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Bulletin 101: January 2026

Calendar of events

Actions arising

Age Discrimination Remedy updates

- Updated HMRC Offsetting of Unauthorised Payments Reporting Template
- Deemed Elections
- Immediate Detriment
- Prospective Divorce Examples – Set 2

Matthews exercise updates

- Manual Cases
- Matthews exercise progress / Project Implementation Data request

FPS

- FPS Member website launch
- Opt Out form template and data collection
- General technical query log
- Matthews and Age Discrimination Remedy query logs

Training and Development

- Training and Development
- Local Pension Board (LPB) Training Sessions

Events

- FPS coffee mornings

FPS England Scheme Advisory Board (SAB) updates

- SAB website
- SAB engagement with MHCLG on the Matthews Compensation Framework
- SAB engagement with HMRC on Matthews
- Local Pension Board Effectiveness Committee – Finance vacancy

Other News and Updates

- AME Forecasting/Funding – future arrangements

Pensions Dashboards Programme

- Dashboards Programme – Publications
- PDP publishes blog on preparing data
- PDP opens consultation on updated reporting standards

HMRC

- Pension Schemes Newsletter 177

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Bulletin 101 (continued): January 2026

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PASA

- PASA publishes part two of its guidance on digital transformation

Useful links

Contact details

- Update your contact details
- Raising a query

Bulletin 100: December 2025

A Message from the Founders of the FPS Bulletin – from Brewster to Matthews: A Century of Knowledge in 100 Editions

How has the Bulletin developed over 100 editions?

Top 10 articles

What's ahead for the Firefighters' Pension Scheme in 2026

Celebrating 100 editions of the FPS Bulletin – What our Readers say

A Message from the Scheme Advisory Board Chair

The Fire Pension Puzzle Challenge

Calendar of events

Age Discrimination Remedy updates

- Consultation response – Retained Firefighters' Pensions: Matthews Remedy – proposed changes to the Firefighters' Pension Scheme 2006

Events

- FPS coffee mornings

Other News and Updates

- Government's formal response to the consultation on Firefighters' Pensions: member contribution structure

HMRC

- Pension Schemes Newsletter 176

Contact details

- Update your contact details
- Raising a query

Word Search Answers

Bulletin 99: November 2025

Calendar of events

Actions arising

Age Discrimination Remedy updates

Matthews Remedy updates

- Manual cases

FPS

- 2025/2026 AME Funding
- General technical query log
- Matthews and Age Discrimination Remedy query logs

Training and Development

- Training and Development
- Local Pension Board (LPB) Training Sessions

Events

- FPS coffee mornings

FPS England Scheme Advisory Board (SAB) updates

- SAB website

Other News and Updates

- Budget 2025
- PASA publishes new data quality guidance and a data improvement plan template
- PASA issues guidance on digital transformation
- Deputy Ombudsman clarifies “transfer credits condition”

Pensions Dashboards Programme

- Dashboards Programme – Publications
- PDP marks one year to go until dashboard connection deadline
- PDP dashboards webinar – 10 December 2025
- PDP blog on data quality

The Pensions Regulator (TPR)

- Enforcement strategy consultation – LGA response
- TPR publishes revised data quality guidance
- TPR blog on pension scams

HMRC

- Pension Schemes Newsletter 175
- Managing Pension Scheme Service: HMRC has published a YouTube video on enrolling and migrating to the service

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Bulletin 99 (continued): November 2025

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Useful links

Contact details

- [Update your contact details](#)
- [Raising a query](#)

Bulletin 98: October 2025

Calendar of events

Actions arising

Age Discrimination Remedy updates

- Q2 25/26 McCloud Compensation Claims – DELTA Opens 01 Oct (Firefighters Remedy Compensation Grant July-September 2025)
- Updated HMRC Offsetting of Unauthorised Payments Reporting Template and Guidance

Matthews exercise updates

- Project Implementation Data request – Thanks!
- Manual case update and new template

FPS

- General technical query log
- Matthews and Age Discrimination Remedy query logs

Training and Development

- Training and Development
- Local Pension Board (LPB) Training Sessions

Events

- FPS coffee mornings

FPS England Scheme Advisory Board (SAB) updates

- SAB website

Pensions Dashboards Programme

- Dashboards Programme – Publications
- MoneyHelper pensions dashboards testing – update

The Pensions Regulator (TPR)

- Pensions dashboards webinar
- Public Sector Scheme Return

The Pensions Ombudsman

- TPO determination on pension liberation

PASA

- PASA guidance on AI in pensions administration
- PASA accreditation showcase webinar

Useful links

Contact details

- Update your contact details
- Raising a query

Bulletin 97: September 2025

Calendar of events

Actions arising

Age Discrimination Remedy updates

- Contingent Decisions – Scheme Manager guidance

Matthews exercise updates

- GAD calculator
- Project Implementation Data request

FPS

- General technical query log
- Matthews and Age Discrimination Remedy query logs

Training and Development

- Training and Development
- Local Pension Board (LPB) Training Sessions

Events

- Firefighters' Pensions Annual Conference
- FPS coffee mornings

FPS England Scheme Advisory Board (SAB) updates

- New Fire SAB inbox
- Annual report
- SAB website

Other News and Updates

- Amendments to the Pensions Schemes Bill in response to the Virgin Media judgement

Pensions Dashboards Programme

- Dashboards Programme – Publications

The Pensions Regulator (TPR)

- TPR launches consultation on new enforcement strategy

The Pensions Administration Standards Association (PASA)

- PASA publishes Dashboards Toolkit on Warnings and Unavailable Codes

The Pensions Ombudsman

- The Pensions Ombudsman's determination CAS-81940-Z2S8

HMRC

- HMRC Newsletter 173 – September 2025

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Bulletin 97 (continued): September 2025

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Useful links

Contact details

- [Update your contact details](#)
- [Raising a query](#)

Bulletin 96: August 2025

Calendar of events

Actions arising

Age Discrimination Remedy updates

- GAD calculator – Version 3
- Resources

Matthews exercise updates

- Forthcoming calculator versions

FPS

- Update your contact details
- General technical query log
- Matthews and Age Discrimination Remedy query logs
- BlueLight Commercial – Request for information

Training and Development

- 2025 Training and Development
- Local Pension Board (LPB) Training Sessions

Events

- Firefighters' Pensions Conference (AGM)
- FPS coffee mornings

FPS England SAB Updates

- SAB website
- Local Pension Board Effectiveness Committee

Pensions Dashboards Programme

- Dashboards Programme – Publications
- Blog: Testing the MoneyHelper Pensions Dashboard
- Over 40 million pension records now connected
- Updated guidance now available
- Video: Final step in connecting to dashboards

The Pensions Regulator (TPR)

- New Pensions Dashboards connection campaign

The Pensions Administration Standards Association (PASA)

- New guidance: Securing Tomorrow – protecting member data

The Pensions Ombudsman

- TPO Chair reflects on first month in the role
- TPO launches new Corporate Strategy 2025-2028

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Bulletin 96 (continued): August 2025

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HMRC

- Newsletter 172 – August 2025

Useful links

Contact details

- Raising a query

Bulletin 95: July 2025

Calendar of events

Actions arising

Age Discrimination Remedy updates

- GAD and HMRC offsetting guidance – walkthrough video
- Contingent Decisions for Opted-Out Members
- GAD guidance

Matthews exercise updates

- Matthews resources
- Matthews age discrimination interactions
- Manual case update and new template
- Matthews 2 Calculator demonstration

FPS

- Firefighters' Pensions: DELTA Returns – Collection of firefighters' pension forecasts for period 2025/26 to 2030/31
- Injury pensions
- Resources
- Firefighters' Pensions Team update
- The Firefighters' Pension Scheme (Wales) (Amendment) Regulations 2025
- Update your contact details
- General technical query log
- Matthews and Age Discrimination Remedy query logs

Training and Development

- 2025 Training and Development
- Local Pension Board (LPB) Training Sessions

Events

- Firefighters' Pensions Conference (AGM)
- FPS coffee mornings

FPS England SAB Updates

- SAB website

Other News and Updates

- Pensions Commission revived
- Third State Pension age (SPa) review
- Pension Schemes Bill – second reading
- Targeted support consultations

Pensions Dashboards Programme

- Dashboards Programme – Publications
- Voluntary connection
- Money and Pensions Service (MaPS) consumer testing approach
- PDP guidance on changing route to connection

continued over . . .

Bulletin 95 (continued): July 2025

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The Pensions Regulator (TPR)

- Blog and dashboards tracker survey results
- Annual report and accounts for 2024/25 and corporate plan
- Digital, data and technology blog

The Pensions Administration Standards Association (PASA)

- Guidance on data matching

HM Treasury

- Inheritance Tax consultation response

HMRC

- Mandatory Scheme pays
- Newsletter 171

The Pensions Ombudsman

- Cheshire FRA Ombudsman Case CAS-76722-Z3Z9
- Annual report and accounts for 2024/25

Useful links

Contact details

- Raising a query

Bulletin 94: June 2025

Calendar of events

Firefighters' Pensions Team objectives

Actions arising

Age Discrimination Remedy updates

- HMRC Offsetting guidance
- Annual Benefit Statement (ASS) Remediable Service Statement (RSS) 2024 and 2025 production
- Cross Border Transfers guidance

Matthews Remedy updates

- Project Implementation Data request
- Manual cases
- Calculator version 3

FPS

- Firefighters' Pensions: DELTA Returns – Collection of firefighters' pension forecasts for period 2025/26 to 2030/31
- FPS valuation – Thank you
- Pensions Dashboard resources
- Local Government Pension Scheme (LGPS) McCloud data requests
- Update your contact details
- General technical query log
- Matthews and Age Discrimination Remedy query logs

Training and Development

- 2025 Training and Development
- Local Pension Board (LPB) Training Sessions

Events

- FPS coffee mornings

FPS England SAB Updates

- 18 June 2025 SAB meeting
- SAB website

Other News and Updates

- Pension Schemes Bill 2024/25
- Spending Review
- Virgin Media Ltd v NTL Pensions Trustees II Ltd

Pensions Dashboards Programme

- Dashboards Programme – Publications

The Pensions Regulator (TPR)

- Registration codes
- TPR pensions dashboards guidance updated

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Bulletin 94 (continued): June 2025

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The Pensions Ombudsman

- Ms N Clark Employment Tribunal Case
- Stakeholder forum
- Distribution of death grants
- TPO Chair

HMRC

- HMRC remedy newsletter

Useful links

Legislation

- Statutory Instruments

Contact details

- Raising a query

Bulletin 93: May 2025

Calendar of events

Actions arising

Age Discrimination Remedy updates

- GAD guidance
- Interest Process
- Immediate Choice Remediable Service Statements (IC-RSS), election periods and Remediable Pension Saving Statements (R-PSS)
- Remediable Service Statements (RSS) data request

Matthews Exercise updates

- Matthews 2 calculator bulk interface training session
- Refer to GAD manual cases
- Matthews GAD calculator – Version 3

FPS

- Valuation
- Internal Dispute Resolution Procedure
- Update your contact details
- General technical query log
- Matthews and Age Discrimination Remedy query logs

Training and Development

- 2025 Training and Development
- Local Pension Board (LPB) Training Sessions

Events

- FPS coffee mornings

FPS England SAB Updates

- SAB website

Other News and Updates

- Firefighters Pensions Team
- LGPS “Access and fairness” consultation launched

Pensions Dashboards Programme

- Dashboards Programme – Publications
- PDP half yearly programme update May 2025
- PDP publishes data protection impact assessment
- PDP April 2025 update

HMRC

- Newsletter 170
- Service Standards

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Bulletin 93 (continued): May 2025

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The Pensions Ombudsman

- TPO determination CAS-92761-H7Q6

Useful links

Legislation

- Statutory Instruments

Contact details

- Raising a query

Bulletin 92: April 2025

Calendar of events

Actions arising

Age Discrimination Remedy updates

- Contingent Decisions – opted out service reinstatement pause
- GAD guidance – Divorce
- Public Service Pensions and Judicial Offices Act: amending Directions
- HMRC Offsetting guidance

Matthews Exercise updates

- GAD calculator

FPS

- GAD guidance
- FPS Top up grant 2025
- Matthews elections data
- Update your contact details
- General technical query log
- Matthews and Age Discrimination Remedy query logs

Training and Development

- 2025 Training and Development
- Local Pension Board (LPB) Training Sessions

Events

- FPS coffee mornings

FPS England SAB Updates

- SAB website

Other News and Updates

- Fighting pension fraud webinar

Pensions Dashboards Programme

- Dashboards Programme – Publications
- DWP – Accounting Officer assessment
- Recent updates

The Pensions Regulator (TPR)

- TPR launch dashboards industry social media campaign
- Nudge four email to scheme managers
- Registration codes
- TPR and PSAG use AI to uncover fraudulent websites
- Innovation in pensions speech

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Bulletin 92 (continued): April 2025

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HMRC

- Newsletter 169
- Pension scheme rates for 2025/26

Useful links

Legislation

- Statutory Instruments

Contact details

- Raising a query

Bulletin 91: March 2025

Calendar of events

Actions arising

Age Discrimination Remedy updates

- Issuance of Remediable Service Statements (RSS)
- Communicating to members
- GAD guidance
- Changes in NS&I rate Direct Saver interest rates
- HMRC Digital Service – SDES Files

Matthews Exercise updates

- Matthews exercise : GAD calculator
- Project Implementation Data request

FPS

- Firefighters' Pensions Team
- FPS annual update 2025
- Internal Dispute Resolution Procedure (IDRP)
- Update your contact details
- General technical query log
- Matthews and Age Discrimination Remedy query logs

Training and Development

- 2025 Training and Development
- Local Pension Board (LPB) Training Sessions

Events

- FPS coffee mornings

FPS England SAB Updates

- 19 March 2025 SAB meeting
- SAB website

Other News and Updates

- LGA job opportunity – LGPS Training and Development Adviser

Pensions Dashboards Programme

- Dashboards Programme – Publications
- Connecting to dashboards
- PDP standards go live
- Volunteer participants complete connection journey
- PDP blog – connecting via a third party
- Dashboards webinar

continued over . . .

Bulletin 91 (continued): March 2025

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The Pensions Regulator (TPR)

- Update your contact details
- Warning members about pension scams
- TPR publishes data strategy

HMT

- Finance Act 2025

HMRC

- Pension Input aggregation consultation
- Pension Schemes Newsletters 167 and 168

Useful links

Legislation

- Acts

Contact details

- Raising a query

Bulletin 90: February 2025

Calendar of events

Actions arising

Age Discrimination Remedy updates

- Compensation
- HMRC Digital Service
- Annual Benefit Statement Remediable Service Statements (ABS-RSS)
- Remediable Service Statements readiness
- Internal Dispute Resolution Procedure (IDRP)

Matthews Exercise updates

- Amendments to the Firefighters' Pension Scheme: retained firefighters

FPS

- Firefighters' Pensions: Top Up grant 2025 – Collection of pensions accounting data
- Promotion of FPS 2015 supporting documents
- 2024 valuation data update
- Matthews elections data
- The Neonatal Care Leave and Pay (Consequential Amendments to Subordinate Legislation) Regulations 2025
- Update your contact details
- General technical query log
- Matthews and Age Discrimination Remedy query logs

Training and Development

- 2025 Training and Development
- Local Pension Board (LPB) Training Sessions

Events

- FPS coffee mornings

FPS England SAB Updates

- Amendments to the Firefighters' Pension Scheme: retained firefighters
- SAB website

Other News and Updates

- New Head of Pensions
- Firefighters' Pensions Adviser Role

Pensions Dashboards Programme

- Dashboards Programme – Publications

The Pensions Regulator (TPR)

- Dashboards readiness survey
- Pension scam blog
- Blog on 2025 plans

continued over . . .

Bulletin 90 (continued): February 2025

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HMT

- Confirmation of annual revaluation, earnings and pensions increase
- Pensions Increase multiplier tables

Wider Landscape

- Inquiry on AI in banking, pensions and other financial services

Useful links

Legislation

- Statutory Instruments

Contact details

- Raising a query

Bulletin 89: January 2025

Calendar of events

Actions arising

Age Discrimination Remedy updates

- Government Actuary's Department (GAD) guidance update
- Pensions Saving Statements
- Contingent Decisions
- Remediable Service Statements statutory deadlines
- Contribution Adjustments
- Remediable Service Statements Data request

Matthews Exercise updates

- Manual Cases update

FPS

- Proposed amendments to Firefighters' Pension Scheme – member contribution structure consultation
- 2024 valuation data update
- Update your contact details
- Query logs (General, Matthews, and Age Discrimination Remedy)

FPS England SAB Updates

- Proposed amendments to Firefighters' Pension Scheme – member contribution structure consultation
- SAB website

Other News and Updates

Pensions Dashboards Programme

- Dashboards Programme – Publications
- PDP blog on the Reporting Standards

Government Actuary's Department

- GAD blog on the future of pensions administration

The Pensions Regulator (TPR)

- Automatic enrolment earnings bands 2025/26
- TPR dashboards "Hot Topics" article

HMRC

- Inheritance tax on pensions consultation
- Newsletter 166 – January 2025
- Secure Data Exchange Service (SDES) Error codes

Training and Development

- 2025 Training and Development
- Local Pension Board (LPB) Training Sessions

continued over . . .

Bulletin 89 (continued): January 2025

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Events

- FPS coffee mornings
- Heywood Drop in Sessions

Useful links

Contact details

Bulletin 88: December 2024

Calendar of events

Actions arising

Age Discrimination Remedy updates

- CETV guidance
- NS&I Direct Saver interest rates
- Annual Benefit Statement Remediable Service Statements (ABS-RSS) Readiness
- ABS-RSS FAQs

Matthews Exercise updates

- GAD calculator
- Amendments to the Firefighters' Pension Scheme: retained firefighters
- Arrears of pension and tax payable
- Project implementation data request

FPS

- Firefighters' Pensions Team
- Training and Qualifications
- Website document index
- Update your contact details
- Query logs (General, Matthews, and Age Discrimination Remedy)

FPS England SAB Updates

- Update from the SAB Chair, Joanne Livingstone
- 12 December 2024 SAB meeting
- SAB website

Other News and Updates

Pensions Dashboards Programme

- Dashboards Programme – Publications

The Pensions Regulator (TPR)

- Pensions Dashboard update

HMRC

- Digital Service
- Newsletter 165

Training and Events

- Level 2 – Award in Pensions Essentials (APE) Qualification
- 2025 Training Programme
- Firefighters' Pensions Qualification
- Local Pension Board (LPB) Training Sessions
- FPS coffee mornings
- Heywood Drop in Sessions

Useful links

Contact details

Bulletin 87: November 2024

Calendar of events

Actions arising

Age Discrimination Remedy updates

- GAD Tax and Contributions calculator
- NS&I Direct Saver interest rates
- Immediate Detriment
- Offsetting guidance
- Power to reduce or waive liabilities
- Interest on Part 4 Tax loss (Annual Allowance and Lifetime Allowance)
- Marginal rate changes for previously paid annual allowance tax charges
- Club Transfers
- GAD guidance
- Firefighters Pension Scheme Valuation 2024 – GAD data

Matthews Exercise updates

- Death cases
- Guide to processing cases – Support material
- Calculator forthcoming update
- GAD guidance update

FPS

- Amendments to The Firefighters' Pension Scheme Regulations 2014
- GAD 2024 Valuation
- SAB Levy 2024-25 – Request for Purchase Order numbers
- Update your contact details
- Query logs (General, Matthews, and Age Discrimination Remedy)

FPS England SAB Updates

- Local Pension Board (LPB) Chair's forum
- Age Discrimination Remedy – request for data
- SAB website

Other News and Updates

- Bedfordshire Fire and Rescue Service itrent Blue Light User Group
- Budget 2024
- Finance Bill 2024-25

Pensions Dashboards Programme

- Dashboards Programme – Publications

The Pensions Regulator (TPR)

- Regulatory Roundup

The Pensions Administration Standards Association (PASA)

- Data Scoring Guidance launch webinar

continued over . . .

Bulletin 87 (continued): November 2024

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HMRC

- Providing information to members to use the digital service
- Newsletter 164 – October 2024

Events

- Local Pension Board (LPB) Training Sessions
- Local Pension Board Training – Help needed
- FPS coffee mornings
- Heywood Drop in Sessions

Useful links

Contact details

Bulletin 86: October 2024

Calendar of events

Actions arising

FPS

- Age Discrimination Remedy – Tax treatment for top up death benefits
- Age Discrimination Remedy – Immediate Choice Remediable Service Statement (IC-RSS) rollout
- Age Discrimination Remedy – Immediate Choice Protected members
- Age Discrimination Remedy – FPS 1992 contributions and the HMRC Digital Service
- Age Discrimination Remedy – Interest Payments
- Age Discrimination Remedy – Contingent Decisions (Authorised absence)
- Age Discrimination Remedy – Supporting documents
- Employee Contribution Review Engagement Session/Consultation
- Matthews – Fire and Rescue Services Association podcast
- Matthews – Clarification on outstanding HMRC issues
- Matthews – Communications with members
- Matthews – Manual Cases update
- Firefighters Pension Scheme Valuation 2024 – GAD data request
- Forfeiture
- Update your contact details
- Query logs (General, Matthews, and Age Discrimination Remedy)

FPS England SAB Updates

- Local Pension Board (LPB) Chair's forum
- Local Pension Board Template Agenda
- Age Discrimination Remedy – request for data
- SAB website

Other News and Updates

- LGA vacancy – Firefighters' Pensions Adviser
- Itrent Bluelight user group
- Home Office Fire workforce and pensions statistics
- Eversheds Pensions Dashboards Speedbrief
- House of Commons
- The Pensions (Abolition of LTA Charge etc.) (No. 2) & (No. 3) Regulations 2024

TPO

- Deputy Pensions Ombudsman appointment extended
- Ombuds Day

Money Helper

- Request for help

continued over . . .

Bulletin 86 (continued): October 2024

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Pensions Dashboards Programme

- The Pensions Dashboards Programme – Frequently Asked Questions Newsletters

The Pensions Regulator (TPR)

- Newslink
- Regulatory Roundup
- Pensions Dashboards

HMRC

- Public Service Pensions Remedy newsletter – September 2024
- Pension Schemes newsletter 162 – September 2024

Events

- Local Pension Board (LPB) Training Sessions
- Firefighters' Pensions AGM – 18 and 19 September 2024
- FPS coffee mornings
- Heywood Drop in Sessions

Useful links

Contact details

Bulletin 85: September 2024

Calendar of events

Actions arising

FPS

- Firefighters' Pensions – McCloud compensation arrangement claims for Q2 FY24/25
- Age Discrimination Remedy – Immediate Choice – Protected members
- Age Discrimination Remedy – Immediate Choice Remediable Service Statement Rollout
- Matthews – Project implementation data request
- Matthews – GAD calculator – Manual case update
- Update your contact details
- Query logs (General, Matthews, and Age Discrimination Remedy)

FPS England SAB Updates

- Meeting on 12 September 2024
- Local Pension Board (LPB) – Knowledge and Understanding
- SAB website

Other News and Updates

- Firefighters' Pensions Team
- Errors in Teachers Pensions Transfer Quotations
- MAPS launches digital Pension Wise appointments
- Job Opportunity – Pensions Policy and Support Officer

Pensions Dashboards Programme

- The Pensions Dashboards Programme – Frequently Asked Questions Newsletters

The Pensions Regulator (TPR)

- Newslink
- Regulatory Roundup
- Pensions Dashboards

HMRC

- Public Service Pensions Remedy newsletter – September 2024
- Pensions Schemes newsletter 162 – September 2024

Events

- Local Pension Board (LPB) Training Sessions
- Firefighters' Pensions AGM – 18 and 19 September 2024
- FPS coffee mornings
- Heywood Drop in Sessions

Useful links

Contact details

Bulletin 84: August 2024

Calendar of events

Actions arising

FPS

- Firefighters' Pensions: DELTA returns – Collection of data
- Firefighters' Pension Scheme Valuation 2024 – GAD data request
- Age Discrimination Remedy – Immediate Choice Remediable Service Statements (IC-RSS) rollout
- Age Discrimination Remedy – Treasury Directions (Tax relief on contributions for active members)
- Age Discrimination Remedy – ABS-RSS statutory deadlines
- GAD Guidance: CETVs (FPS 2006 and FPS 1992 addendum)
- Matthews – Clarification on outstanding HMRC queries
- Matthews – Deceased firefighters' death grant for extended limited period and additional death grants
- Matthews – Tax on death grant lump sums
- Matthews – GAD calculator manual cases
- Update your contact details
- Query logs (General, Matthews, and Age Discrimination Remedy)

FPS England SAB Updates

- Response from Fire Minister
- SAB website

Other News and Updates

- The Pensions Dashboards Programme – Frequently Asked Questions Newsletters
- The Pensions Regulator – August Newsletter
- The Pensions Regulator – General Code
- The Pensions Regulator – Nudge Campaign
- The Pensions Ombudsman – Recent determination

HMRC

- Newsletter 161 – August 2024
- Pension Commencement Excess Lump Sum (PCELS)

Events

- Local Pension Board (LPB) Training Sessions
- Firefighters' Pensions AGM – 18 and 19 September 2024
- FPS coffee mornings

Useful links

Contact details

Bulletin 83: July 2024

Calendar of events

Actions arising

FPS

- DELTA returns – Collection of firefighters' pension forecasts for 2024/25 to 2029/30
- Annual Benefit Statements
- Age Discrimination Remedy – Annual Benefit Statement Remediable Service member communications and expectations
- Age Discrimination Remedy – Contingent Decisions
- Age Discrimination Remedy – Immediate Choice Remediable Service Statements
- Age Discrimination Remedy – Updated member documents
- Age Discrimination Remedy – Unauthorised Payments and Annual Allowance
- Matthews guide to processing cases – Support material
- Matthews – GAD calculator and GAD calculator manual case update
- Matthews – Expression of Interest forms: Reminders
- Matthews – Coding of payments for accounting/valuation purposes
- Matthews – Processing priority order
- Matthews Statutory Deadlines
- Query logs (General, Matthews, and Age Discrimination Remedy)

FPS England SAB Updates

- Letter to Fire Minister
- SAB website

Other News and Updates

- Pensions Minister, and Crime, Policing and Fire Minister

Pensions Dashboards Programme

- The Pensions Dashboards Programme – Frequently Asked Questions Newsletters

The Pensions Regulator (TPR)

- July Regulatory Roundup

HMRC

- Pension Commencement Excess Lump Sum (PCELS)
- GAD's commutation guidance
- Pension Savings Statements
- July Newsletter
- Scheme Pays

Events

- Local Pension Board (LPB) Training Sessions
- Firefighters' Pensions AGM – 18 and 19 September 2024
- FPS coffee mornings
- Heywood drop-in sessions

Useful links

Contact details

Bulletin 82: June 2024

Calendar of events

Actions arising

FPS

- Firefighters' Pensions Top Up Grant
- Age Discrimination Remedy – NS&I rate update
- Age Discrimination Remedy – Data Sharing
- Age Discrimination Remedy – Immediate Choice Remediable Service Statement rollout update
- Age Discrimination Remedy – Remediable Service Statements
- Age Discrimination Remedy – Divorce Factsheet
- Age Discrimination Remedy – Compensation
- FPS regulations and guidance website updates
- Matthews – Managing expectations
- Matthews – Application of interest
- Matthews – Project implementation data request
- Matthews – GAD calculator bulk upload
- Matthews – Solicitors' letter
- Update your contact details
- General Technical Query log
- Matthews and Age Discrimination Remedy Query logs

FPS England SAB Updates

- SAB website

Other News and Updates

- The Pensions Administration Standards Association (PASA): Data Presence and Accuracy Guidance

Pensions Dashboards Programme

- The Pensions Dashboards Programme – Frequently Asked Questions Newsletters

The Pensions Ombudsman

- Volunteers' week
- Dominic Harris Blog on the TPO operating model

HMRC

- Public Service Pensions Remedy Newsletter – June 2024

Events

- Local Pension Board (LPB) Training Sessions
- Firefighters' Pensions AGM – 18 and 19 September 2024
- FPS coffee mornings
- Heywood drop-in sessions

Useful links

Legislation

- Statutory Rules

Contact details

Bulletin 81: May 2024

Calendar of events

Actions arising

FPS

- 2024 AME pensions top-up grant – uplifts for FY24/25 for Matthews and Sargeant
- Additional AME pensions top-up grant
- Age Discrimination Remedy – Compensation guidance
- Age Discrimination Remedy – Statutory deadlines
- Age Discrimination Remedy – Annual Benefit Statement Remediable Service Statement (ABS-RSS)
- Age Discrimination Remedy – Contingent Decision guidance
- Matthews – GAD calculator
- Update on Tax Treatment of Matthews cases
- Update your contact details
- General technical query log
- Matthews and Age Discrimination Remedy query logs
- GAD contact details for Matthews or Age Discrimination Calculator queries

FPS England SAB Updates

- SAB website

Other News and Updates

- The Pensions Administration Standards Association (PASA) Working Group: Spring update
- Pensions and Lifetime Savings Association (PLSA): Lifetime Allowance abolition – Policy insights webinar

Pensions Dashboards Programme

- The Pensions Dashboards Programme – Frequently Asked Questions Newsletters

The Pensions Regulator (TPR)

- May 2024 Newslink
- Governance and administration survey 2024

HMRC

- Age Discrimination Remedy – HMRC member tax calculator
- Pensions Tax Manual (PTM)

Events

- Local Pension Board (LPB) Training Sessions
- FPS coffee mornings
- Heywood drop-in sessions

Useful links

Contact details

- Raising a query

Bulletin 80: April 2024

Calendar of events

FPS

- Age Discrimination Remedy – Immediate Choice Remediable Service Statements (IC-RSS) Roll Out
- FPS 2015 Added Pension Factsheet
- Update your contact details
- General technical query log
- Matthews and Age Discrimination Remedy query logs

FPS England SAB Updates

- Age Discrimination Remedy – Tax treatment of interest on pension arrears and lump sums
- SAB website

Other News and Updates

- Briefing Paper on public service pensions increases updated

Pensions Dashboards Programme

- The Pensions Dashboards Programme – Frequently Asked Questions Newsletters
- PDP Dashboard Forum

The Pensions Regulator (TPR)

- April Regulatory Round up

HMRC

- Pensions Schemes Newsletter 157 – March 2024
- Pensions Schemes Newsletter 158 – April 2024
- Pensions Schemes Newsletter 159 – April 2024
- Pensions Tax Manual

Events

- Local Pension Board (LPB) Training Sessions
- FPS coffee mornings

Useful links

Legislation

- Acts

Contact details

- Raising a query

Bulletin 79: March 2024

Calendar of events

FPS

- Age Discrimination Remedy – GAD tax and contributions calculator
- Age Discrimination Remedy – GAD standalone interest calculator
- Age Discrimination Remedy – Immediate Choice Remediable Service Statement (IC-RSS) roll out update to timetable and member communications
- Age Discrimination Remedy – Contribution adjustment member factsheet
- Age Discrimination Remedy – Beneficiary Remediable Service Statements (RSS)
- Age Discrimination Remedy – Data sharing
- Firefighters' Pensions: Top Up grant 2024 – Collection of pensions accounting data
- Matthews GAD calculator
- Matthews – Project implementation data request
- FPS annual update 2024
- Update your contact details
- General technical query log
- Bluelight inbox and query form
- Matthews and Age Discrimination Remedy query logs

FPS England SAB Updates

- SAB Meeting 21 March 2024

Other News and Updates

- The Carer's Leave Regulations
- HR Pensions Lead – Devon and Somerset FRS

Pensions Dashboards Programme

- Written Ministerial Statement (WMS) – Pension Dashboards connection guidance
- The Pensions Dashboards Programme – Frequently Asked Questions Newsletters

The Pensions Regulator (TPR)

- The Pensions Act 2004 (Codes of Practice) (Revocation) Order 2024

HMRC

- Lifetime Allowance guidance newsletter – March 2024

Events

- Local Pension Board (LPB) Training Sessions
- FPS coffee mornings

Useful links

Legislation

- Statutory Instruments

Contact details

- Raising a query

Bulletin 78: February 2024

Calendar of events

FPS

- The Firefighters' Pension Scheme (England) (Amendment) Regulations 2024
- Age Discrimination Remedy – Informal guidance note for accounting and finance
- Age Discrimination Remedy – Ill-health reassessment of cases
- Age Discrimination Remedy – Remediable Service Statement (RSS) member video
- Matthews GAD calculator cost sharing
- Matthews GAD calculator Version 2 corrections
- Matthews – supporting documents
- Funding update
- Update your contact details
- General technical query log
- Matthews and Age Discrimination Remedy query logs

FPS England SAB Updates

- Scheme Management and Administration (SMA) Committee – Survey
- SAB website

Other News and Updates

- Appointment to the Bluelight Team
- The Finance Act 2024

Pensions Dashboards Programme

- The Pensions Dashboards Programme – Frequently Asked Questions Newsletters

The Pensions Regulator (TPR)

- Changes to the TPR's declaration of compliance site
- PLSA Lifetime Allowance Abolition Webinar

HMRC

- Lifetime Allowance guidance newsletter – February 2024
- Changes to 2024 to 2025 Pension Scheme Return for Pension Scheme Administrators
- Newsletter 156 – February 2024

Events

- Local Pension Board (LPB) Training Sessions
- FPS coffee mornings

Useful links

Legislation

- Acts
- Statutory Instruments

Contact details

- Raising a query

Bulletin 77: January 2024

Calendar of events

FPS

- The Police and Firefighters' Pensions (Remediable Service) (Amendment) Regulations 2024
- Requests for data
- Matthews – GAD Calculator: Second version
- Age Discrimination Remedy – Added Pension Compensation
- Age Discrimination Remedy – Data Sharing Agreement and guidance
- Age Discrimination Remedy – Contingent Decisions guidance
- Age Discrimination Remedy – Remediable Service Statements (RSS) factsheet
- Injury pension calculation for a retained firefighter appointed after 5 April 2006
- TPR six key processes factsheet
- Update your contact details
- General technical query log
- Matthews and Age Discrimination Remedy query logs

FPS England SAB Updates

- SAB Levy 2023-24 – Request for Purchase Order numbers
- SAB LPB effectiveness committee meeting 23 January 2024

Other News and Updates

- Public Service Pensions Increase 2024
- Draft Guaranteed Minimum Pensions Increase Order 2024

Pensions Dashboards Programme

- Pensions Dashboards Programme (PDP) blog
- The Pensions Dashboard Programme – Frequently Asked Questions Newsletters

The Pensions Regulator (TPR)

- The General Code
- PLSA Lifetime Allowance Abolition Webinar

HMRC

- Pension Input Aggregation Consultation
- Lifetime Allowance guidance newsletter – December 2023
- HMRC Newsletter – January 2024

Events

- Local Pension Board (LPB) Training Sessions
- FPS coffee mornings

Useful links

Legislation

- Statutory Instruments

Contact details

- Raising a query

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

- IDRPs 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: IDRPs 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
- IDRPs 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.