



Pensions Act 2004

2004 CHAPTER 35

PART 1

THE PENSIONS REGULATOR

Codes of practice

[^{F1}90A Codes of practice: public service pension schemes

- (1) The Regulator may, in relation to public service pension schemes, issue codes of practice—
 - (a) containing practical guidance in relation to the exercise of functions under relevant pensions legislation, and
 - (b) regarding the standards of conduct and practice expected from those who exercise such functions.
- (2) The Regulator must issue one or more such codes of practice relating to the following matters—
 - (a) the discharge of the duties imposed by sections 70 and 70A (duties to report breaches of the law and late payment of employer contributions);
 - (b) the obligations imposed by section 248A (requirements for knowledge and understanding: pension boards of public service pension schemes);
 - (c) the discharge of the duty imposed by section 249B (internal controls);
 - (d) the discharge of duties imposed under section 113 of the Pension Schemes Act 1993 (disclosure of information to members);
 - (e) the discharge of the duty imposed by section 49(9)(b) of the Pensions Act 1995 (duty of trustees or managers of occupational pension schemes to report material failures by employers to pay contributions deducted from employee's earnings timeously);
 - (f) the discharge of the duty imposed by section 50 of the Pensions Act 1995 (internal dispute resolution);

Changes to legislation: *Pensions Act 2004, Section 90A is up to date with all changes known to be in force on or before 05 June 2024. There are changes that may be brought into force at a future date. Changes that have been made appear in the content and are referenced with annotations. (See end of Document for details) View outstanding changes*

- (g) the discharge of duties imposed by virtue of section 5(4) of the Public Service Pensions Act 2013 (pensions board: conflicts of interest and representation) and other duties relating to conflicts of interest;
 - (h) the discharge of duties imposed under section 6 (pension board: information) of that Act and other duties relating to the publication of information about governance and administration;
 - (i) the discharge of duties imposed under section 14 of that Act (information about benefits);
 - (j) the discharge of duties imposed under section 16 (records) of that Act and other duties relating to record-keeping;
 - (k) such other matters as are prescribed for the purposes of this section.
- (3) The Regulator may from time to time revise the whole or any part of a code of practice issued under this section and issue that revised code.
- (4) A failure on the part of any person to observe any provision of a code of practice issued under this section does not of itself render that person liable to any legal proceedings.
- This is subject to section 13(3)(a) and (8) (power for improvement notice to direct that person complies with code of practice and civil penalties for failure to comply).
- (5) A code of practice issued under this section is admissible in evidence in any legal proceedings (within the meaning of section 90) and, if any provision of such a code appears to the court or tribunal concerned to be relevant to any question arising in the proceedings, it must be taken into account in determining that question.
- (6) A code of practice issued under this section may be—
- (a) combined with a code of practice issued under section 90;
 - (b) combined with one or more other codes of practice issued under this section.
- (7) A code of practice issued under this section may relate to all public service pension schemes or any one or more of them.
- (8) In this section, “relevant pensions legislation” means—
- (a) the enactments constituting “pensions legislation” within the meaning of section 90, and
 - (b) sections 5(4) (pension board: conflicts of interest and representation), 6 (pension board: information), 14 (information about benefits) and 16 (records) of the Public Service Pensions Act 2013.
- (9) Sections 91 and 92 make provision about the procedure to be followed when a code of practice is issued or revoked under this section.]

Textual Amendments

- F1** S. 90A inserted (1.11.2013) by [Public Service Pensions Act 2013 \(c. 25\)](#), s. 41(2), [Sch. 4 para. 14](#) (with [Sch. 11 para. 8](#)); S.I. 2013/2818, art. 3(d)

Changes to legislation:

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Changes and effects yet to be applied to the whole Act associated Parts and Chapters:

Whole provisions yet to be inserted into this Act (including any effects on those provisions):

- s. 18(5A) inserted by [2014 c. 19 s. 52\(2\)](#)
- s. 18(6) words inserted by [2014 c. 19 s. 52\(3\)](#)
- s. 18(8) words inserted by [2014 c. 19 s. 52\(3\)](#)
- s. 23(1A) inserted by [2015 c. 8 Sch. 2 para. 26\(3\)](#)
- s. 23(10A) inserted by [2015 c. 8 Sch. 2 para. 26\(5\)](#)
- s. 38(1)-(1B) substituted for s. 38(1) by [2015 c. 8 Sch. 2 para. 27](#)
- s. 38(7)(da) inserted by [2021 c. 1 s. 104\(2\)](#)
- s. 43(1)-(1B) substituted for s. 43(1) by [2015 c. 8 Sch. 2 para. 28\(2\)](#)
- s. 52(1)-(1B) substituted for s. 52(1) by [2015 c. 8 Sch. 2 para. 29](#)
- s. 80(1)(a)(iib) inserted by [2021 c. 1 s. 109\(3\)](#)
- s. 102(2)(a) words in s. 102(2) renumbered as s. 102(2)(a) by [2008 c. 30 s. 44\(5\)\(a\)](#)
- s. 102(2)(b) inserted by [2008 c. 30 s. 44\(5\)\(b\)](#)
- s. 103(1A) inserted by [2008 c. 30 s. 44\(6\)](#)
- s. 117A inserted by [2008 c. 30 Sch. 10 para. 3](#)
- s. 126(1)-(1B) substituted for s. 126(1) by [2015 c. 8 Sch. 2 para. 31](#)
- s. 188(1)(ba) inserted by [2008 c. 30 Sch. 10 para. 6](#)
- s. 189A inserted by [2008 c. 30 Sch. 10 para. 7](#)
- s. 209(9) added by [2008 c. 30 Sch. 10 para. 8](#)
- s. 291(4)(f) and word inserted by [2021 c. 1 Sch. 3 para. 19\(b\)](#)
- s. 318(3)(a)(viii)-(x) inserted by [2015 c. 8 Sch. 2 para. 38\(3\)\(a\)](#)
- s. 318(3)(b)(vi)-(viii) inserted by [2015 c. 8 Sch. 2 para. 38\(3\)\(b\)](#)
- Sch. 4 para. 7(5)(b) inserted by [2008 c. 30 s. 44\(8\)\(b\)](#)
- Sch. 4 para. 13(3) inserted by [2008 c. 30 s. 44\(9\)\(b\)](#)
- Sch. 4 para. 7(5)(a) words in Sch. 4 para. 7(5) renumbered as Sch. 4 para. 7(5)(a) by [2008 c. 30 s. 44\(8\)\(a\)](#)
- Sch. 7 para. 21(2)(c)-(cc) substituted for Sch. 7 para. 21(2)(b)(c) by [2008 c. 30 Sch. 8 para. 11](#) (This amendment not applied to legislation.gov.uk. Sch. 8 para. 10 (3.1.2012) omitted without ever being in force by virtue of 2011 c. 19, Sch. 4 para. 20; S.I. 2011/3034 art. 3(i)(iv))