

POLICY NOTE

THE FIREMEN'S PENSION SCHEME (AMENDMENT) (SCOTLAND) ORDER 2015

SSI 2015/140

The above instrument was made in exercise of the powers conferred by section 26(1) to (5) of the Fire Services Act 1947 and sections 12 and 16 of the Superannuation Act 1972. This instrument is subject to negative procedure.

Policy Objectives

This Order amends the Firemen's Pension Scheme Order 1992. It makes amendments consequential on the introduction of same sex marriage in Scotland. It also sets out the revised 1992 Scheme pensionable pay bands (for pension contribution purposes) to include the 1% annual uprating for the next four years from 1 April 2015.

Consultation

A consultation was undertaken from 28 January to 19 February 2015. All stakeholders were consulted, including the Fire Brigades Union, Fire Officers Association and relevant Scottish and UK Government Departments. Three responses were received in total, one from an individual and two from firefighters' unions. A copy of the consultation document and a summary of responses will be made available on the Scottish Public Pension Agency's website www.sppa.gov.uk.

Impact Assessments

The equality impact assessment has been completed and will be made available in due course. No impact is expected.

Financial Effects

The changes extend survivor benefits to survivors of same sex marriage and will be reflected in the overall costs of the scheme at each future valuation. It is not anticipated that this will have a material impact on the future contribution rates set by scheme valuations. The estimated required contribution yield from members for the period April 2015 to March 2019 takes into account the indexation of contribution bands.

Business and Regulatory Impact Assessment

This instrument does not impose any additional costs or reduce existing costs for business, third or public sector organisations and on that basis no Business and Regulatory Impact Assessment is required for these regulations.

Scottish Public Pensions Agency
An Agency of the Scottish Government
25 March 2015