

Local Government Pension Scheme (Scotland) 2024/03

- Who should read:**
- Secretary General, Convention of Scottish Local Authorities
 - Chief Executive, Scottish Local Authorities
 - Chief Executive, Water Authorities
 - Principal Reporter, Scottish Children's Reporter Administration
 - Chief Executive, Scottish Environment Protection Agency
 - Director General, Strathclyde Passenger Transport Executive
 - Clerk, Strathclyde Passenger Transport Authority
 - Chief Executive/Director, VisitScotland

Action: This circular should be brought to the attention of Local Government Pension Scheme Employers, their Occupational Health Providers, Human Resource Managers, Employer Payroll Departments and Fund Administrators.

Subject: Updates to the Ill Health Retirement and Internal Dispute Resolution Procedure guidance.

Date: 14 March 2024

The purpose of this circular is to provide updated guidance for those persons with the responsibility for making decisions regarding ill-health retirement and persons reviewing those decisions under the Internal Dispute Resolution Procedure (IDRP) process; as required by the Local Government Pension Scheme (LGPS) (Scotland) Regulations 2018 and previous regulations.

The changes to this guidance have been made in response to comments from stakeholders and follow the principles set out by The Pensions Ombudsman, when he makes decisions on appeals made by members of pension schemes.

The LGPS Ill Health Guide sets out the responsibilities of the 'Appointed Person' to assist them when they review an employer's decision at the request of the member, under Regulation 70 of the 2018 regulations.

This guidance is based on the Pensions Ombudsman's requirements and should be followed in all cases. Cases sent to SPPA for consideration by Scottish Ministers, at the second stage of the IDRP, will be reverted back to the decision-maker for further consideration if this process has not been followed.

The guidance relates to both active and deferred members of the Local Government Pension Scheme (Scotland) and includes sections on the Key Facts, Q&A's, the Role of the IRMP, Special Considerations and definitions.

The LGPS(S) Ill Health Guide can be downloaded at the following website address:
<https://pensions.gov.scot/local-government/employers-and-pension-funds/ill-health-guidance>

Any questions?

Please contact kimberly.linge@gov.scot if you have any enquiries about this circular.

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Local Government Pension Scheme
14 March 2024