: TPR corporate plan 2019 – 2022

Bulletin 24: September 2019

Calendar of events

FPS

- Firefighters' Pensions: Board of Medical Referees – appointment of new contractor
- Claims for refunds of NICs – FPS 2006 special members
- GAD data improvement reports for FRAs now issued
- TPR data measuring review
- FPS contacts for HMRC – a gentle reminder
- SAB Administration and Benchmarking committee vacancy
- New factsheet – FPS Management and Governance
- September query log

Other news and updates

- ICO changes to GDPR
- TPR publish LGPS engagement report
- Uprating of UK State Pension recipients living in the EU after Brexit

HMRC

- Contracting-out reconciliation update

Training and Events

- FPS AGM – event summary
- Training survey research report

Useful links

Contact details

Appendix

- Appendix 1: Factsheet - Firefighters' Pension Schemes Management and Governance

Bulletin 23: August 2019

Calendar of events

FPS

- Aon administration and benchmarking review – final report
- GAD data improvement reports for FRAs
- FPS contacts for HMRC
- A word about breaches
- SAB Administration and Benchmarking committee vacancy
- New factsheet – Compensatory ill-health pensions
- August query log

Other news and updates

- The Pensions Ombudsman (TPO) dispute resolution – consultation response
- The Pensions Regulator (TPR) scheme return

HMRC

- HMRC newsletters/bulletins
- Contracting-out reconciliation update
- 2018/19 Event Reporting – Annual Allowance Statements and Lifetime Allowance

Training and Events

- FPS AGM – London – 24-25 September 2019

Legislation

Useful links

Contact details

Appendices

- Appendix 1: Firefighters' Pension Scheme – Administration and Benchmarking Review: 30.8.2019
- Appendix 2: Factsheet – Ill-health pension paid from Compensation Scheme to Retained Firefighters employed before 6 April 2006

Bulletin 22: July 2019

Calendar of events

Take-over issue

- Once upon a time
- Pension tax giving you a headache?
- Eversheds Sutherland speedbrief
- A fresh perspective on Perspective
- What to expect when a complaint is referred to The Pensions Ombudsman
- Cyber resilience – are you ready?
- The complexities of ill-health pensions
- Weightmans legal update
- TPR Governance and Administration survey – a view from the Regulator

FPS

- July query log
- Written Ministerial Statement: Public Service Pensions

Other news and updates

- GAD newsletters
- The Pensions Ombudsman (TPO) Annual Report and Accounts 2018/19
- Written Ministerial Statement: Walker v Innospec Supreme Court Judgement
- House of Commons briefing paper – GMP-related overpayments
- TPR secondment opportunity

HMRC

- Contracting-out reconciliation update

Training and Events

- Pensionable pay workshop – event summary
- FPS AGM – London – 24-25 September 2019 SAVETHE DATE

Legislation

Useful links

Contact details

Appendices

- Appendix 1: HMRC Pension Tax restrictions and how they may affect firefighters
- Appendix 2: Legal update. The complexities of ill-health pensions

- Appendix 3: Legal update. Public sector pensions – two key developments (Langford v Secretary of State for Defence, and Lord Chancellor and Secretary of State for Justice v McCloud and others)
- Appendix 4: The Pensions Regulator. Public service governance and administration survey 2018
- Appendix 5: The Pensions Ombudsman. Message about, and link to, TPO Annual Report and Accounts 2018/2019

Bulletin 21: June 2019

Calendar of events

FPS

- FPS 2015 transitional protections challenge update
- Scheme Advisory Board Levy
- Annual Benefit Statements (ABS)
- Revised Fire (England) factors: Non-Club Transfer-In
- Fire (England) conclusion of factor review
- Joint Local Pension Boards (LPBs)
- LPB draft terms of reference updated
- June query log

Other news and updates

- GAD PSPS newsletter
- The Pensions Ombudsman (TPO) newsletter 6

HMRC

- HMRC newsletters/bulletins

Training and Events

- FPS training survey
- LPB annual wrap-up training 2019 – event summary
- Ill-health and injury workshop – event summary
- Pensionable pay workshop

Legislation

Useful links

Contact details

Appendices

- Appendix 1: ABS and explanatory notes template for 2019 (Word version)
- Appendix 2: ABS and explanatory notes template for 2019 (PDF version)
- Appendix 3: Non-Club Transfer-in (“TV-in”) factors (Fire – England)
- Appendix 4: GAD table of consolidated factors (Fire – England)
- Appendix 5: Guidance – Scheme Managers’ application to Secretary of State to establish Joint Local Pension Board
- Appendix 6: Local Pension Boards – updated Draft Terms of Reference (clean version)
- Appendix 7: Local Pension Boards – updated Draft Terms of Reference (tracked version)
- Appendix 8: The Pensions Ombudsman Newsletter, Issue 6 – June 2019

Bulletin 20: May 2019

Calendar of events

FPS

- Pension transitional arrangements: update on application to appeal
- Pensionable pay guidance
- SI 2019/378 member disclosure
- Technical note: Restricting exit payments in the public sector
- FPS 1992 transitional calculations guide updated
- LTA factsheet updated
- SAB committee vacancies
- May query log

Other news and updates

- GAD PSPS newsletter
- House of Commons briefing paper – pensions tax relief
- Updated list of public sector club transfer members

HMRC

- HMRC newsletters/bulletins
- Contracting-out reconciliation update

Training and Events

- FPS training survey
- Firefighters and Police LPB governance conference – event summary
- LPB annual wrap-up training 2019

Legislation

Useful links

Contact details

Appendices

- Appendix 1: Factsheet. Pensionable Pay
- Appendix 2: Technical Note. Restricting exit payments in the public sector

Bulletin 19: April 2019

Calendar of events

FPS

- Annual Benefit Statement survey 2018
- New and updated factsheets available
 - Two Pensions
 - Eligibility to join FPS
 - Pensions taxation
- SAB cost-effectiveness committee vacancy
- April query log
- SAB Request for Information update
- 2016 Valuation: employer contributions

Other news and updates

- Exit cap consultation
- Club Memorandum updated
- GAD PSPS newsletter

HMRC

- HMRC newsletters/bulletins
- Contracting-out reconciliation update

Training and Events

- Data: Pensions in a digital era - event summary
- Firefighters and Police LPB governance conference
- LPB annual wrap-up training 2018

Legislation

Useful links

Contact details

Bulletin 18: March 2019

Calendar of events

FPS

- 2019 amendment order – SI 2019/378
- Revised Fire (England) factors
- Contribution rates 2019-20
- Year End update 2019
- New factsheet – Additional Pension Benefits (APBs)
- SAB cost-effectiveness committee vacancy
- March query log

Other news and updates

- SFGB renamed
- PASA data guidance
- DWP launches midlife MOT website

HMRC

- HMRC newsletters/bulletins
- Contracting-out reconciliation update
- HMRC workshops on the Manage and Register Pension Schemes service

Training and Events

- Data: Pensions in a digital era
- Brighton rocks: LGA annual fire conference

Legislation

Useful links

Contact details

Appendices

- Appendix 1: GAD factors spreadsheet. Pension Debit Adjustment and Pension Credit
- Appendix 2: Factsheet. FPS Contribution Rates 2019-20
- Appendix 3: Factsheet. Firefighters' Pensions Year End Update 2019
- Appendix 4: Slides from HMRC workshop – Manage and Register Pension Schemes service

Bulletin 17: February 2019

Calendar of events

FPS

- Revised Fire (England) factors
- FPS benchmarking exercise – update
- Technical queries
- Pension sharing on divorce (transitional members)
- SAB cost-effectiveness committee vacancy
- February query log

Other news and updates

- Public Service Pension Indexation and Revaluation 2019
- The Public Service Pensions (Valuations and Employer Cost Cap) (Amendment and Savings) Directions 2019
- New Club transfer factors
- Britain's exit from the EU

HMRC

- HMRC newsletters/bulletins
- Contracting-out reconciliation update

Training and Events

- 2019 events

Legislation

Useful links

Contact details

Appendices

- Appendix 1: GAD factors spreadsheet. Trivial commutation
- Appendix 2: GAD factors spreadsheet. Club transfers

Bulletin 16: January 2019

Calendar of events

FPS

- Transitional protections – what is remedy?
- FPS 2016 valuation – HMT written ministerial statement
- Revised Fire (England) factors
- FPS benchmarking exercise – member survey launched
- SAB request for information – deadline extended
- Website resource update – ill-health
- SAB cost-effectiveness committee vacancy
- Amendments to FPS (England) consultation response
- January query log

Other news and updates

- SFGB goes live
- Pensions dashboards consultation response
- GAD PSPS newsletter

HMRC

- HMRC newsletters/bulletins
- Contracting-out reconciliation update

Training and Events

- Scheme manager training – new!
- 2019 events

Legislation

Useful links

Contact details

Appendices

- Appendix 1: GAD factors spreadsheet. Added Years/Added Pension and CPD
- Appendix 2: GAD factors spreadsheet. Tax charge debits
- Appendix 3: GAD factors spreadsheet. Non-club Transfer-in (“TV-in”)
- Appendix 4: Poster for FRS to promote FPS benchmarking member survey
- Appendix 5: Form setting out SAB request for information – opting out of the scheme, cause and effect
- Appendix 6: Factsheet. Guidance on the role of scheme manager

Bulletin 15: December 2018

Calendar of events

FPS

- A message from the chair
- Court of Appeal transitional protections judgement
- FPS 2016 valuation - update
- Amendments to Firefighter Pension Schemes (England) – Consultation
- Revised Fire (England) factors
- FPS benchmarking exercise – update
- SAB request for information
- December query log
- Website resource update – guides and sample documents

Other news and updates

- Pensions dashboards
- New TPR Chief Executive
- TPO news
- Indexation of public service pensions

HMRC

- HMRC newsletters/bulletins
- Contracting-out reconciliation update

Events

- That was the year that was . . .

Legislation

Useful links

Contact details

Appendices

- Appendix 1: A message from the chair
- Appendix 2: Fire England ERFs and LRFs – November 2018
- Appendix 3: Fire England CETV and PenCE Factors – November 2018
- Appendix 4: SAB request for information
- Appendix 5: TPO Newsletter

Bulletin 14: November 2018

Calendar of events

FPS

- FPS 2016 valuation - update
- FPS benchmarking exercise - update
- Scheme Advisory Board levy
- Pensionable pay update
- SI 2018/997 member disclosure
- A favour to ask . . .
- November query log
- Website resource update – ill-health

Other news and updates

- TPR scheme return 2018
- TPR Governance and Administration survey 2018
- Updated TPR resources
- High Court ruling on GMP equalisation
- Civil partnerships to be extended to opposite sex couples

HMRC

- HMRC newsletters/bulletins
- Contracting-out reconciliation update

Events

- A view from Torquay

Legislation

Useful links

Contact details

Appendices

- Appendix 1: Aon Update: FPS Administration and Benchmarking Exercise
- Appendix 2: Letter from Scheme Advisory Board Chair to Chief Fire Officers, 31.10.2018: SAB levy

Bulletin 13: October 2018

Calendar of events

FPS

- FPS 2016 valuation - update
- Review of scheme factors
- FPS benchmarking exercise - update
- ABS survey – deadline extended
- Ill-health and injury determinations and role of IQMP
- October query log

Other news and updates

- Budget 2018
- TPR Governance and Administration survey 2018
- TPO update
- LGA website revamped

HMRC

- HMRC newsletters/bulletins
- Contracting-out reconciliation update
- Reporting non-taxable death benefits

Training

- Pensions tax support – update

Legislation

Useful links

Contact details

Appendices

- Appendix 1: Home Office letter regarding change to SCAPE discount rate and impact on GAD factors
- Appendix 2: Contracting-out reconciliation – PASA guidance on resolving GMP stalemate cases with HMRC

Bulletin 12: September 2018

Calendar of events

FPS

- FPS 2016 valuation
- 2018 amendment order – SI 2018/997
- FPS benchmarking exercise
- ABS survey – action required
- September query log

Other news and updates

- TPR – scheme return 2018-19
- TPR – new approach to workplace pensions regulation
- TPO – clearer signposting for dispute resolution

HMRC

- HMRC newsletters/bulletins
- Contracting-out reconciliation update

Training

- Fire pensions annual conference 17-18 September 2018
- Pensions tax support – action required

Legislation

Useful links

Contact details

Appendices

- Appendix 1: Firefighters' Pensions Technical Community Meeting Note – Benchmarking Review
- Appendix 2: Pensions Tax 2018/19 – FRA Response, for SAB Secretariat, on readiness

Bulletin 11: August 2018

Calendar of events

FPS

- FPS 2006 special member tax relief claims
- Update on the Public Sector Schemes 2016 valuation
- New way of submitting queries to the Bluelight team - update
- TPR data requirements – 2017/18 scheme return
- ABS survey

Website resource update

- Consolidated regulations
- Template agenda and annual report

Other news and updates

- TPO determination PO-12763 – the Police pension scheme
- TPS Pension Board – recruitment of independent pension specialist

HMRC

- HMRC newsletters/bulletins
- Contracting-out reconciliation update
- Annual Allowance Statements – 2017/18

Training

- Fire pensions annual conference 17-18 September 2018

Legislation

Useful links

Contact details

Appendix

- Appendix 1: Informal guide on TPR data requirements for 2018

Bulletin 10: July 2018

Calendar of events

FPS

- FPS 2006 special member tax relief claims
- New factsheet – Eligibility to join FPS
- New way of submitting queries to the Bluelight team - reminder
- Deferred Benefit Statements (DBS)

Website resource update

- Consolidated regulations
- Guides and sample documents

Other news and updates

- The Pensions Ombudsman Service (TPOS) Newsletter 4
- Beware cold-calls from fraudsters claiming to be from TPR

HMRC

- Annual Allowance calculator – back online
- HMRC newsletters/bulletins
- Contracting-out reconciliation update

Training

- AGM – save the date

Legislation

Useful links

Contact details

Appendix

- Appendix 1: The Pensions Ombudsman Service (TPOS) newsletter 4

Bulletin 9: June 2018

Calendar of events

FPS

- Annual Benefit Statements (ABS)
- Continual Professional Development (CPD)
- Internal Dispute Resolution Development (IDRP)
- New way of submitting queries to the Bluelight team
- FPS 2015 ill-health charge
- Scheme reconciliation update – action required!
- Website resource update
- New factsheet available

HMRC

- Launch of Manage and Register Pension Schemes service
- HMRC newsletters/bulletins
- Contracting-out reconciliation update
- GDPR privacy notice

Training

- Annual Local Pension Board wrap-up training

Legislation

Useful links

Contact details

Appendices

- Appendix 1: ABS statement and supporting documents (Word version)
- Appendix 2: ABS statement and supporting documents (PDF version)
- Appendix 3: Crystal Mark 22141
- Appendix 4: Crystal Mark conditions of use
- Appendix 5: Pension query form
- Appendix 6: Pension query form – notes for completion

Bulletin 8: May 2018

Calendar of events

FPS

- Valuation data
- Tax awareness seminars – next steps. What are you doing?
- FPS 2006 special members – resettlement lump sum payment
- New factsheets available
- Invitations to bid

Other News and Updates

- GDPR
- TPR Governance and Administration 2017 survey results

HMRC

- HMRC newsletters/bulletins
- Contracting-out reconciliation update

Training

- Annual Local Pension Board wrap-up training
- Special Members of the 2006 Scheme Refresher Workshop
- Fire and Police Local Pension Board Governance

Legislation

Useful links

Contact details

Appendices

- Appendix 1: Tax awareness seminars – next steps
- Appendix 2: CIPFA Police and Fire Network – Police and Fire Horizon Scanning Briefing

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

Appendix

- 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.