

SCHEDULES

SCHEDULE 4

THE PENSIONS REGULATOR TRIBUNAL

PART 3

TRIBUNAL PROCEDURE

General

- 8 For the purpose of dealing with references, or any matter preliminary or incidental to a reference, the Tribunal must sit at such times and in such place or places as the Lord Chancellor may direct.
- 9 Rules made by the Lord Chancellor under section 102 may, in particular, include provision—
- (a) as to the manner in which references are to be instituted;
 - (b) for the holding of hearings in private in such circumstances as may be specified in the rules;
 - (c) as to the persons who may appear on behalf of the parties;
 - (d) for a member of the panel of chairmen to hear and determine interim matters arising on a reference;
 - (e) for the Tribunal to deal with urgent cases expeditiously;
 - (f) as to the withdrawal of references;
 - (g) as to the registration, publication and proof of decisions and orders.

Practice directions

- 10 The President may give directions as to the practice and procedure to be followed by the Tribunal in relation to references to it.

Evidence

- 11 (1) The Tribunal may by summons require any person to attend, at such time and place as is specified in the summons, to give evidence or to produce any document in his custody or under his control which the Tribunal considers it necessary to examine.
- (2) The Tribunal may—
- (a) take evidence on oath and for that purpose administer oaths, or
 - (b) instead of administering an oath, require the person examined to make and subscribe a declaration of the truth of the matters in respect of which he is examined.
- (3) A person who without reasonable excuse refuses or fails—

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- (a) to attend following the issue of a summons by the Tribunal, or
 - (b) to give evidence,
- is guilty of an offence.
- (4) A person guilty of an offence under sub-paragraph (3) is liable on summary conviction to a fine not exceeding level 5 on the standard scale.
- (5) A person who without reasonable excuse—
- (a) alters, suppresses, conceals or destroys a document which he is or is liable to be required to produce for the purposes of proceedings before the Tribunal, or
 - (b) refuses to produce a document when so required,
- is guilty of an offence.
- (6) A person guilty of an offence under sub-paragraph (5) is liable—
- (a) on summary conviction, to a fine not exceeding the statutory maximum;
 - (b) on conviction on indictment, to imprisonment for a term not exceeding two years or a fine or both.
- (7) In this paragraph “document” includes information recorded in any form and, in relation to information recorded otherwise than in a legible form, references to its production include references to producing a copy of the information—
- (a) in a legible form, or
 - (b) in a form from which it can readily be produced in a legible form.

Decisions of the Tribunal

- 12 (1) A decision of the Tribunal may be taken by a majority.
- (2) The decision must state whether it was unanimous or taken by a majority.
- (3) The decision must be recorded in a document which—
- (a) contains a statement of the reasons for the decision, and
 - (b) is signed and dated by the member of the panel of chairmen dealing with the reference.
- (4) The Tribunal must inform each party to the reference of its decision.
- (5) The Tribunal must as soon as reasonably practicable send a copy of the document mentioned in sub-paragraph (3)—
- (a) to each of the parties to the reference, and
 - (b) to such other persons as appear to the Tribunal to be directly affected by the decision.
- (6) The Tribunal must send the Secretary of State and the Department for Social Development in Northern Ireland a copy of its decision.
- (7) In this paragraph “document” includes information recorded in any form.

Costs

- 13 (1) If the Tribunal considers that a party to any proceedings on a reference has acted vexatiously, frivolously or unreasonably it may order that party to pay to another

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party to the proceedings the whole or part of the costs or expenses incurred by the other party in connection with the proceedings.

- (2) If, in any proceedings on a reference, the Tribunal considers that a determination of the Regulator which is the subject of the reference was unreasonable it may order the Regulator to pay to another party to the proceedings the whole or part of the costs or expenses incurred by the other party in connection with the proceedings.