

To: Salaries and Wages
Human Resources
Pension Contacts

Circular 07/2017
24 July 2017

At: All Councils

Dear Colleagues,

Clarification from the Pensions Regulator on Automatic Enrolment


This Circular has been issued to advise councils of clarification we have received from the Pensions Regulator in relation to automatic enrolment. Following the Local Government Reform in 2015 where the 26 councils merged to form the 11 'new' councils, the Pensions Regulator has confirmed that 'as the new council is deemed a new employing entity then they will have their own automatic enrolment duties.' This means that automatic re-enrolment will not apply but rather automatic enrolment and the 'new' councils will have a new staging date.

For clarification of your position in relation to automatic enrolment and your staging date you should contact the Pensions Regulator with your PAYE Scheme Reference and if possible the PAYE Scheme reference(s) of the 'old' councils.

You should also note that if members of staff who were enrolled under the 'old' council have opted out more than 12 months prior to the 'new' staging date, they cannot be automatically enrolled into the LGPS (NI) but should be enrolled on the re-enrolment date in three years. These employees can, however join the Scheme in the interim.

If you have any questions regarding the content of this Circular, please contact our Employer Liaison Officer, Hannah Berryman or myself.

Yours sincerely



Zena Kee
Pensions Manager