
Scottish Local Government Pension Scheme Advisory Board - SPPA Update

1. Update on Exit Credits

1.1 The consultation on changes to provide administering authorities with a discretion to determine the amount of exit credit, which should be payable to an employer leaving the LGPS, closed on 30 May 2024.

1.2 Scottish Ministers received a number of responses voicing concerns over possible outcomes for employers and the need for guidance to accompany these regulations.

1.3 In response to similar concerns in England & Wales, their Scheme Advisory Board (SAB) set up a working group to provide guidance regarding exit credits in the Funding Strategy Statement (FSS) and therefore the Scottish regulations were put on hold until guidance was made available. This guidance has been endorsed by the Scottish SAB.

1.4 The Scottish Government intends to lay these regulations on 21 February 2025 with a coming into force date of 2 April 2025.

2. Funding Strategy Statement (FSS)

2.1 Updated guidance is available for preparing and maintaining an FSS, and can be found on the E&W SAB Board guidance page [here](#). This guidance is the latest publication which has been reviewed and jointly approved by the Board's Compliance and Reporting Committee, the Chartered Institute of Public Finance and Accountancy (CIPFA) and the Ministry of Housing, Communities and Local Government (MHCLG). It replaces the 2016 guidance produced by CIPFA.

3. Advice to Scottish Ministers – Action

3.1 On 14 November 2024, the Government published its [LGPS: Fit for the future consultation](#). The consultation sought views on proposals relating to LGPS investments. It covers asset pooling, UK and local investment and governance. The consultation closed on 16 January 2025.

3.2 In February 2024 Mr Arthur wrote to the SAB to ask for their views on the intentions of the UK Government and their 'pooling agenda' and to investigate and report on the amount of Scottish infrastructure and equities investment.

3.3 The SAB are asked to respond to this request to enable to Scottish Government to consider next steps.

4. TPR published updated dashboards guidance. In December 2024, the Pensions Regulator (TPR) published [updated dashboards guidance](#). The updates include information on:

- Registration codes - a new section outlining the actions administering authorities need to take regarding registration codes.
- Legislative changes - incorporates the Department for Work and Pensions (DWP) guidance on staged connection. TPR expects schemes to connect in line with DWP's guidance and to consider and mitigate the risk if they delay connection.
- Money and Pensions Service (MaPS) standards – includes the draft data standards, reporting standards and Code of Connection.
- Industry feedback - the dedicated industry engagement team for dashboards has consistently provided insight and feedback from providers and schemes, which TPR has reflected in clarifications and updated scenarios.
- Data expectations - clarifications on data for matching purposes and to return accurate and timely data to members.
- Ongoing developments - while testing is ongoing, and with further developments, TPR has highlighted where schemes need to be alert to these developments and speak regularly to their providers to ensure they are up to date.

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