

**POLICE PENSION SCHEME
2014/03**

WHO SHOULD READ: The Chief Constable of Police Scotland
ACTION: For information and action. Please draw this to the immediate attention of force personnel officers, pension managers and members of the Police Pension Scheme (PPS) and the New Police Pension Scheme (Scotland) (NPPS).
SUBJECT: Bilateral agreement with the British Transport Police Force and update on Police Medical Appeal Boards

The purpose of this circular is to:

- Advise pension managers, force personnel officers and members of the Police Pension Scheme (PPS), New Police Pension Scheme (Scotland) (NPPS) of the revised transfer agreement which will allow police officers moving between service with civil police forces and the British Transport Police to have continuity of pension provision.
- Provide an update on the provider of Police Medical Appeal Boards

1. British Transport Police – Bilateral Transfer Agreement (Scotland)

I attach at Annex A the Agreement made on 21 March 2014 on transfers from the Police Pension Scheme (PPS) 1987 and the New Police Pension Scheme (Scotland) (NPPS) 2007 to the British Transport Police Force Superannuation Fund (BTPFSF), and from the BTPFSF to the NPPS (Scotland). Administrators were informed by email on 13 March 2014 that this agreement was being undertaken. This agreement does not apply to transfers between any other schemes or to transfers between Police Pension Schemes in England and Wales or Northern Ireland and the BTPFSF (which may be covered by separate agreements). This contains the factors you should now use and are applicable from 1 April 2014.

2. Police Medical Appeal Boards

Following completion of a comprehensive procurement process undertaken by the Home Office Health Management (HML) has been re-selected to administer and provide Police Medical Appeal Boards effective from 21 March 2014. As in previous years the Home Office managed contract includes medical appeals made by Scottish police officers

The following are the key points about the arrangements:

- a) The appointment of HML does not affect the legislation, guidance and procedures for police medical appeals, which remain unchanged.



b) The duration of the contract is three years, with provision for a one-year extension to bring the term of the contract to four years in total.

(c) For all cases received on or after 21 March, the standard charge for a three-member board provided by HML will increase to £6480 (exclusive of VAT).

(d) The locations for boards will, at least for the initial period of the contract be the same as at present.

In essence the procedures remain the same as at present. A number of minor changes, aimed at improving the process will be introduced and a further announcement on these will be made in due course. This involves one training day per year for stakeholders involved in the process, to be provided by HML.

HML will provide management information to the Home Office and SPPA and will also provide information showing the extent to which it has met agreed key performance indicators. The Home Office will hold regular meetings with HML to review performance and would welcome feedback at any time on how boards are operating.

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Contact Information:

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