
STATUTORY INSTRUMENTS

2015 No. 445

The Police Pensions Regulations 2015

PART 13

Supplementary

CHAPTER 5

Forfeiture and set-off

Pension supervising authority

210.—(1) For the purpose of this Chapter, the table in this regulation specifies the pension supervising authority for a member of a police force in England and Wales.

(2) The pension supervising authority may require the scheme manager to withhold benefits payable to a member under this Chapter.

<i>Member of a police force</i>	<i>Pension supervising authority</i>
A member of a police force maintained under section 2 of PA 1996.	A police and crime commissioner M1
A member of the metropolitan police force.	The Mayor's Office for Policing and Crime F1
A member of the City of London police force.	The Common Council M2
A person engaged on service as an inspector of constabulary or an assistant inspector of constabulary who is a former member of a home police force, the Police Service of Scotland or the police service in Northern Ireland.	The Secretary of State
A person appointed as Chief Inspector of Constabulary who is a former member of a home police force, the Police Service of Scotland or the police service in Northern Ireland.	The Secretary of State
A specified NCA officer M3	The Secretary of State
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A person engaged on service as chief executive of the body known as the College of Policing who immediately before beginning that service was in UK police service.	The College of Policing

A person holding the office of constable who is engaged as a member of staff of the Disclosure and Barring Service and who immediately before becoming so engaged was in UK police service.	The Disclosure and Barring Service
A person engaged in accordance with arrangements made under paragraph 6(2) of Schedule 2 to the Police Reform Act 2002 M4 who immediately before becoming so engaged was in UK police service.	The [F2Independent Office for Police Conduct]
A person in service as an officer pursuant to an appointment made in connection with the provision by the Secretary of State of assistance under the International Development Act 2002.	The Secretary of State F3 ...
A person appointed as Chief Inspector of the UK Border Agency who has held the office of constable and who immediately before the appointment was in UK police service.	The Secretary of State
A person engaged on temporary service in accordance with arrangements made under section 26(2) of PA 1996.	The Secretary of State
A person engaged on relevant service under section 97 of PA 1996.	The Secretary of State

Textual Amendments

- F1** See section 101 of PA 1996 for the meaning of “the Mayor’s Office for Policing and Crime”.
- F2** Words in reg. 210(2) table substituted (8.1.2018) by [The Independent Office for Police Conduct \(Transitional and Consequential\) Regulations 2017 \(S.I. 2017/1250\)](#), regs. 1, **34(d)** (with reg. 37)
- F3** Words in reg. 210(2) table omitted (30.9.2020) by virtue of [The Transfer of Functions \(Secretary of State for Foreign, Commonwealth and Development Affairs\) Order 2020 \(S.I. 2020/942\)](#), art. 1(2), [Sch. para. 24\(4\)](#)

Marginal Citations

- M1** See section 101 of PA 1996 for the meaning of “a police and crime commissioner”.
- M2** See section 101 of PA 1996 for the meaning of “the Common Council”.
- M3** See regulation 6 for the meaning of “specified NCA officer”.
- M4** [2002 c. 30](#).

Forfeiture: offences committed by members

211.—(1) If a member is convicted of a relevant offence, the pension supervising authority may, to the extent the pension supervising authority considers appropriate, require the scheme manager to withhold benefits payable under this scheme to or in respect of the member.

(2) Paragraph (3) applies if benefits are to be withheld as a result of an offence falling within paragraph (b) of the definition of “relevant offence”.

(3) The scheme manager may only withhold that part of a person's pension that exceeds any guaranteed minimum to which the person is entitled under—

- (a) section 14 of PSA 1993 (earner's guaranteed minimum); or
 - (b) section 17^{M5} of that Act (minimum pension for surviving spouses and civil partners).
- (4) The pension supervising authority may to the extent that in its discretion it thinks fit restore to the member or apply for the benefit of an eligible child or surviving adult of the member any amount of pension that has been forfeited under this regulation.
- (5) In this regulation—
- “forfeiture certificate” means a certificate given by the Secretary of State for the Home Department stating that the Secretary of State for the Home Department considers that the offence—
- (a) has been gravely injurious to the interests of the State; or
 - (b) is liable to lead to serious loss of confidence in service by members of police forces in England and Wales; and
- “relevant offence” means—
- (a) one or more offences under the Official Secrets Acts 1911 to 1989^{M6[F4]}, or under section 18 of, or listed in section 33(3)(a) of, the National Security Act 2023,] for which the member has been sentenced on the same occasion to—
 - (i) a term of imprisonment of at least 10 years; or
 - (ii) 2 or more consecutive terms of imprisonment which add up to at least 10 years;
 - (b) an offence committed in connection with the member's service as a member of a police force and in respect of which the Secretary of State for the Home Department has issued a forfeiture certificate.

Textual Amendments

- F4** Words in [reg. 211\(5\)](#) inserted (20.12.2023) by [The National Security Act 2023 \(Consequential Amendments of Subordinate Legislation\) Regulations 2023 \(S.I. 2023/1267\)](#), [reg. 1\(2\)](#), [Sch. para. 50\(2\)](#)

Marginal Citations

- M5** [Section 17](#) was amended by the [Social Security Contributions \(Transfer of Functions, etc.\) Act 1999 \(c. 2\)](#) Schedule 1 paragraph 39; the [Child Support, Pensions and Social Security Act 2000 \(c. 19\)](#) Schedule 5 paragraph 1 and Schedule 9 Part 3; the [Pensions Act 2004 \(c. 35\)](#) section 284(2); the [Pensions Act 2007 \(c. 22\)](#) section 14(2); the [Marriage \(Same Sex Couples\) Act 2013 \(c. 30\)](#) Schedule 4 paragraphs 18 and 20; and [S.I. 2005/2050](#) and [2014/560](#).
- M6** [1989 c. 6](#); see [section 16\(2\)](#) for the meaning of “Official Secrets Acts 1911 to 1989”.

Forfeiture: offences committed by a member's beneficiary

212.—(1) If the beneficiary of a deceased member of this scheme is convicted of a relevant criminal offence, the pension supervising authority may, to the extent the pension supervising authority considers appropriate, require the scheme manager to withhold benefits payable to the beneficiary in respect of the member.

(2) The scheme manager may withhold benefits but may only withhold that part of a pension that exceeds any guaranteed minimum to which the beneficiary is entitled under section 17 of PSA 1993.

(3) If the scheme manager withholds all of the benefits payable to a beneficiary, Part 9 (death benefits) applies as if the beneficiary had died before the member.

(4) In this regulation—

“beneficiary”, in relation to a deceased member of this scheme, means the surviving adult or eligible child of the member;

“relevant criminal offence” means—

- (a) the murder of the member;
- (b) the manslaughter of the member; or
- (c) any other offence of which the unlawful killing of the member is an element.

Forfeiture: relevant monetary obligations and relevant monetary losses

213.—(1) If a member (P) owes a relevant monetary obligation or has caused a relevant monetary loss, the pension supervising authority may, to the extent the pension supervising authority considers appropriate, require the scheme manager to withhold benefits payable to P under this scheme.

(2) The scheme manager may withhold benefits but may only withhold that part of P's pension that exceeds any guaranteed minimum to which P is entitled under section 14 of PSA 1993.

(3) The scheme manager may not withhold more than the lesser of—

- (a) the amount of the relevant monetary obligation or relevant monetary loss; and
- (b) the value of P's entitlement to benefits.

(4) The scheme manager may only withhold benefits if—

- (a) there is no dispute as to the amount of the relevant monetary obligation or relevant monetary loss; or
- (b) the relevant monetary obligation or relevant monetary loss is enforceable as follows—
 - (i) under an order of a competent court;
 - (ii) in consequence of an award of an arbitrator; or
 - (iii) in Scotland, in consequence of an award of an arbiter appointed (failing agreement between the parties) by the sheriff.

(5) In this regulation—

“relevant monetary obligation” means a monetary obligation which—

- (a) was incurred to the Crown or P's employer (if different);
- (b) was incurred after P became an active member of this scheme;
- (c) arose out of P's criminal, negligent or fraudulent act or omission; and
- (d) arose out of or was connected with P's service as a member of a police force; and

“relevant monetary loss” means a monetary loss which—

- (a) was caused to this scheme; and
- (b) arose as a result of P's criminal, negligent or fraudulent act or omission.

Set-off

214.—(1) The pension supervising authority may require the scheme manager to set off a relevant monetary obligation against a member's entitlement to benefits under this scheme.

(2) In this regulation, a “relevant monetary obligation” is a monetary obligation owed by a member (P), which satisfies the conditions in paragraph (3), (4) or (5).

(3) The conditions are that the monetary obligation—

- (a) was incurred to the Crown or P's employer (if different);
- (b) was incurred after P became an active member of this scheme; and

- (c) arose out of or was connected with P's service as a member of a police force.
- (4) The conditions are that the monetary obligation—
 - (a) was incurred to this scheme; and
 - (b) arose out of P's criminal, negligent or fraudulent act or omission.
- (5) The conditions are that the monetary obligation—
 - (a) was incurred to this scheme; and
 - (b) arose out of a payment made to P in error by the scheme manager.
- (6) Paragraph (7) applies if a set-off is to be applied as a result of P owing a relevant monetary obligation which satisfies the conditions in paragraph (3).
- (7) Where this paragraph applies, the scheme manager may not apply a set-off against that part of P's entitlement to benefits that represents transfer credits within the meaning of section 124(1) (interpretation of Part 1) of PA 1995 ^{M7} (other than prescribed transfer credits for the purposes of section 91(5)(d) (exceptions from the inalienability of occupational pensions) of PA 1995 ^{M8}).
- (8) The scheme manager may only apply a set-off against that part of a member's pension that exceeds any guaranteed minimum to which the member is entitled under section 14 of PSA 1993.
- (9) The value of the set-off applied must not exceed the lesser of—
 - (a) the amount of the relevant monetary obligation; and
 - (b) the value of P's entitlement to benefits.
- (10) The scheme manager may only set off a relevant monetary obligation against P's entitlement to benefits if—
 - (a) there is no dispute as to the amount of the relevant monetary obligation; or
 - (b) the relevant monetary obligation is enforceable—
 - (i) under an order of a competent court;
 - (ii) in consequence of an award of an arbitrator; or
 - (iii) in Scotland, in consequence of an award of an arbiter appointed (failing agreement between the parties) by the sheriff.

Marginal Citations

- M7** Section 124(1) was amended by the [Welfare Reform and Pensions Act 1999 \(c. 30\)](#) Schedule 12 paragraphs 43 and 61, the [Child Support, Pensions and Social Security Act 2000 \(c. 19\)](#) Schedule 5 paragraph 8, the Pensions Act 2004 section 7(2), Schedule 12 paragraphs 34, 43 and 69 and Schedule 13 Part 1 and [S.I. 2005/2053](#), 2006/745 and 2014/560.
- M8** Section 91(5)(d) was amended by the [Welfare Reform and Pensions Act 1999 \(c. 30\)](#) Schedule 12 paragraphs 43 and 57. See [S.I. 1997/785](#) which prescribes the transfer credits.

Forfeiture and set-off: procedure

215.—(1) If the pension supervising authority proposes to require the scheme manager to withhold benefits or apply a set-off against a person's entitlement to benefits, the pension supervising authority must notify the person of the proposal in writing.

(2) If the scheme manager withholds benefits under regulation 213 (forfeiture: relevant monetary obligations and relevant monetary losses) or applies a set-off against an entitlement to benefits under regulation 214 (set-off), the scheme manager must give the member a certificate showing—

- (a) the amount withheld or set off; and

- (b) the effect of the withholding or set-off on the member's benefits under this scheme.

Forfeiture: appeals to Crown Court

216.—(1) If the pension supervising authority proposes to require the scheme manager to withhold any benefits payable in respect of a person's service as a member of a home police force (“the member”), the member or a person claiming payment of a benefit in respect of the member may, subject to regulation 209 (limitations on appeals), appeal against the proposal to the Crown Court.

- (2) On an appeal made under paragraph (1), the Crown Court may by order—
 - (a) confirm or reject the proposal; or
 - (b) amend the proposal so as to reduce the extent to which the benefits are withheld.
- (3) The scheme manager must comply with any order made by the Crown Court.

Forfeiture: appeals to Secretary of State

217.—(1) If the pension supervising authority proposes to require the scheme manager to withhold any benefits payable to or in respect of a member (“the member”) of a police force other than a home police force, the member or a person claiming payment of a benefit in respect of the member may, subject to regulation 209 (limitations on appeals), appeal against the proposal to the Secretary of State.

- (2) Regulation 225 (procedure on appeals to the Secretary of State) sets out the procedure for appeals under this regulation to the Secretary of State.

Changes to legislation:

There are currently no known outstanding effects for the The Police Pensions Regulations 2015,
CHAPTER 5.