

LGPC Bulletin 160 – July 2017

Please contact [Con Hargrave](#) with any comments on the contents of this bulletin or with suggestions for other items that might be included in future bulletins. LGPC contacts can be found at the end of this bulletin.

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Exit payment reform update

Following June's general election, the LGPC Secretariat understand that there is no policy change in respect of the various exit payment reforms that the 2015-2017 Government were in the process of introducing prior to the snap election. However, given the focus on Brexit in the coming period and the new Government's minority status, it is unclear the extent to which pursuing each reform will be a priority for the Government. It is also unclear the implementation timescales the Government plan to adopt for each reform.

The LGPC's understanding of the current position on each reform is as follows:

- 1. Exit payment recovery** – the draft regulations issued under the Small Business, Enterprise and Employment Act 2015 proposed that where an individual with a salary of £80,000 or more leaves a public sector employment and returns to work in the public sector within 12 months, they will be required to pay back some or all of the exit payments (including strain cost) received.

Prior to the announcement of the general election the final HM Treasury regulations that would have enacted the recovery provisions were expected "soon". If and when issued, the regulations will be overriding meaning that it will not be necessary to amend the LGPS regulations for exit payment recovery to have effect. The legislation is subject to the affirmative procedure meaning that it will require the formal approval of both Houses of Parliament before it becomes *law* – this is expected to take 3-4 weeks from the publication of the final regulations.

For the recovery regulations to apply the individual must have both left and become re-employed in relevant public service employments on or after the effective date of the recovery regulations (i.e. the regulations will not be retrospectively applied).

Once the recovery regulations are enacted changes will need to be made to both leaving and recruitment communications. We see this to be largely driven by the Scheme employer as this is largely an employer issue. The draft legislation places certain duties on the exit payee, responsible authority and hiring authority to ensure the repayment requirement is satisfied.

- 2. Exit Cap** – where an individual leaves a public sector employment, the total exit payments that their employer can make in respect of that exit will be capped at £95k. This cap includes the strain cost payable in respect of an LGPS pension coming into payment early.

Subject to the Government proceeding with its plans in this area, we anticipate that there will be further consultation (draft HM Treasury regulations) on how the cap will work in practice. The consultation is expected to last for 6-8 weeks.

Once final Treasury regulations are laid they will enact the relevant parts of the Enterprise Act 2016 which will amend the LGPS regulations. HM Treasury are also expected to publish guidance on the circumstances when the cap can be waived –

these circumstances will be prescriptive and set out the specific situations in which HMT think it would be acceptable to waive the cap.

Discussion with regard to how the 'strain on fund' cost would be calculated for the purposes of the exit payment cap are ongoing i.e. whether it will be on a standardised basis.

- 3. Exit payments further reform** – proposals looking at the overall severance packages payable from public sector bodies following [a Government consultation](#) on this topic, undertaken in February 2016. HM Treasury [issued its formal response](#) to the consultation in September 2016 setting out broad criteria within which they expected responsible departments to reform the exit packages of their workforces.

Subject to the Government proceeding with its plans in this area, we expect DCLG to publish a consultation on the proposed package for local government. No further details as to the content are available at this time.

SABEW consultation on academies objectives

The scheme advisory board for the LGPS in England and Wales (SABEW) has [commenced a consultation](#) on the development of options for academies. The consultation is open to all interested parties and is open until 29 September 2017.

The proposed draft objectives that the SABEW are seeking views upon are as follows:

- Protect the benefits of scheme members through continued access to the LGPS
- Ring fence local taxpayers and other scheme employers from the liabilities of the academy trust sector
- Improve the efficiency and effectiveness of administrative practices
- Increase the accuracy and reliability of data

However, in achieving the objectives, the SABEW do not believe the changes should:

- Significantly alter cashflow at the fund level
- Significantly alter assets at the pool level

A form for submitting responses is held on the SABEW website. Responses via email are preferred and should be sent to [Liam Robson](#) and [Bob Holloway](#).

SABEW consultation on pooling forum

The SABEW have also [commenced a consultation](#) on the development of a national Cross Pool Information Forum (CPF) for the LGPS in England and Wales.

The SABEW propose that the CPF is established to receive, share and disseminate information on the pooling of LGPS assets as well as provide a platform to exchange best practice and items of cross pool interest. However, it should not have decision making powers, nor should its discussions be technical in nature. It is proposed that the CPF would consist of up to three members from each pool, nominated by the member administering authorities of each pool.

Views from LGPS pensions committee chairs are sought on the proposals and the consultation closes on 29 September 2017. A form for submitting responses is held on the SABEW website. Responses via email are preferred and should be sent to [Liam Robson](#) and [Bob Holloway](#).

Extension to local pension board (LPB) survey

The SABEW have extended the deadline for their local pension board survey to 29 September 2017 due to a lack of responses received.

The survey, which commenced in May, is available on [the Board website](#).

The SABEW Secretariat have asked us to remind administering authorities that the survey is open to employer and member representatives of local pension boards as well as to chairs.

Closure of 50/50 survey

The 50/50 survey has now ended and has been removed from www.lgpsmember.org. A total of 8,716 responses were received during the 4 month period over which the survey ran.

The results will be summarised in a report for the Cost Management, Benefit Design and Administration committee (due to meet in September) who will consider whether any recommendations should be made to the scheme advisory board on the future of the 50/50 provision.

Pension fund accounts 2016-17

Ahead of the publication of next year's scheme annual report by the SABEW, we would be grateful if you could email your fund's 2016/17 annual report to [Liam Robson](#) when this is finalised.

As and when these are received, funds' annual reports will be uploaded to [the Board website](#).

DCLG publish updated investments guidance

Following the High Court judgment that part of DCLG's statutory guidance [Guidance on Preparing and Maintaining an Investment Strategy Statement](#) was unlawful (see [bulletin 159](#)), DCLG have published an updated version of the guidance on their website.

The updated version removes the references contained in the previous version which suggested that funds should not pursue policies that are contrary to UK foreign policy or UK defence policy. Funds should now use this version of the guidance in preparing and maintaining their investment strategy statements.

Earlier in July, Lord Bourne of Aberystwyth confirmed the Government had received permission to appeal the decision of the High Court.

HMRC

Pension schemes newsletter 89

HMRC have published the [89th edition](#) of their pension schemes newsletter including a number of articles of general interest.

In particular, the newsletter provides information on the launch of a new digital platform for pension scheme registration and administration – the Pensions Online Digital Service which is due to go live in April 2018. LGPS administrators who wish to feedback ideas for

the new service and participate in user research should email pensions.businessdelivery@hmrc.gsi.gov.uk and put 'Pensions Online – User Research' in the subject line.

The newsletter also confirms that there have been delays in the launch of HMRC's lifetime allowance lookup service for pension scheme administrators, which had originally been due to go live in early summer. There is no revised date for when HMRC now expect the lookup service to go live.

Countdown bulletin 25

HMRC have also published the [25th edition](#) of their contracting-out 'countdown' bulletin containing a number of detailed technical articles on scheme reconciliation.

The bulletin confirms that any queries regarding the Scheme Reconciliation Service (SRS) should be sent to crm.schemereconciliationservice@hmrc.gsi.gov.uk and the old mailbox (mailbox.newstatepensionenquiries@hmrc.gsi.gov.uk) has been closed.

On 24 July, HMRC sent an email to their contacts regarding automated solutions that are available for Scheme Reconciliation Service and Closure Scan queries:

“We are sending you this e-mail to make you aware of the automated solutions that are available for SRS and Closure Scan Queries and also the submission/response timescales.

The Excel attachment [\[appendix 1\]](#) provides the solution name, the deadline for PSAs to load queries into their e-room, the deadline for HMRC automated responses and the deadline for clerical responses from any automated fall out. Because the solutions are already developed and a re-run only is required, we don't expect significant change to any of these dates but we will let you know if this becomes necessary. We have already identified and side-lined queries for automated runs 2, 4 and 10.

The Word attachment [\[appendix 2\]](#) provides a summary of each automated solution. We hope to provide more detailed information on gov.uk in future months.

In addition, we are developing, or planning to develop, new solutions to automate further queries and we will provide more detail as it become available. The new solutions are:-

- *CEP Enforcement Reversal where payment is held (i.e. where we have recorded a CEP based on your SRS query but because the payment was not received or recorded within time limits, liability is again in your scheme)*
- *Membership Start and End Date Queries*
- *CEP replacing liability in scheme*
- *Changes of scheme responsible paying authority”*

We draw particular attention to appendix 1 which contains a timetable of deadlines for the completion of the Scheme Reconciliation exercise.

DWP

Government announcement on increases to SPA

The Government have [published their state pension age \(SPA\) review](#) as required by the Pensions Act 2014.

The publication of the review follows the release of the independent report published by John Cridland in March 2017 (as reported in bulletin 156).

In the review, the Government confirm they plan to follow the recommendation of the Cridland report that the SPA increase from 67 to 68 be brought forward to take place in stages between 2037 and 2039. Previous Government policy was that the SPA increase to 68 between 2044 and 2046.

Following the announcement, DWP created a ‘top 4 things you need to know about the State Pension age’ communication to help people understand the changes. DWP are keen for LGPS administering authorities and employers to share the article with their members and employees respectively. The article has been pasted on their Facebook page www.facebook.com/dwp and can also be linked to directly [here](#).

Once the legislation providing for the change goes through Parliament, the increase will change the state pension age of those born between 6 April 1970 and 5 April 1978, and therefore the LGPS normal pension age of members born between those dates.

Consultation on automatic enrolment alternative quality requirement

On 19 July, DWP [commenced a call for evidence](#) on the assessment of pension schemes for the purpose of determining whether they are of sufficient quality to be automatic enrolment ‘qualifying schemes’.

The call for evidence is seeking views on whether the ‘alternative quality requirement’ set out in section 23A of the Pensions Act 2008 works and in particular ‘how the simplifications and flexibilities introduced under the test work in practice, and whether there are any unintended consequences’.

The alternative quality test was introduced by the Pensions Act 2014 in April 2015 to reflect the fact that the previous standard for assessing defined benefit schemes – the reference scheme test via which schemes could contract-out of the State Second Pension – would be abolished from April 2016 onwards.

The LGPS in both England and Wales and Scotland meets the current alternative quality requirement and copies of the certificates confirming this are contained on www.lgpsregs.org and www.scotlgpsregs.org under guides and sample documents [[E&W](#) / [Scotland](#)].

The call for evidence closes on 30 August 2017.

Other News and Updates

Publication of GDPR handout

On 25 May 2018 the EU’s General Data Protection Regulation (GDPR) comes into force containing new standards for the protection of individual’s personal data in the European Economic Area.

In July, LGPC Secretariat circulated a handout commissioned from Squire Patton Boggs to provide a brief overview of the new requirements and the steps which local authority pension funds should be taking to prepare for GDPR coming into force. This is attached as [appendix 3](#).

We are aware that GDPR is an area that is getting increased attention across the LGPS and there are a number of crucial questions where there are different views, in particular:

- a) the implications of GDPR for LGPS funds, and
- b) the work that needs to be undertaken to ensure administering authorities are fully compliant by the time GDPR comes into force.

In general, we recommend that LGPS administering authorities which form part of a local authority discuss and become involved in the local authority's broader project for the implementation of GDPR.

However, at a national level, plans are also in place to help funds with their GDPR responsibilities:

- a number of funds have joined together to form a GDPR group. The group, in consultation with the communications working group, plan to produce sample documentation for use by LGPS funds, and
- the LGPC Secretariat will also be seeking a legal view on a number of specific questions that have been raised about GDPR in respect of the LGPS.

All information will be circulated to funds via the mailing list as and when this is available.

Legal opinion on discharge of death grants

On 11 July, the LGPC Secretariat sent the below email to funds regarding the discharge of death grants from the scheme.

We have obtained a legal opinion from Squire Patton Boggs as to what LGPS administering authorities are able to do to avoid the special lump death charge being payable when discharging a death grant. The special lump sum death charge is payable when the death grant is not discharged within 2 years of the date of death, or within 2 years of the date on which the administering authority could reasonably be expected to have become aware of the member's death and the payment is made to the personal representatives, as required by the LGPS regulations – see below for details.

“Background

The LGPS Regulations (including the 1995, 1997, 2008 and 2013) require that where a death grant is not paid within 2 years of the date of the death, or within 2 years of the date on which the administering authority could reasonably be expected to have become aware of the member's death (except for the 1995 Regulations which only mention date of the death) payment must be made to personal representatives. So in essence, the regulations provide that if the death grant has not been paid within the 2 year period, the administering authority can no longer exercise a discretion over to whom to pay the death grant but must, instead, pay it to the personal representatives.

From 6 April 2016 death grants paid after two years are no longer unauthorised payments but where they are being paid to the personal representatives are subject to the special lump sum death charge of 45%.

It goes without saying that administering authorities should do their utmost to ensure that they don't get themselves into a position where they end up paying out a death grant after the 2 year period has expired, however, we are aware that they sometimes experience difficulties in determining whether there is anyone they can pay the death grant to (under their discretionary power) or in ascertaining who is administering the estate and consequently payments are not always made within the 2 year period. The question we asked was in such circumstances:

Q1. *Is it acceptable for administering authorities to pay the death grant into a separate bank account just before the expiry of the 2 year period in order to avoid the death grant being subject to the special lump sum death charge*

Q2. *If the answer to question 1 is yes, what form would the bank account would have to take to meet the requirement of our Regulations that payment must be made to the personal representatives? That is, would a separate bank account need to be set up for each case, with the account being set up in the name of "The legal personal representatives of XXXXX deceased" (with XXXX being the name of the deceased) in order to meet the requirements of our regulations (if this is even possible?) or would it be acceptable for the administering authority to set up one ESCROW account (a holding account held by a third party during the process of a transaction between two parties) and pay all such death grants into it until payment can be made to the personal representatives?*

Legal opinion

We agree that the payment of the death grant to a separate bank account held outside of the Fund, before the two year period has expired is likely to prevent the death grant from being subject to a special lump sum death benefits charge. However, we don't think this solution would work in respect of payments made after two years. This is because section 40(4) of the LGPS Regulations 2013 makes clear that after the expiry of two years the payment should be made to the personal representatives, it does not allow the Authority to hold the death grant "for the benefit of" the personal representatives.

Section 40(2) of the LGPS Regulations 2013, however, states that "the appropriate administering authority may, at its absolute discretion, pay the death grant to or for the benefit of the member's nominee, personal representatives or any person appearing to the authority to have been a relative or dependent of the member". So, as long as the payment is made out of the Fund before the expiry of two years from the date of death (or the date the Authority should have reasonably known about the member's death) holding the death grant in an escrow account is likely to fulfil this criteria, such that the payment could be made tax free to the member's personal representative. Whilst the money would still be held by the Authority (albeit outside the Fund) it would not be the Authority's money. The death grant would be held on constructive trust for the benefit of the personal representatives.

We don't see any reason why a separate bank account should be set up in respect of each death grant where the personal representatives are being located so long as the monies can be identified and the appropriate funds credited to the escrow account before

the two year period expires. Just to note this approach is common in private trusts so we see no reason why this approach couldn't be adopted by the Authority too."

Whilst the question to Squire Patton Boggs was couched in terms of the LGPS in England and Wales, we understand the same position applies for the LGPS in Scotland.

Since circulating the email, we have received a couple of follow up questions, our views on which are as follows:

Where a fund pays a death grant to an escrow account does interest under regulation 81 of the LGPS Regulations 2013 (regulation 79 of the LGPS (Scotland) Regulations 2014) continue to accrue?

No, in the view of the LGPC Secretariat, once a death grant has been paid to the escrow account, the liability has been discharged for the purposes of the LGPS's regulations and no more interest will accrue before it is paid to the personal representative of the deceased.

Although no further interest would be due under the LGPS regulations (because administering authorities would have discharged their liability at the point of making payment into the escrow account), administering authorities would need to consider whether the escrow account they set up should itself be an interest bearing account or a non interest bearing account.

If it is to be an interest bearing account administering authorities would need to ensure that a system was in place to determine how much of the interest paid by the account relates to each separate death grant and refund held within the account (so that when a death grant or refund is paid out from the account, the appropriate proportion of the interest paid by the account is added to the death grant or refund paid out of the account).

Could LGPS administering authorities use escrow accounts to discharge refund liabilities? This would be done in order to comply with the requirement of regulations 18(5) of the LGPS Regulations 2013 and the LGPS (Scotland) Regulations 2014 that refunds are paid 'on the expiry of five years' beginning with the date the person's active membership ceased if no request is made before then or, on the day before attaining age 75, whichever is earliest.

Yes, in the view of the LGPC Secretariat an escrow account could be used for this purpose. As things currently stand under both sets of regulations, a refund would technically not be payable more than five years after the member left the scheme or upon the member turning 75. Paying the refund to an escrow account in either situation would technically discharge the fund's liability and mean that a refund could subsequently be paid onward to the individual beyond either date.

If a refund is paid to an escrow account in this way, it is also our view that interest under the LGPS regulations would no longer accrue on the refund for the same reasoning as set out above in respect of death grants paid to escrow accounts. In the same way, consideration would also need to be given to whether to use an escrow account that is interest bearing or one that is non-interest bearing.

Clarification on employer approach to setting discretions policies

Following a number of situations that we have been made aware of where an imperfect discretions policy has given rise to complaints under IDRPs, the LGPC Secretariat have

been asked to clarify the approach that should be adopted by scheme employers when formulating discretions policies under regulation 60 of the LGPS Regulations 2013 and regulation 58 of the LGPS (Scotland) Regulations 2014.

In the view of the Secretariat, a discretions policy should show the basis on which a scheme employer will consider exercising the discretions listed in regulations 60 or 58 (as applicable). In doing so, scheme employers should not fetter their discretion; that is, their policies on how discretionary powers are to be exercised should not be so rigid or restrictive as to prevent flexibility where a (possibly unanticipated) situation requires it.

There is further guidance on the setting of discretions policies in the LGPC's discretions policies guides under guides and sample documents [[E&W](#) / [Scotland](#)] on www.lgpsregs.org and www.scotlgpsregs.org.

Update on the Pensions Ombudsman Service

The Pensions Ombudsman Service (TPOS) have released [their 2016/17 annual report and accounts](#) which is available on their website. A summary of the main headlines from the report were contained in a press release issued to accompany the report and this is attached as [appendix 4](#).

On 25 July 2017, the following email was sent to LGPS funds regarding changes to the work of TPOS:

“We have been informed by the Pensions Ombudsman Service (TPOS) that, following discussions with Government ministers, it has been agreed that TPOS will at some point in the future take over the informal dispute resolution service currently provided by the Pensions Advisory Service (TPAS).

To assist with their plans for the merger of the formal and informal resolution processes, TPOS have recently commenced a project to look into the services provided by both organisations and are seeking views from pension scheme administrators to feed into this. Specifically, TPOS are asking for views on what works well about both services (in terms of both quality and delivery), what could be improved, and what administrators believe are the risks and opportunities of merging the services.

We have been advised that there is a short window in which LGPS funds will be able to feed into this work and if funds do have any feedback or comments they wish to provide, if these could be emailed through to us (at query.lgps@local.gov.uk) by the end of Wednesday 2nd August that would be much appreciated.

If this timescale is too tight, later responses may be able to be considered by TPOS in their review, but it is not guaranteed.”

Supreme Court case – Walker v Innospec

In July, the Supreme Court [handed down a judgment](#) which has potential implications for pension schemes who offer differing survivors' pension benefits depending on whether their relationship with the originating member was a civil partnership, same sex marriage or opposite sex marriage.

The Equality Act 2010 contains an exception which made it legal for pension schemes to discriminate in the survivor benefits it offered, saying that pension schemes did not have to provide civil partners with pension benefits relating to membership accrued prior to the

introduction of civil partnerships in December 2005. The Supreme Court found that this exception was incompatible with EU law.

The case relates to a member (Mr. Walker) whose pension scheme, making use of the exception in the Equality Act 2010, would have only provided his civil partner with a survivor's pension based on his membership from 5 December 2005 upon his death. By contrast if Mr. Walker had been married to a woman, a survivor's benefit payable based on his entire membership would have been payable on his death.

Following the judgment, we understand that Government lawyers are considering the possible impacts the ruling will have on the survivor pension rights offered by public service pension schemes, including the LGPS.

Reduction in Money Purchase Annual Allowance (MPAA)

Following articles included in [bulletins 157 and 159](#) regarding the proposed reduction in the Money Purchase Annual Allowance from £10k to £4k, the Government released [a written ministerial statement](#) in July confirming that they plan to proceed with this change and that this reduction is still planned to be effective from 6 April 2017.

When June's general election was called, the Government withdrew a number of clauses from the Finance Bill 2017 so that this could be passed on a consensual basis before the dissolution of Parliament. One of the withdrawn clauses related to the proposed reduction in the MPAA. The statement confirms that the Government:

"...expects to introduce a Finance Bill as soon as possible after the summer recess containing the withdrawn provisions. Where policies have been announced as applying from the start of the 2017-18 tax year or other point before the introduction of the forthcoming Finance Bill, there is no change of policy and these dates of application will be retained. Those affected by the provisions should continue to assume that they will apply as originally announced."

The statement also confirms:

"In the case of some provisions that will apply from a time before the Bill is introduced, technical adjustments and additions to the versions contained in the March Bill will be made on introduction to ensure that they function as intended."

The Government had also withdrawn a clause from the Finance Bill 2017 relating to the introduction of the pensions advice allowance payment (PAAP). Based on the Government's statement, it is assumed that the Government plan to re-introduce this clause in the new Finance Bill as well. Nevertheless, and as confirmed in bulletin 157, the LGPS cannot make PAAPs from AVC funds unless and until scheme regulations are amended to permit such payments to be made. The re-introduction of this clause is therefore unlikely to have immediate practical implications for the LGPS in England and Wales or the LGPS in Scotland.

MIFID2 – publication of FCA policy statement

In early July, the Financial Conduct Authority (FCA) published their final policy statement on the implementation of the EU's Markets in Financial Instruments Directive II (MIFID2) from January 2018.

Upon coming into force, MIFID2 will re-designate local authorities as ‘retail’ investors from their current status as ‘professional’ investors.

The policy statement confirmed significant revisions to the criteria via which a local authority pension fund will be able to opt up to professional status and follows detailed discussions undertaken by the SABEW with the FCA

There is further information on the implications of MIFID2 for LGPS administering authorities [on the SABEW’s website](#).

Details of a SABEW event on MIFID2 and cost transparency being hosted in London on Thursday 10 August were circulated to LGPS (England and Wales) investment contacts on 25 July. Some form of guidance on the opt up process will be published on the Board website following the event.

TPR brings first prosecutions on pensions failures

The Pensions Regulator (TPR) has confirmed that it has [undertaken its first two prosecutions](#) relating to pensions failures.

The prosecutions related to two cases where the Pensions Regulator had issued information notices under section 72 of the Pensions Act 2004 and the information requested was not provided within certain timescales. Under section 77(1) of the Pensions Act 2004, it is a criminal offence to fail to comply with an information notice without a reasonable excuse.

In both cases, it was not the detail in the papers the Pensions Regulator requested that was the trigger for prosecution activity, it was the failure to provide the information in the required timescales. Neither case related to the LGPS or a public service pension scheme.

In July, it was also confirmed that an LGPS fund has been fined £1,000 by TPR for its failure to complete its annual scheme return.

Bluelight pensions email address

The LGA Fire and Police pensions team now have a group email address for queries relating to either of the Fire and Police schemes. The email address is bluelight.pensions@local.gov.uk.

Update to lifetime allowance factsheet

Minor updates have been made to the lifetime allowance factsheet for members which is now available as version 1.4 under guides and sample documents [[E&W](#) / [Scotland](#)] on www.lgpsregs.org and www.scotlgpsregs.org.

Training

[Circular 304](#) was issued in June containing details of the LGA’s 2017 Fundamentals training programme.

The 2017 events incorporate all legislative changes since last year’s programme (incorporating those related to “pooling”) and all sessions will be refreshed to keep them up-to-date, relevant and interesting. Despite the year on year revision of course materials, the aim of the LGPC remains unaltered; that is to deliver a

single training course covering all aspects of the Scheme, including “Benefits” and “Fund” administration as well as “Investments”.

The fundamentals course is run on an annual basis and provides an insight into LGPS “trusteeship” for newly elected Committee/Board members, whilst also serving as an update/refresher course for longer-serving members. The course is of three days duration, spread over a number of months.

The course is not limited solely to pensions committee and local pension board members. Past delegates have included trades union representatives, member and employer representatives, a variety of officers who attend/support committees and some private sector organisations who provide services to administering authorities.

Places on the courses may be booked via the following links (please note spaces for London and Cardiff now have limited availability):

Leeds	Day 1	4 October
	Day 2	1 November
	Day 3	5 December
London	Day 1	10 October
	Day 2	15 November
	Day 3	13 December
Cardiff	Day 1	18 October
	Day 2	29 November
	Day 3	20 December

Legislation

United Kingdom

SI	Reference Title
2017/774	The Occupational Pension Schemes (Charges and Governance) (Amendment) Regulations 2017
2017/717	The Pension Schemes Act 2015 (Transitional Provisions and Appropriate Independent Advice) (Amendment) Regulations 2017

Useful Links

[LGA Pensions page](#)

[LGPS E&W member website](#)

[LGPS 2015 members' website](#)

[LGPS Advisory Board website](#)

[LGPS Regulations and Guidance website](#)

[LGPS Discretions](#) lists all the potential discretions available within the LGPS in England and Wales.

[LGPS Discretions](#) lists all the potential discretions available within the LGPS in Scotland.

[Recognised Overseas Pension Schemes](#) approved by HMRC and who agreed to have their details published.

[The Timeline Regulations](#) for Final Salary Scheme

[The Timeline Regulations](#) for Career Average in England and Wales

Pensions Section Contact Details

If you have a technical query, please email query.lgps@local.gov.uk and one of the team's LGPS pensions advisers will get back to you.

Jeff Houston (Head of Pensions)

Telephone: 0207 187 7346

Email: jeff.houston@local.gov.uk

Terry Edwards (Senior Pensions Adviser – LGPC Secretariat)

*(NB: Normal working days are Thursday and Friday. Works on pension projects and is **not** a contact for technical enquiries)*

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Distribution sheet

Pension managers (internal) of administering authorities

Pension managers (outsourced) and administering authority client managers

Local Government Pensions Committee

Trade unions

CLG

COSLA

SPPA

Regional Directors

Private clients

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