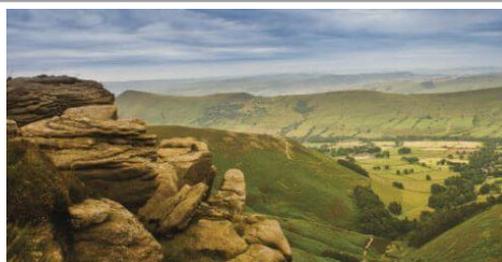




In this issue:

- Exit payment cap consultation
- Contribution payment references
- Year end return
- Employer discretions
- Early L1 submissions
- Pension Board recruitment
- Opt Out forms



Exit payment cap for the public sector

HM Treasury has reopened a consultation on restricting exit payments in the public sector. The government originally announced plans to cap exit payments in 2015.

The Local Government Association (LGA) has published [a summary for LGPS employers](#) which outlines the proposals and how they may impact on local government employers. The summary includes a link to the consultation.

Employers are invited to respond to the consultation by the closing date of 3 July 2019.

Contribution payment references

It is important that when paying your monthly employee and employer LGPS contributions, that you use a reference that enables us to easily identify what the payment relates to.

Your payment reference should include your employer number (found on your CR1 form) and the month to which the payment relates, e.g. **P912345April**. Without this, we will not be able to reconcile your payment.

If we're unable to reconcile your payment we have to assume it has not been paid. In accordance with our [Administration Strategy](#), you can be charged for the additional administration caused by repeated errors, so please always remember to reference your payments.

Year End Return

Thank you to those employers who have submitted their 2018/2019 scheme year end return.

If you have not submitted your return yet, please do so urgently. If you're experiencing problems in completing your return, please get in touch with our Technical team immediately: pensions.tech@derbyshire.gov.uk

In accordance with our [Administration Strategy](#), late returns may incur a charge of £5 **per member** for every day that passes following the 18 April deadline.

Late or incomplete returns have a knock on effect on all our scheme employers, particularly this year as we need your data for the fund triennial valuation. Late returns may delay when all our employers can receive their new employer contribution rates effective from 1 April 2020.

Employer Discretions

Thank you to those employers who have submitted their discretions policies. The submission deadline for revised employer discretions policies is **14 May 2019**.

Publishing an employer discretions policy and revising it, as and when necessary, is a statutory requirement, detailed in the LGPS regulations. If you have yet to set a policy, or have one but have not revised it following the Amendment Regulations 2018, you need to do so now.

Failure to provide your policy may result in the suspension of the right to grant early payments for redundancy, ill health, compassionate or other grounds, until the policy is received. You may also be reported to The Pensions Regulator, as we are obliged to record all breaches of the law.

Guidance for setting your policy, including our easy to use template, is [here](#).

The email address to submit your policy to is pensions.regs@derbyshire.gov.uk

Early L1 submissions

In order to prevent delays, we encourage the submission of L1 (leaver) notification forms, for members who are eligible for their pension benefits, **before** their leaving date.

Where an employee is on regular pay and you can reasonably project their pay (including any allowances) to their leaving date, you can submit the L1 up to six weeks prior to their leaving date.

For a member intending to leave employment and take their benefits immediately, submitting an L1 early can make a significant difference to when we can pay their benefits.. If you wait until after the leaving date to submit the L1, due to the time it takes to calculate pension benefits and for the member's acceptance form to reach us, two pensioner payroll cut-offs can easily pass, meaning the member may experience financial difficulties for some weeks until their first pension pay day.

If you need to make a revision to the L1 following the actual leaving date (for example, if the member's final pay was different to that which you projected when completing the L1), please use the L1a form, found on our [forms for employers](#) page.

Pension Board recruitment

A vacancy for a Member Representative on the Derbyshire Pension Board has arisen. The unpaid position is open to active, deferred and pensioner members of the Local Government Pension Scheme.

The closing date for applications is Sunday 26 May 2019.

Please could you cascade information about this opportunity to your LGPS members

For more details about the role and how to apply for the opportunity to represent our membership, members should visit our [Derbyshire Pension Board vacancy](#) page.

Opt Out Forms

We have become aware that some employers are providing scheme members with copies of out of date opt-out forms.

Please remember that if an employee wishes to opt out of the LGPS, they **must** access the form themselves. The latest version of the form is available on our website at www.derbyshirepensionfund.org.uk.

Employers must not provide their employees with copies of the form as it could be perceived as an inducement to opt-out.

**If you have any queries about the information provided in this Newsletter,
or about the LGPS in general, please contact us at:**

Derbyshire Pension Fund, County Hall, Matlock, DE4 3AH

Tel: 01629 538862

Email: pensions.regs@derbyshire.gov.uk

Website: www.derbyshirepensionfund.org.uk

