

Pensions

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March 2018

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<u>emailing us</u>

We have reviewed communications with employers and ask you make the following changes when emailing us:

* Do not include any **National Insurance Numbers** in the Subject:

* Limit the number of attachments per email to **10**

* Only use the following revised email **Subjects:**

- Absence
- Actual Retirement
- Actual Retirement: III Health
- Change in Hours
- Death Notification
- Estimate of Benefits
- Estimate of Benefits: III Health
- Leaver Form (s) (followed by the number attached to the email)
- New Start
- Opt Out
- S20 Form
- Year End Data Return
- 50/50 Application Form

emailing us (cont.)

About our mailboxes:

Your emails should be sent to one of our generic (not SPFO staff) mailboxes:

- spfposting@glasgow.gov.uk (or spfposting@glasgow.gcsx.gov.uk) for all year end returns and related communications
- spfpayments@spfo.org.uk (or spfpayments@glasgow.gcsx.gov.u
 k) for contributions remittances and other finance related emails
- spfosub@fs.glasgow.gov.uk (or spfosub@glasgow.gcsx.gov.uk) for all other Excel spreadsheets
- spfo@glasgow.gov.uk (or spfo@glasgow.gcsx.gov.uk) for all other emails

Employee contribution rates

We will issue employee contribution rate tables for 2018/19 as soon as we have them from the SPPA (most likely mid March).

Year end

We have produced a <u>Top 10 tips for</u> avoiding data errors in year end returns / subsequent data work.

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PIP March 2018 (cont)



GDPR: SPFOnline / Data sharing

To comply with the changes to data protection coming into force on 25 May 2018:

* a pop up box on SPFOnline

appears the first time a user logs in after 13 Feb. Users don't experience this every time they use SPFOnline. If users don't tick the box, they can't use SPFOnline until they tick the box at a future login

* please ensure that you return your signed Data Sharing Agreement by 31 March

What you think about PIP

Your feedback from the SurveyMonkey in last month's PIP was that you:

- Rate it 'high'
- Want it to stay monthly
- Share it with colleagues
- Do use the index
- Do refer back to it

As it meets your needs, we do not plan to make major changes to it, but we will take on board the useful suggestions that we received. Thank you to all who responded.

Forms and Excels

We plan to upgrade all of our forms and Excels from .doc or .xls files (97 – 2003 formats) to .docx or .xlsx files over the next couple of months as we make them 18/19 and GDPR compliant, please check that your software will be able to handle the updated Word / Excel formats.

Forms and Excels (cont.)

Please also check that you are using the latest version of our Forms and Excels if you have versions saved to your desktop. We recommend you **always download from our website** rather than using your desktop.

Pensions politics

Regulations to introduce <u>LGPS</u> <u>2018</u> are expected to be laid early April and to be in force no earlier than 1 June 2018.

The Cabinet Secretary for Finance has asked for a consultation later this year on the future structure of the Scottish LGPS based on four options:

* No changes

* Retaining the eleven funds, but with closer collaboration

* Introducing one or more common investment pools

* Merging the funds into one or more new funds

For reference

Our website has a News story about the <u>SPF Committee meeting</u> of 28 Feb.

The LGPC has issued **Bulletin 167**, on its new regs website at: <u>http://www.scotlgpsregs.org/bull</u> <u>etinsetc/bulletins.php</u>

167 outlines the legal documents re GDPR that are expected to be published during March.