

The Pensions Regulator  
Napier House  
Trafalgar Place  
BRIGHTON  
BN1 4DW

Direct Dial: 03000 415270  
Ask For: Mrs Cheatle  
Date: 17 December 2015

Dear Sir

**Local Government Pension Scheme  
Annual Benefit Illustrations 2014/15**

As you are aware the Public Service Pensions Act 2013, together with the regulations governing the Local Government Pension Scheme (LGPS), require that all active members of the scheme receive an annual benefit illustration no later than five months after the end of the Scheme year to which it relates. In the LGPS this date is 31 August and this letter is to highlight to you that for the year 2014/15 unfortunately the Kent Pension Fund did not meet this requirement with regard to all of its' active membership and consider this to be a material breach and are therefore reporting it to the Pensions Regulator.

I would now like to supply you with more detail of the delays and the reasons for this. Again as you know the LGPS went through major changes in its benefit design from 1 April 2014. Prior to the changes and during the year 2014/15 we communicated with all of the employers in the Fund concerning the changes to the scheme and the change in our requirements from them regarding scheme member data both during the scheme year and at year end in order that systems could be put in place to ensure correct data could be extracted from payroll systems. The form of the communications undertaken were bulletins, information on our website, employer forums and specific training events.

The spreadsheet to be completed with regard to year end data was despatched to 433 employers at the beginning of February with a return deadline date of 10 April. Unfortunately as at that date only 33% of returns had been received, with a further 12.5% being received by the end of April. As well as delays in supplying the data unfortunately the data received was not correct in all cases with data having to be returned for correction.

In order to comply with a despatch date of 31 August the printing company which we allocated with the task of printing the annual benefit illustrations required a lead in time of 4 weeks. Although we had not received all the data from all our employers at this time we decided to despatch as many illustrations as possible by the statutory deadline with 55% of the active membership illustrations being despatched on 27 August. A further 1 % were despatched on 18 September, 11.5% on 30 September with the remainder of the illustrations being despatched on 30 October.

In July when we realised that certain illustrations would not be able to be despatched by 31 August we contacted the relevant employers to explain the situation and asked that they make their employees aware of the situation.

Going forward we are already liaising with all our employers regarding the data that we will require for the year ending 2015/16 in order that we can comply with the despatch date in 2016 and continue to supply training sessions and one to one help where required.

I hope that the above is self explanatory if however you require any further information please do not hesitate to contact me.

Yours sincerely

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "BM Cheatle". The letters are cursive and somewhat stylized.

**Mrs Barbara Cheatle**  
**Pensions Manager**  
**Pension Section**