

12 March 2014

Important Announcement (staff transfers)

Broad comparability work against the Local Government Pension Scheme in England and Wales

This announcement follows on from the previous [Important Announcement](#) issued by the Government Actuary's Department (GAD) on 27 November 2013.

On 10 March 2014, [The Local Government Pension Scheme \(Transitional Provisions, Savings and Amendment\) Regulations 2014](#) (SI 2014/525) were laid before parliament. This follows the earlier publication of [The Local Government Pension Scheme Regulations 2013](#) (SI 2013/2356), which were laid before parliament on 19 September 2013. Together these regulations constitute the 2014 reforms to the Local Government Pension Scheme in England and Wales (LGPS(E&W)).

Accordingly, with effect from 10 March 2014, existing broad comparability certificates issued by GAD against the LGPS(E&W) cease to be valid for transfers of employment which take place on or after that date. This includes situations where contractual terms have been agreed but the transfer of staff has not yet taken place. Certificates for such transfers will need to take account of the new LGPS(E&W) regulations.

GAD will now accept applications for passport certificates against LGPS(E&W) which take into account the 2014 reforms. In all cases, applications for broad comparability assessments should be accompanied by full details of the pension proposals which are to be tested. There will be a delay before GAD is able to provide broad comparability certificates (including passport certificates) which take into account the 2014 reforms, whilst our systems are updated. GAD will consider requests for back-dated passport certificates in cases where these replace a passport certificate that is withdrawn under this announcement.

GAD certificates which cover just the Local Government Pension Scheme in Scotland and/or Northern Ireland (but which do not cover the LGPS(E&W)) are not affected by this announcement.

Please note that the Department for Communities and Local Government (DCLG) has not yet published its review of what is needed in respect of directions or other arrangements to achieve the principles of new Fair Deal in local government. An announcement will be issued once DCLG has published details of its review.

Further questions may be raised with your normal GAD contact or you can contact the Staff Transfers team at staff.transfers@gad.gov.uk, telephone 020 7211 2676 or 020 7211 2752.

**Staff Transfers
Government Actuary's Department**