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Hello,

With Reform just around the corner, we've some important updates about the Scheme Arrangements Reports recently circulated, changes to Transfers and Tiered Contributions, an update about the progress of Monthly Data Collection (MDC) and changes to the TR6 and TR8 forms.

If you know of someone not receiving our communications, please ask them to email us at

engagement@teacherpensions.co.uk.

Similarly if you're receiving communications and don't wish to please let us know.



Scheme Arrangements Report

We'd like to apologise for the issues we've had with the Scheme Arrangements Report. Our intention was to provide a test file as early as possible in order to allow employers / payroll system providers with adequate time to test-run against their systems. The email notifications that will be issued with the 'final cut' release of the all member version of the report will detail what is and isn't included. This will be available from 13 March.

[Find out more >](#)

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Starter and Leaver forms - Electronic only

From 1 April 2015, New Starter (TR6) and Leaver (TR8) paper forms will not be accepted and will be rejected. Please ensure you complete these forms via the Employer Portal.



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Actuarially Adjusted Benefits (AAB)- Changes

We've had queries in relation to the requirements for a member to take AAB retirement. In particular what we mean by a member needing to have a break in service to be eligible for AAB retirement. As a result, we've clarified the position with the Department, and we can confirm that for a member to claim AAB benefits, they must be out of service for at least a day. This break in service must be a genuine cessation of all eligible employment.

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Monthly Data Collection (MDC) - What's new?

The approach assurance phase is now complete and 40 employers, including large Local Authorities and small Academies, are successfully using MDC with an extremely low error rate and are providing encouraging feedback.

From May 2015, another 400 employers will be involved in the next Approach Assurance Phase. We'll be issuing a communication to those involved in the next pilot with common errors and tips to help. For more information email us at mdc@teacherspensions.co.uk

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Tiered Contributions - Changes from 1 April

As you'll be aware from 1 April, member contributions are changing. Contributions are based on their salary, so the more they're paid, the higher their contributions. From April 2015 the new member contribution rates are:

Annual rate of pensionable earnings	Member's contributions rate
Up to £25,999	7.4%
£26,000 to £34,999	8.6%
£35,000 to £41,499	9.6%
£41,500 to £54,999	10.2%
£55,000 to £74,999	11.3%

Please ensure your employees are aware of the changes.

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Changes for teachers with additional contracts to their full-time employment

Currently a full-time teacher with an additional part-time teaching contract can't join the Teachers' Pension Scheme with their part-time contract. Where the teacher's employer also participates in the Local Government Pension Scheme (LGPS), the teacher has been eligible to join the LGPS for the part-time teaching contract. This will continue to be the case if the member remains in the final salary arrangements.

However, from April 2015, in the career average arrangement, the additional part-time teaching contract becomes eligible in the Teachers' Pension Scheme and consequently is no longer eligible in the LGPS.

[Find out more >](#)

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Make sure you're aware of the changes to Transfers

From April 2015, changes under the Pensions Schemes Bill will stop transfers from unfunded public service pension schemes, such as the Teachers' Pension Scheme, to pension schemes, whether in the UK or abroad, where you are able to flexibly access your pension savings.

The changes won't stop members living abroad accessing their UK public service pension and in practice this means that the scheme receiving a transfer from an unfunded public service pension scheme must be a Defined Benefit scheme.

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