

FIREFIGHTERS' PENSION SCHEMES 2016/09

WHO SHOULD READ: All HR and Payroll Managers

Pension administration staff Staff who submit data to SPPA

ACTION: Read and circulate to all interested parties SUBJECT: Annual Benefit Statements 2016 now issued

The purpose of this circular is to inform employers that the vast majority of 2016 Annual Benefit Statements have been issued to active members of Scotland's Firefighters' Pension Scheme.

Circular 2016/08 advised on the process we were following to provide Annual Benefit Statements as at 31 March 2016 to active members of Scotland's Firefighters' Pension Scheme.

This circular confirms that the majority (over 3,000) of Firefighters' 2016 Annual Benefit Statements have now been sent to active scheme members' home addresses.

The remainder have not yet been issued due to a combination of technical issues and complexity. The outstanding statements cover Retained Firefighter members and those who have recently joined the 2006 Modified scheme. Every effort is being made to resolve these outstanding problems and provide those affected with their benefit statement as soon as possible.

In any case, if active scheme members have not received their Annual Benefit Statement by 31 October 2016 please ask them to contact us.

Statement details

We would like to remind colleagues that members with FULL PROTECTION from the terms of the 2015 CARE scheme only receive benefits from their existing Final Salary scheme(s) and these pension benefits only will be shown on their statement.

Similarly, active members with TAPERED or No Protection (UNPROTECTED) will have moved/move to the new 2015 CARE scheme at a specified date on or after 1 April 2015. Where individuals have moved to the CARE scheme, pension benefits for both the Final Salary and CARE arrangements will be shown on the 2016 Annual Benefit Statement.





Support and further information

Further guidance to help members understand their benefit statement has been published on the SPPA's website at www.sppa.gov.uk.

The Scottish Public Pensions Agency (SPPA) has also set up a dedicated email address for all benefit statement enquiries which is fireabs@gov.scot and phone queries are being channelled through the number below.

In line with our request in circular 2016/08, we would be grateful if you would please bring the contents of this circular to the attention of scheme members.

Ross Paterson CB OBE ADC SPPA Chief Executive 08 September 2016

Contact information

Please contact <u>SPPACommunications@gov.scot</u> if you have any enquiries about this circular.

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