

## FPS Bulletin 71 – July 2023

Welcome to issue 71 of the Firefighters' Pensions Schemes bulletin.

If you are looking for information on a certain topic, issue and content indexes are held on the [main bulletin page](#) of the website and are updated following each new issue.

If you have any comments on this bulletin, suggested items for future issues, or a job you would like to advertise, please email [bluelightpensions@local.gov.uk](mailto:bluelightpensions@local.gov.uk).

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## Calendar of events

Please see below a calendar of upcoming events relevant to the Firefighters’ Pension Schemes. Only those events which are hyperlinked are currently available to book. If you have any events you would like to be included in a future bulletin, please email [bluelightpensions@local.gov.uk](mailto:bluelightpensions@local.gov.uk).

Table 1: Calendar of events

Event	Date
<a href="#">FPS coffee morning</a>	3 August 2023
Southwest and Wales Fire Pensions Officer Group	15 August 2023
Northwest Fire Pensions Officer Group	13 September 2023
SAB	14 September 2023
<a href="#">Firefighters' Annual Conference Day one</a>	19 September 2023
FPS Technical Working Group	19 September 2023
<a href="#">Firefighters' Annual Conference Day two</a>	20 September 2023
Northeast Fire Pensions Officer Group	4 October 2023
SAB	14 December 2023

## Actions arising

[Home Office collection of FPS forecasts for 2023-24 to 2028-29](#): FRAs should ensure that they are using the correct CPI rates in their forecasts and ensure that they meet the submission deadline.

FRAs should also look out for the Home Office's follow up email, if you are affected and engage with them accordingly, to ensure the data submitted is accurate.

[Age discrimination remedy – retrospective remedy](#): FRAs and administrators to read the response and ensure that they are working to be ready for the regulations' implementation on 1 October 2023.

[Age discrimination remedy – Contributions Calculator inputs](#): FRAs and administrators may wish to familiarise themselves with the draft inputs, so that they can ensure they are holding all the relevant data.

[Age discrimination remedy - Interest and Tax](#): FRAs and administrators should note

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this position, to ensure that they act accordingly when carrying out remedy.

[Age discrimination remedy – Pension scams](#): Administrators and/or FRAs to add the suggested wording to the pension webpages.

[Age discrimination remedy – warm up letters](#): FRAs/administrators should use these to communicate with their members ahead of October 2023.

[Age discrimination remedy – Ill-Health re-assessment member outcome letters](#): Once the IQMP has provided their determination and FRAs have considered this and agree with the outcome, FRAs should send these using the relevant member outcome letter.

[Firefighters' Pension Scheme Adjustment in Respect of 2021 and 2022 Revaluation](#): FRAs and administrators to make themselves aware of this issue and start scoping the work involved.

[Government Actuary Department \(GAD\) – updated factors](#): FRAs and administrators to ensure that they are using the revised factors from the relevant implementation dates.

[Member benefit illustrations – FPS Northern Ireland](#): FRAs and administrators to make their members aware of the benefit illustrators, where applicable.

[Pension entitlements for retained Firefighters 2023 – FPS Wales](#): FRAs and administrators to review the consultation and respond accordingly.

[The Pensions Regulator Survey](#): We would encourage you to respond to the survey should you receive this.

[Abolishing the pensions lifetime allowance](#): FRAs and administrators to make themselves aware of the measures involved and consider whether they wish to respond to the consultation.

[Member remedy tax calculator](#): Scheme managers should register on the Secure Exchange Data Service ahead of the remedy exercise and delegate access

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accordingly.

## FPS

### Home Office collection of FPS forecasts for 2023-24 to 2028-29

In [FPS Bulletin 70 – June 2023](#) we informed you that Home Office had contacted FRAs giving them advance notice of their request for submission of pension income/expenditure forecasts for the period 2023-24 to 2028-29 via the online DELTA system.

On 6 July 2023, Home Office had emailed FRAs their formal commissioning letter requesting the pension forecasts. The letter sets out the centrally prescribed assumptions that must be applied when calculating an FRA's pension income and expenditure forecasts.

FRAs would be able to access the forms on DELTA from Monday 10 July and the deadline for DELTA returns is **cop Friday 25 August**.

Paragraph 3.1 of the letter sets out that the Home Office will shortly be requesting the local assumptions (for example on scheme member numbers, ill-health retirements etc.) that they are including in their forecasts and that this will be a separate return by email to the Home Office.

On 17 July 2023, Home Office emailed FRAs to inform them that the CPI figures in the original commission were incorrect, and to use the following correct rates in their forecasts:

Year	CPI rate
2023-24	10.1%
2024-25	5.4%
2025-26	0.6%

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2026-27	0.0%
2027-28	0.7%
2028-29	1.7%

The Home Office have informed us that they are currently progressing the AME Fire top up grant payments based on the accounting data submitted by each FRA on the online DELTA system. These payments are due to be made in late July 2023.

The Home Office are aware that some fire and rescue authorities have not yet completed their audit for the 2021/22 FY accounts. The Home Office will be following up with these FRAs later this year when their audits are completed. This will ensure that any changes between their audited and unaudited 21/22 Financial Year accounts are recorded for the purposes of the AME top up grant, and that any necessary audit adjustments (payments/recoveries) are actioned.

**ACTION:** FRAs should ensure that they are using the correct CPI rates in their forecasts and ensure that they meet the submission deadline.

**ACTION:** FRAs should look out for the Home Office’s follow up email, if you are affected and engage with them accordingly, to ensure the data submitted is accurate.

### **Age discrimination remedy – retrospective remedy**

Further to [FPS Bulletin 67 – March 2023](#), where we informed you of the launch of [Home Office’s consultation on retrospective remedy](#), on 19 July 2023 Home Office published the government's [formal response to the consultation on the draft Firefighters Pensions \(Remediable Service\) Regulations 2023](#) and policy intent to implement the retrospective phase of the McCloud/Sargeant remedy.

[The Firefighters’ Pensions \(Remediable Service\) Regulations 2023](#) were subsequently laid in Parliament on 20 July 2023 and will come into effect from 1 October 2023.

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**ACTION:** FRAs and administrators to read the response and ensure that they are working to ensure they are ready for the implementation of the regulations on 1 October 2023.

### **Age discrimination remedy – Contributions Calculator inputs**

The Government Actuary's Department (GAD) has been working on the McCloud remedy contributions calculator and have shared the draft inputs for the calculator.

Inputs are loaded into the calculator by importing from a CSV template. Imported values can be edited within the calculator before running or after running to make a required changed. Inputs can also be loaded manually.

The fields are detailed in the [Contributions Calculator inputs document](#) which form the columns of the input section of the calculator. A full description of each required field will be made available by GAD in due course.

For members where calculations are required for more than one scheme year, each scheme year is added as a new row. However, the output for each member is grouped together on the output.

If a calculation is being carried out monthly, a new row is required for each month. The output in these cases is similarly grouped.

**ACTION:** FRAs and administrators may wish to familiarise themselves with the draft inputs, so that they can ensure they are holding all the relevant data. A full data specification will be available in due course.

### **Age discrimination remedy – Interest and Tax**

Following on from a number of queries relating to how interest in terms of tax should be applied, with thanks to HMRC and HM Treasury, please see the confirmed position below:

- Interest paid is taxable or tax free depending on whether the original payment was tax free.
- If the interest on a tax free amount plus the original tax free amount exceeds

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statutory limits (for example, total PCLS), the excess becomes taxable as an unauthorised payment.

- Schemes will deduct tax due at the member's marginal rate and pay them the net amount. Arrears of pension are always taxable under PAYE (see the HMRC [Employment Income Manual](#)).
- The application of tax to the amounts of interest paid in excess of commercial rates still applies. Although it is explained in relation to guaranteed minimum pension, [Pension Schemes newsletter 140](#) sets out the tax treatment of interest.
- For compensation, under the [PSPJOA](#) it is adjusted to take account of what the tax/tax relief would have been in cases where it would have been taxable or subject to tax relief.

**ACTION:** FRAs and administrators should take note of this position, to ensure that they act accordingly when carrying out remedy.

### **Age discrimination remedy – Pension scams**

We have been made aware through our conversations with Cross Whitehall colleagues that 3<sup>rd</sup> party organisations are contacting members of public service pension schemes, selling their help in claiming the 2015 remedy benefits.

We have therefore put some high-level wording together, which we will also adapt for the Firefighters' members website, that you may wish to put on your website pages:

“We have become aware that third party organisations are contacting members of public service pension schemes, such as the firefighters' pension scheme, selling their help in claiming the 2015 Remedy (McCloud) benefits.

As the administrator for XXXX we *will not request a fee* for providing this information. *You do not need to go through a third party* to claim these benefits and we will contact you in due course to provide you with your remedial service statement to allow you to make your remedy option.

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*Please remember to stay vigilant. If you are still unsure or have any concerns over a potential scam, please contact us for clarification.”*

**ACTION:** Administrators and/or FRAs to add the suggested wording to the pension webpages.

### **Age discrimination remedy – warm up letters**

In conjunction with the Firefighters’ Communications Working Group, warm up letters have been created to assist FRAs and administrators to manage member expectations on the timetable of when each cohort will be written to as part of the remedy exercise.

These letters include letters to beneficiaries. It was suggested by the group that not all FRAs/administrators will have contacted beneficiaries at this point; therefore, they may not wish to provide a warmup letter to this group.

A member remedy video is being developed in conjunction with Aon and will be available ahead of October 2023. The member video will reference the warmup letters.

These letters have been uploaded to the [Age discrimination remedy – retrospective remedy page](#) on the Firefighters’ Regulations and Guidance website.

**ACTION:** FRAs/administrators should use these to communicate with their members ahead of October 2023.

### **Age discrimination remedy – Ill health reassessment member outcome letters**

In [FPS Bulletin 63 – November 2022](#), we published an [ill-health reassessment factsheet](#) to help FRAs determine which individuals require a reassessment of their ill-health determination as a result of remedy implementation.

In [FPS Bulletin 69 – May 2023](#), we published the IQMP template referral letters.

The member outcome letters for scenarios one, two, seven and nine as referred to in the ill-health assessment factsheet have now been added to the [Retrospective remedy webpage](#).

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**ACTION:** Once the IQMP has provided their determination and FRAs have considered this and agree with the outcome, FRAs should send these using the relevant member outcome letter.

## **Firefighters' Pension Scheme Adjustment in Respect of 2021 and 2022 Revaluation**

We sent out an email on 11 July 2023 with a copy of a notification from the Home Office in respect of the Average Weekly Earnings (AWE) growth figures for 2021 and 2022. This will affect the Firefighters' Pension Scheme 2015:

"I'm emailing to make you aware of an issue that the Home Office have been working on with HMT, MoD and devolved administrations over the past few months, and a related WMS that was published on 6 July 2023: [Written statements - Written questions, answers and statements - UK Parliament](#)

During QA work for the Treasury Revaluation Order 2023, it was noted that the Orders for 2021 and 2022 used provisional Average Weekly Earnings (AWE) growth estimates published by the ONS the preceding November respectively rather than revised AWE figures published the preceding December. This deviates from the approach taken from 2015 to 2020 and in 2023, and our best assessment is that it occurred in error. This primarily affects schemes revalued based on AWE, i.e. the 2015 Firefighters' Pension Scheme including devolved schemes and the 2015 Armed Forces Pension Scheme. The overall effect is that revaluation for affected members is up to ~0.6% lower than it would have been if revised ONS figures had been used.

<b>Revaluation order for April</b>	<b>Figure in Order</b>	<b>Statistic as published in latest ONS release</b>
2022	4.1	4.5
2021	2.4	2.6

While primary legislation gives HMT a fairly broad remit on the choice of earnings measures, it is our and Treasury Ministers' view that, given the lack of a policy rationale for the change in methodology, affected members will need to be put back into the position they would have been in had revised AWE figures been used in 2021 and 2022. This is not straightforward legislatively as past Treasury Orders likely cannot be amended through future Treasury Orders or scheme regulations, but we believe that remedy can be provided through additional pension accrual under Section 3 PSPA 2013. MoD, HO and devolved administrations will consult and legislate for these scheme specific changes.

On the limited number of past Club transfers from the affected schemes, where transferred in pensions may have been smaller than should have been the case and/or revaluation provided on the basis of the sending scheme has been lower than it should have been following this correction. We have discussed this issue with CO and affected departments and DAs, and our preferred approach is to also correct the position for these members through a combination of the proposed s3 PSPA 2013 regulations and amendments to the Club Memorandum, and avoid receiving schemes having to make bespoke regulations in respect of a small number of past transfers in. However, there may be some issues to be worked through with this approach as the Club Memorandum cannot override conflicting rules of receiving schemes.

Please do share with SAB and happy for this to be put on the agenda at the next scheduled SAB.

There is no need for administration to take any further action for now, we will be in touch to discuss what implementing this change will mean.”

As indicated above, the Home Office will confirm further details on implementation in due course however FRAs and administrators should start scoping the work which will be involved following this notification.

**ACTION:** FRAs and administrators to make themselves aware of this issue and start scoping the work involved.

## Government Actuary Department (GAD) – updated factors

In [FPS Bulletin 68 – April 2023](#) we confirmed that the CETV technical note had been suspended, and therefore all CETVs, Pensioner cash equivalents and non-club transfers-in should be suspended.

In [FPS Bulletin 69 – May 2023](#), we published that Home Office had confirmed that the first batch of updated factors had been provided by GAD. This updated the following factor tables:

- CETVs (x-201 to x-215),
- Pensioner cash equivalents (x-301 to x-312),
- Pension credits (x-313 to x-317),
- Pension debits (x-318 to x-328)

On 3 July 2023 Home Office confirmed that the second batch of updated factors had been provided by GAD. This updated the following factor tables:

- x-220 to x-221 (CARE TV ins),
- x-401 to x-403 (Early Retirement Factors),
- x-404 to x-407 (Late Retirement Factors)

and the following factor tables were withdrawn:

- x-216 to x-219 (non-Club tv ins for 2006 scheme)

These factors should be implemented as follows:

- x-220 to x-221 factors from **29 March 2023**.
- x-401 to x-403 and x-404 to x-407 factors from **3 July 2023**.

On 28 July 2023, Home Office confirmed that the third and final batch of updated factors had been provided by GAD. This updated the following factor tables:

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- x-501 to x-504 (Trivial Commutation),
- x-603 and x-621 (Scheme Pays (Annual Allowance)),
- x-622 to x-627 (Scheme Pays (Lifetime Allowance))

**These factors should be implemented with effect from 28 July 2023.**

The updated factors should be used in conjunction with the relevant existing guidance notes in force for the Firefighters' Pension Schemes.

The factors are published on the relevant [GAD guidance pages](#) of the Firefighters' Pension Scheme Regulations and Guidance website.

**ACTION:** FRAs and administrators to ensure that they are using the revised factors from the relevant implementation dates.

#### **Member benefit illustrations – FPS Northern Ireland**

In [FPS Bulletin 56 – April 2022](#) we made you aware that the Scheme Advisory Board had worked with Barnett Waddingham to produce a suite of illustrative member scenarios.

Barnett Waddingham have now produced this for members in Northern Ireland and this is available on the [FPS member website](#).

**ACTION:** FRAs and administrators to make their members aware of the benefit illustrators.

#### **Pension entitlements for retained Firefighters 2023 – FPS Wales**

On 14 July 2023, Welsh Government launched their [consultation for retained firefighters](#).

The consultation seeks to make changes to the New Firefighters Pension scheme 2007 about pension rights for Retained Firefighters and Firefighters' 2007 Compensation Scheme in respect of secondary contracts.

The closing date is 6 October 2023.

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**ACTION:** FRAs and administrators to review the consultation and respond accordingly.

### **Technical query log**

The [current log of queries and responses](#) can be accessed by practitioners in the member-restricted area of the FPS Regulations and Guidance website. The queries have been anonymised and divided into topics. The log is updated monthly in line with the bulletin release dates.

There were no technical queries raised in July.

## **FPS England SAB updates**

### **Government Actuary Department (GAD) – Matthews benefit Calculator**

On 4 May 2023, the Scheme Advisory Board (SAB) wrote to Chief Fire Officers to share the scope and cost of the GAD benefit calculator, which is in addition to the scope of the workplan between Home Office and GAD, to ask for comments by 11 May 2023.

As no objections were received to the proposal, the SAB commissioned GAD to take this work forward.

GAD attended the [LGA coffee morning](#) on 6 June 2023 to discuss the scope of the calculator and have been working with stakeholders through the Matthews Working Group to develop the calculator. The calculator will be tested by those FRAs who have volunteered. The final calculator will then be made available for FRAs to use for the Matthews Second Options Exercise.

### **Cost Effectiveness Committee Meeting**

On 25 July 2023, the Cost Effectiveness Committee met to discuss the draft 2020 Scheme valuation assumptions for England.

In this meeting the SAB actuarial advisors, First Actuarial, presented a report setting out advice and assurance to the committee on the data and assumptions advice given by the Government Actuary's Department (GAD) for the valuation of the

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Scheme as at 31 March 2020. The report also set out areas where they believe the SAB may wish to make representations to the Home Secretary on alternative assumptions or other issues such as data quality that are identified during the assumptions setting process. A response has now been collated and sent on behalf of the Chair of SAB to the Home Secretary.

### **Cost Effectiveness Committee Appointment**

Following a vacancy on the Cost Effectiveness Committee for an FRA Local Pension Board representative, we are pleased to confirm that Councillor Ben Clayton has been appointed. The main objectives of the Cost Effectiveness Committee are to determine how much it costs to run the Firefighters' Pension Schemes and to respond to Home Office consultations regarding the actuarial cost of the scheme. As detailed above, the Cost Effectiveness Committee met on 25 July 2023 to discuss the draft assumptions for the 2020 valuation.

### **Other News and Updates**

#### **Firefighters Pensions – Pension Advisor Role(s) vacancy**

The LGA pensions team works with and on behalf of authorities and other stakeholders across the Firefighters, Police, and Local Government pension schemes in England. To be part of this team is to be a vital element in the legislative and administrative framework of some of the largest pension schemes in the UK.

We are looking for inspirational individuals to work alongside experienced and talented pensions specialists in respect of the Firefighters' pension schemes.

Reporting directly to the Firefighters Senior Pensions Adviser, the successful candidates will assist with priority developments in scheme governance and provide support to employers, as well as to the Firefighters' Pensions Scheme Advisory Board, its committees, and Fire and Rescue Authorities' Local Pension Boards.

We have two roles being advertised within the Firefighters' pensions team. If you are interested in applying, please see the full advert on the [website](#).

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## **The Public Service Pensions and Judicial Offices Act 2022 (Commencement No 2) Regulations 2023**

On the 3 July 2023 the [Public Service Pensions and Judicial Offices Act 2022 \(Commencement No 2\) Regulations 2023](#) were laid. These Regulations are the second Commencement Regulations made under the Public Service Pensions and Judicial Offices Act 2022 and bring into force Chapter 2 and sections 109 and 110 of the Act.

Chapter 2 makes retrospective provision to rectify unlawful discrimination in the way in which existing Judicial pension schemes were restricted under the Public Service Pensions Act 2013.

Regulation 2(b) brings into force section 109, to the extent that it is not already in force and to the extent that it applies for the purposes of Chapter 2 of the Act.

Regulation 2(c) brings into force sections 110, to the extent that it is not already in force and to the extent that it applies for the purposes of Chapter 2 of the Act.

### **The Pensions Regulator (TPR) - survey**

Over the coming weeks, you may receive a survey from The Pensions Regulator (TPR) – this is an anonymous, factfinding exercise to understand some of the challenges faced by schemes in getting member data from the employer. For example, what data is collected, when this is provided and what is the process if there are delays.

The scheme selection is mainly focused on schemes who have a large number of employers and will be sent to the Scheme Contact they have on record (but may be forwarded to the most appropriate person to provide the information).

**ACTION:** We would encourage you to respond to the survey should you receive this.

### **Staging dates – The Pensions Regulator (TPR) expectations**

The Pensions Regulator (TPR) has updated its [‘Failing to comply with dashboards duties’ guidance](#). The purpose of the update is to outline what schemes will need to do to demonstrate that they have had regard to the staging timetable. The staging

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timetable will be set out in connection guidance.

TPR expects schemes to do the following to show that they ‘have regard to the connection guidance’:

- Connect to dashboards by the connection deadline of 31 October 2026 that is set out in legislation. Failure to do so could result in regulatory action by TPR.
- A revised staging timetable will be set out in guidance which will indicate when schemes are scheduled to connect. All trustees and scheme managers must have regard to this guidance. Failure to do so will be a breach.
- Although the timelines in guidance will not be mandatory, schemes will be expected to demonstrate how they have had regard to the guidance. Amongst other considerations, this means that scheme managers:
  - should not make decisions about connection until they have engaged with the guidance.
  - must be able to demonstrate that they have adequate governance and processes for making such decisions. The reasoning for the decisions should be clearly considered and documented, as should how relevant risks are identified, evaluated and managed.
  - should make sure that they have access to all the relevant information before making decisions and acting on them. This includes engaging with those who are supporting them to develop a practical delivery plan. Clear and accurate audit trails need to be kept to demonstrate the decisions made, the reasons for them and the actions taken.
- A phased approach to staging enables a controlled and well-planned connection, reduces the risk of provider capacity constraints, and means savers can realise the benefits of pension dashboards as early as

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possible.

- Continuing to prepare for dashboards by engaging with those who will support them with their dashboard duties, such as ISP providers and administrators:
  - to assess the potential impact of these changes on their schemes
  - to agree a practical delivery plan, and
  - to continue activity on getting to grips with member data.

### **[The Pensions Dashboards Programme \(PDP\) video: An introduction to the dashboards available point](#)**

The Pensions Dashboards Programme (PDP) has launched a [video introducing the dashboards available point](#). The dashboards available point is the date when pensions dashboards will be made available to the public.

### **[Pensions Dashboards \(Amendment\) Regulations 2023](#)**

In [FPS Bulletin 70 – July 2023](#) we informed that further to the [written ministerial statement](#) made on 8 June 2023, that draft regulations had been laid to amend the Pensions Dashboard Regulations 2022.

On 19 July 2023 [The Pensions Dashboards \(Amendment\) Regulations 2023](#) were made and will come into force on 9 August 2023.

### **[The Police Pensions \(Remediable Service\) Regulations 2023](#)**

On 19 July 2023 the [Police Pensions \(Remediable Service\) Regulations 2023](#), were laid and will come into force on 1 October 2023.

### **[Teachers' Pension Scheme \(Remediable Service\) Regulations 2023](#)**

On the 26 July 2023 the [Teachers' Pension Scheme \(Remediable Service\) Regulations 2023](#), were laid and will come into force on 1 October 2023.

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## HMRC

### Pension Schemes Newsletter 151 – June 2023

HMRC published Pension Schemes [Newsletter 151 - June 2023](#) on 30 June 2023.

The newsletter contained articles on:

- the annual allowance calculator
- the abolition of the Lifetime Allowance – payment of standalone lump sums, and
- the Managing Pension Schemes service

### Pension Schemes Newsletter 152 – July 2023

HMRC published Pension Schemes [Newsletter 152 – July 2023](#) on 20 July 2023.

The newsletter contained articles on:

- Legislation Day (L-Day) 2023,
- Relief at source – annual return of information for the tax year 2022 to 2023,
- Pension flexibility statistics
- Qualifying recognised overseas pension schemes transfer statistics, and
- Purpose of registered pension scheme

### Abolishing the pensions lifetime allowance

On 18 July 2023 HMRC launched their [consultation](#) to abolish the pensions lifetime allowance (LTA). The LTA consultation is part of a wider consultation on proposed clauses for the next Finance Bill

This is designed to deliver the changes necessary to abolish the pensions lifetime allowance from the tax year 2024 to 2025 onwards, as announced at Spring Budget 2023.

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The closing date for responses is 12 September 2023.

**ACTION:** FRAs and administrators to make themselves aware of the measures involved and consider whether they wish to respond to the consultation.

### **Age discrimination remedy - Member tax calculator**

As part of discussions with HMRC regarding the development of the member remedy tax calculator, it has been identified that Scheme Managers will need to register for the Secure Exchange Data Service (SDES), to allow HMRC to provide schemes with member information so that they can make any necessary refund/adjustments in benefits.

Once the Scheme Manager has registered, they will then be able to delegate access to their pension administrators, where applicable.

Guidance slides have been made available to assist Scheme Managers to register for the [Secure Exchange Data Service](#) (SDES).

**ACTION:** Scheme Managers should register on the Secure Exchange Data Service ahead of the remedy exercise and delegate access accordingly.

## **Events**

### **FPS coffee mornings**

Our MS Teams coffee mornings are continuing on a regular basis. The informal sessions lasting up to an hour allow practitioners to catch up with colleagues and hear a brief update on FPS issues from the LGA Bluelight team.

We are pleased to include the presentations from recent session below, which was held on 11 July 2023:

### [LGA update – Retrospective remedy and Mathews Second options exercise](#)

If you do not already receive the meeting invitations and would like to join us, please email [bluelightpensions@local.gov.uk](mailto:bluelightpensions@local.gov.uk). Please note that attendance at the coffee mornings is generally restricted to FPS practitioners and managers.

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## Firefighters' Pensions AGM – London – 19 and 20 September 2023

Great news!!! Bookings have opened for the AGM.

The two-day programme allows delegates to network with fellow colleagues and hear the latest news on the Firefighters' Pension Scheme (FPS) from the scheme's key stakeholders.

You will hear important updates, including:

- Chair of the Scheme Advisory Board
- The Home Office
- The Pensions Regulator
- The Government Actuary's Department
- Communications and engagement
- Legal Updates

As well as providing the opportunity to network with other FPS stakeholders, there will be interactive and thought-provoking workshops to take part in during the day on:

- Retrospective remedy - communications, and
- Matthews second exercise

Day 1 – Tuesday 19 September 2023 16:30 – 18:30

Primarily for Scheme Managers and Local Pension Board chairs, day 1 of the conference will provide practical guidance on the role of the scheme manager and will offer the opportunity to network with counterparts in other FRAs.

Following this session there will be a drinks reception on the terrace from 18:45.

Day 2 – Wednesday 20 September 2023 10.00 – 15:30

Day 2 of the conference provides delegates with an annual update on the

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Firefighters' Pension Scheme from key stakeholders.

Bookings are open on the LGA Events page.

[Firefighters' Pensions Annual Conference Day One](#)

[Firefighters' Pensions Annual Conference Day Two](#)

## Legislation

### Acts

[Finance \(No.2\) Act 2023](#) [2023/30]

### Statutory Instruments

[The Firefighters Pensions \(Remediable Service\) Regulations 2023](#) [SI2023/843]

[The Pensions Dashboards \(Amendment\) Regulations 2023](#) [SI2023/858]

## Useful links

- [The Firefighters' Pensions \(England\) Scheme Advisory Board](#)
- [FPS Regulations and Guidance](#)
- [FPS Member](#)
- [Khub Firefighters Pensions Discussion Forum](#)
- [FPS1992 guidance and commentary](#)
- [The Pensions Regulator Public Service Schemes](#)
- [The Pensions Ombudsman](#)
- [HMRC Pensions Tax Manual](#)
- [LGA pensions website](#)
- [LGPS Regulations and Guidance](#)
- [LGPC Bulletins](#)
- [LGPS member site](#)
- [Scottish Public Pensions Agency - Firefighters](#)
- [Welsh Government Fire circulars](#)

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