
STATUTORY INSTRUMENTS

1997 No. 1612

The Local Government Pension Scheme Regulations 1997

PART II

PRIMARY PROVISIONS

CHAPTER IV

BENEFITS

Preliminary

General qualification for benefits

- 19.**—(1) Membership of the Scheme only entitles the member to benefits under this Chapter if—
- (a) his total membership is at least two years, or
 - (b) a transfer value is credited to him.
- (2) But paragraph (1) does not apply—
- (a) to a benefit under regulation 25 (normal retirement) in a case where the member's normal retirement date is his 65th birthday or under regulation 27(3) (ill-health grants); or
 - (b) to benefits in respect of a member under regulation 38 (death grants), regulation 40 (surviving spouse's short-term pension), regulation 45 (children's short-term pensions) or regulation 46 (children's long-term pensions).

Calculations

- 20.**—(1) The amount of any benefit payable as a result of a person's membership is generally calculated by multiplying his final pay by the appropriate multiplier.
- (2) Unless another multiplier is indicated, the appropriate multiplier for a pension is—
$$\frac{\text{the member's total membership}}{80}$$
- (3) Unless another multiplier is indicated, the appropriate multiplier for a retirement grant is—
$$\frac{3 \times \text{the member's total membership}}{80}$$
- (4) But benefits payable on or after the death of a pensioner member are calculated by multiplying the amount of his former retirement pension by the multiplier specified for the benefit in question.
- (5) Unless otherwise indicated, references to the amounts of pensions are to their annual rate.
- (6) The amount of a deceased person's former retirement pension is the amount of the pension he would have received immediately before his death, but for—
- (a) regulation 29 (re-employed pensioners),

- (b) regulation 33 (surrenders),
 - (c) regulation 50 (commutation in cases of exceptional ill-health),
 - (d) regulation 54 (effect of increases under Chapter II of Part III for older members),
 - (e) regulation 57 (effect of increases under Chapter III of Part III for older members), or
 - (f) regulation 110 (application of abatement policy in individual cases).
- (7) Periods are measured in years and fractions of a year (calculated as specified in regulation 11).
- (8) A pensioner member includes a person who would have been entitled to a pension but for regulation 110 (application of abatement policy in individual cases).
- (9) But paragraph (8) does not stop a person to whom it applies from also being an active member.

Final pay

21.—(1) A member's final pay for an employment is his pay for as much of the final pay period as he is entitled to count as active membership in local government employment (but see paragraphs (3) to (10), regulations 22 and 23(2) and Schedule 4).

(2) A member's final pay period is the year ending with the day on which he stops being an active member (but see paragraph (9) and regulations 22 and 23).

(3) In the case of part-time employment, the final pay is the pay which would have been paid for a single comparable whole-time employment.

(4) But in calculating death grant or the rate of surviving spouse's or children's short-term pension payable on the death of an active member, actual pay in part-time employment is to be used.

(5) Any reduction or suspension of a member's pay during the final pay period because of his absence from work owing to illness or injury must be disregarded for this Chapter.

(6) If a member's final pay period includes reserve forces service leave, his final pay is—

- (a) in a case where he has paid contributions by virtue of regulation 17(4), the amount it would have been if his reserve forces pay were pay received in his former local government employment, or
- (b) otherwise, the amount it would have been if he had continued to be employed in his former employment during the period of that leave.

(7) If a member is absent from work for any other reason during his final pay period, he is only to be treated for this Chapter as having received the pay he would otherwise have received if he has made the appropriate contributions under Chapter III for the period he is absent.

(8) If in any case where regulation 13(5) (collective pay agreements) applies to a member's pay during any part of the final pay period—

- (a) his average weekly earnings from his local government employment in that period (other than payments for overtime and bonuses)—
 - (i) exceed by more than 50 per cent. the lower earnings limit at the end of that period, and
 - (ii) do not exceed the upper earnings limit at the end of that period, and
- (b) his final pay would be greater if determined using those earnings,

it is to be determined using them.

(9) If a member is only entitled to count part of the year specified in paragraph (2) as a period of active membership in relation to the employment which he ceases to hold, his final pay is his pay during that part multiplied by 365 and divided by the number of days in that part.

(10) Final pay does not include any pension in payment.

Other final pay periods

22.—(1) Where the whole or part of a member's pay consists of fees, his final pay period for them is not the period specified in regulation 21(2) but—

- (a) the period of three years ending with the last day he was an active member; or
- (b) any other period he may with the consent of his employing authority elect, being a period of not less than three nor more than five years—
 - (i) ending with a day which is that last day or of which that last day is the anniversary, and
 - (ii) falling within the period of 13 years ending with that last day.

(2) But if he was only entitled to receive fees during part of the period mentioned in paragraph (1) (a), that part is substituted for the period referred to in that paragraph.

(3) If a member has been absent from work during any part of the year specified in regulation 21(2), his final pay period is the last 365 days he is entitled to count as a period of active membership.

(4) A member may elect that instead of his final pay period being determined under regulation 21(2) or paragraph (1), (2) or (3) above, it should instead be—

- (a) as respects so much of his pay as does not consist of fees, a year ending with a day—
 - (i) falling within the period of three years ending with the last day he was an active member, and
 - (ii) of which that last day is the anniversary; and
- (b) as respects so much of his pay as consists of fees, that period of three years.

(5) Where paragraph (1) or (2) applies or a member elects for the period specified in paragraph (4) (b), as respects so much of his pay as consists of fees his final pay is the annual average of his fees during his final pay period.

(6) An election under this regulation by a member must be made by notice in writing given to the appropriate administering authority before the expiry of the period of one month beginning with the day he is notified of his entitlement to a benefit.

(7) Where a member has died without having made an election under this regulation, the appropriate administering authority may make an election on his behalf (whether or not the period within which he could have elected has expired).

Permanent reductions in pay: certificates of protection of pension benefits

23.—(1) Where a certificate has been issued as respects a member's pay under paragraph (3) or (4) and the date of reduction or, as the case may be, restriction specified in the certificate is not more than 10 years before the date on which he ceases to be an active member, he may elect that his final pay period should be—

- (a) a year ending with a day—
 - (i) falling within the period of five years ending with the last day he was an active member, and
 - (ii) of which that last day is the anniversary; or
- (b) any three consecutive years—
 - (i) falling within the period of 13 years ending with the last day he was an active member, and
 - (ii) ending with a day of which that last day is the anniversary.

(2) Where a member elects for the period specified in paragraph (1)(b), his final pay is the annual average of his pay during that period.

(3) If, otherwise than by virtue of a member's own circumstances—

(a) his rate of pay is reduced, or

(b) the rate at which it may be increased is restricted in such a way that it is likely that the rate of his retirement pension will be adversely affected,

he is entitled to be issued with a certificate to that effect by the employing authority (but see paragraph (4)).

(4) The employing authority may issue a certificate without an application from the member, but need not issue a certificate if he does not apply for one within 12 months after the date of reduction or restriction.

(5) A certificate issued under this regulation must specify the date of the reduction or restriction.

(6) The employing authority must send a copy of the certificate to the member's appropriate administering authority.

(7) The employing authority must keep a record of the certificate including such information as would be necessary for applying paragraph (1) for the period of 10 years beginning with the date of reduction or restriction specified in it.

(8) An election under this regulation by a member must be made by notice in writing given to the appropriate administering authority before the expiry of the period of one month beginning with the date on which he is notified of his entitlement to a benefit.

(9) Where a member has died without having made an election under this regulation, the appropriate administering authority may make an election on his behalf (whether or not the period within which he could have elected has expired).

Revenue limits

24. Schedule 4 contains restrictions on the amounts of benefits which a member is entitled to under the Scheme.

Retirement benefits

Normal retirement

25.—(1) If a member who has attained his normal retirement age retires from a local government employment, he is entitled to a pension and retirement grant.

(2) The pension and grant are payable immediately.

(3) The normal retirement date (“NRD”) of a member who was not a member immediately before the commencement date is his 65th birthday.

(4) The NRD of a member who was a member immediately before the commencement date is—

(a) if on the day before his 60th birthday he has total membership of at least 25 years, that birthday;

(b) if the date when he first has such total membership is on or after his 60th birthday but before his 65th birthday, the day after that date; and

(c) otherwise, his 65th birthday.

(5) A member's normal retirement age is his age on his NRD.

(6) If a member's NRD or normal retirement age needs to be determined before he attains that age, it must be assumed that his local government employment and membership will be continuous.

Redundancy etc.

26.—(1) If—

- (a) a member who is aged 50 or more retires from a local government employment; and
- (b) his employing authority certify the reason for his retirement was his redundancy,

he is entitled to a pension and retirement grant.

(2) The pension and grant are payable immediately.

(3) But a person who is notified under regulation 15 of the Local Government (Compensation for Redundancy) Regulations 1994(1) about compensation due because regulation 9 of those Regulations applies to his retirement may waive his right to immediate payment by notice in writing to his employing authority.

(4) In paragraph (1) “redundancy” includes retirement in the interests of efficiency, or because the member held a joint appointment which has been ended because the other holder has left it.

Ill-health

27.—(1) Where a member leaves a local government employment by reason of being permanently incapable of discharging efficiently the duties of that employment because of ill-health or infirmity of mind or body, he is entitled to an ill-health pension and grant.

(2) The pension and grant are payable immediately.

(3) A member—

- (a) whose total membership is at least one year, but less than two years, and
- (b) to whom no transfer value is credited,

is entitled to an ill-health grant (but not a pension), unless paragraph (4) applies to him.

(4) This paragraph applies to a member if—

- (a) he is entitled to any payment out of the appropriate fund (other than an injury allowance under regulation 7 of the Benefit Regulations or a return of contributions),
- (b) he has received any payment under Part VI of the Local Government (Discretionary Payments) Regulations 1996(2), or
- (c) he would receive at least as much as the grant if his contributions were returned to him.

Amounts of ill-health pension and grant

28.—(1) Where the member's total membership is at least 5 years, the multiplier for an ill-health pension or grant is by reference to the member's enhanced membership period instead of his total membership.

(2) A member's enhanced membership period is—

- (a) if his total membership is less than 10 years, twice his total membership;
- (b) if his total membership is at least 10 years, but not more than 13 122/365 years, 20 years; and
- (c) otherwise, his total membership plus 6 243/365 years.

(3) But the enhanced membership period must not exceed 40 years or the total membership the member would have had if he had continued as an active member until he was 65, whichever is the shorter.

(1) S.I. 1994/3025; amended by S.I. 1996/456.

(2) S.I. 1996/1680.

(4) If the member became entitled to ill-health benefits under the Scheme before he was in the employment from which he has retired, his enhanced membership period must be calculated—

- (a) by including in his total membership his total in the previous employment, and
- (b) deducting from his total membership the period by which his membership period for that employment was increased for calculating those benefits.

(5) Where membership includes membership in part-time employment, the enhanced membership period must be calculated by first working out what it would be if the employment were all whole-time, and then reducing the resulting period by the appropriate fraction (but see paragraph (8)).

(6) The appropriate fraction is the fraction of which the numerator is the member's total membership and the denominator is the period which would be his total membership if his employment had all been whole-time.

(7) In the case of a member in part-time employment with non-cyclical fluctuating contractual hours, that fraction must be determined by making separate calculations for each period over which averaging of the member's hours occurs in calculating his contractual hours.

(8) If the member's total membership includes a period of at least 13 122/365 years in whole-time employment, paragraph (5) does not apply.

(9) If a member is entitled under regulation 27(3) to an ill-health grant (but not a pension), the multiplier for the grant is—

$$\frac{\text{the member's total membership.}}{12}$$

Re-employed pensioners

29.—(1) Where a member is entitled to two retirement pensions because of having been a member in two employments which were not concurrent, he may elect for a single new pension.

(2) If he elects, he becomes entitled to a single retirement pension and retirement grant, each calculated by reference to the augmented period (but see paragraph (7)).

(3) The augmented period is the member's total membership in the later employment, increased by the period which would have been aggregated if he had made an election under regulation 32(1) as respects his earlier employment when he became an active member in his later employment.

(4) But if the retirement pension from the earlier employment was calculated using a longer period of membership than the period which is the augmented period under paragraph (3), the longer period is the augmented period for paragraph (2).

(5) No election may be made if the pension for the earlier employment—

- (a) is paid under regulation 31 and subject to a reduction, or
- (b) is an EPB pension.

(6) The member must set off any retirement grant he received because of his membership in the earlier employment (“the first grant”) against the retirement grant under this regulation and, if it was greater, repay the difference between the grants to the new authority.

(7) Any additional period which did not count in the calculation of the first grant because of regulation 54(3), does not count in calculating the retirement grant under this regulation either.

(8) Any surrender of the pension from the earlier employment operates to the same extent on the single pension, but the surrendered pension is payable by the new authority.

(9) Where the later retirement is one to which regulation 27 (ill-health) applies and the member does not become entitled to a single pension—

- (a) if his earlier pension is also payable under that regulation and he gave notice under paragraph 4 of Schedule 9 to the 1986 Regulations when he left the earlier employment, regulation 28(1) does not apply (and so his total membership without enhancement is used for the multiplier for the later pension); but
- (b) if his earlier pension is not payable under that regulation, the membership enhancement period is $6 \frac{243}{365}$ years more than his total membership.

Further provisions about elections under regulation 29

30.—(1) An election under regulation 29 must be made by giving notice in writing to the new authority.

(2) The new authority is the appropriate administering authority for the pension from the later employment.

(3) The election must be made before the expiry of the period of three months beginning with the date the member becomes entitled to the pension for the later employment and has effect from that date.

(4) If a member does not repay any amount due under paragraph (6) of regulation 29 before the expiry of the period of three months beginning with the date he elects, his election is void (and so he is not entitled to the single pension).

Other early leavers: deferred retirement benefits and elections for early payment

31.—(1) If a member leaves a local government employment (or is treated for these regulations as if he had done so) before he is entitled to the immediate payment of retirement benefits (apart from this regulation), once he is aged 50 or more he may elect to receive payment of them immediately.

(2) An election made by a member aged less than 60 is ineffective without the consent of his employing authority or former employing authority (but see paragraph (6)).

(3) If the member elects, he is entitled to a pension and retirement grant payable immediately.

(4) If the sum—

- (a) of the member's age in whole years on the date his local government employment ends or the date he elects, if later,
- (b) of his total membership in whole years, and
- (c) in a case where he elects after his local government employment ends, of the period beginning with the end of that employment and ending with the date he elects,

is less than 85 years, his retirement pension and grant must be reduced by the amounts shown as appropriate in guidance issued by the Government Actuary (but see paragraphs (5) and (6) and regulation 36(5) (GMPs)).

(5) A member's appropriate employing authority may determine on compassionate grounds that his retirement pension and grant should not be reduced under paragraph (4).

(6) If a member who has left a local government employment before he is entitled to the immediate payment of retirement benefits (apart from this regulation) becomes permanently incapable of discharging efficiently the duties of that employment because of ill-health or infirmity of mind or body—

- (a) he may elect under paragraph (1) before attaining the age of 50, and
- (b) paragraphs (2) and (4) do not apply.

(7) If a member does not elect for immediate payment under this regulation, he is entitled to receive a pension and grant payable from his NRD without reduction.

(8) An election under paragraph (1) must be made by notice in writing to the member's Scheme employer.

Re-employed and rejoining deferred members

32.—(1) Where a deferred member becomes an active member again before becoming entitled to the immediate payment of retirement benefits in respect of his former membership, he may elect to have his former membership aggregated with his membership on or after the date he becomes an active member again.

(2) But an election may only be made by a Class B member as respects former Class B membership or Class C membership and an election may only be made by a Class C member as respects former Class C membership.

(3) Where a member elects under paragraph (1)—

- (a) he ceases to be entitled to rights under the Scheme in respect of his former membership (except in so far as he is entitled by virtue of having become an active member again to rights in respect of the aggregated total membership); and
- (b) he ceases to count as a deferred member for these Regulations as respects his former membership (unless he becomes a deferred member again after ceasing to be an active member).

(4) Where an election under paragraph (1) is made by a member who has ceased to be an active member more than once, the election may be made as respects his total membership at each of the times he so ceased or only as respects such of those periods of membership as are specified in the election.

(5) Where a member who may elect under paragraph (1) does not do so or does not elect as respects all periods of his membership—

- (a) in applying regulations 19(1), 20(2) and (3), 27(3), 28(1) and (2) and 31(4) as respects any later membership, his total membership excludes unaggregated periods, and
- (b) as respects each unaggregated period of his former membership—
 - (i) paragraph (3) does not apply,
 - (ii) he shall continue to be treated as a deferred member or, as the case may be, as a pensioner member (and not as an active member), and
 - (iii) he shall be entitled to the same rights as if he were not also an active member (but subject to regulation 34 and, in the case of a pensioner member, to regulation 29);

and references in these provisions to his appropriate administering authority or appropriate fund shall be construed accordingly.

(6) For this regulation a period of membership is an unaggregated period if—

- (a) no previous election has been made under this regulation for its aggregation, and
- (b) in the case of a period as respects which the member was entitled to elect under regulation D12(1)(c) of the 1995 regulations (elections to remain entitled to preserved benefits) or any previous corresponding provision of the Scheme, such an election was made.

(7) An election under paragraph (1) must be made by notice in writing to the member's appropriate administering authority in the employment in which he becomes an active member again whilst he is an active member in that employment.

(8) If the appropriate fund for membership in the new employment is different from that for any former employment as respects which the member is making the election, the notice under paragraph (7) must also be given to his appropriate administering authority in that former employment.

(9) References in this regulation to former membership include all membership which the member was entitled to count as total membership immediately before he ceased his former active membership (but excluding any unaggregated period).

(10) Where a person ceases to be an active member in one employment and immediately becomes an active member in another employment with a different Scheme employer, for paragraph (1) of this regulation he shall be treated as if he were a deferred member as respects the first employment, despite never having ceased to be an active member of the Scheme.

Surrenders of pension

33.—(1) A member may apply to the appropriate administering authority to surrender part of the retirement pension which is or may become payable to him, so that, if he is survived by his spouse or a dependant of his (“the beneficiary”), the equivalent value of that part is paid instead to the beneficiary under this regulation.

(2) The application must be made in the period of one month ending with or one month beginning with the date on which the member retires.

(3) The authority must allow the application if they think the member is in good health.

(4) The surrender must not result in a pension being paid to the beneficiary of less than such amount as is specified in guidance issued for this paragraph by the Government Actuary.

(5) The aggregate amount surrendered must not—

(a) result in the reduction of the retirement pension to less than the pension which would become payable to the beneficiary, or

(b) exceed one third of the retirement pension.

(6) On the death of the member the beneficiary becomes entitled to a pension at a rate equivalent to the value of the surrender in the beneficiary’s favour at the time when the surrender was made.

(7) The equivalent rate is such rate as is indicated in guidance issued by the Government Actuary.

(8) If the surrender is allowed, it has effect from the date the member retires from his employment.

(9) But it does not take effect if the beneficiary or member dies before that date, and it ceases to have effect if the beneficiary dies before the member.

No double entitlement

34.—(1) Where (apart from this regulation) any member would be entitled to a pension or retirement grant under two or more regulations by reason of the same period of membership—

(a) he may elect under which provision he is to be paid those benefits; and

(b) if he does not elect, the employing authority may notify him in writing of the provision.

(2) An election by a member must be by notice in writing, given to the employing authority before the expiry of the period of three months beginning with the day on which he becomes entitled to elect.

(3) Paragraph (1) does not affect the member's rights under the Pension Schemes Act 1993(3).

Requirements as to time of payment

35.—(1) Retirement benefits under this Chapter may not be paid to a person before he has retired from the employment in which he was a member.

(2) But they must begin to be paid not later than the member's 75th birthday even if he has not retired (and see also regulation 36(3)).

Guaranteed minimum pensions etc.

36.—(1) Where a member's local government employment is contracted-out employment and he has a guaranteed minimum in relation to service before 6th April 1997, from the date he attains state pensionable age he is entitled to a pension at a weekly rate equal to not less than that guaranteed minimum.

(2) But if the member attains state pensionable age while in local government employment, he is not so entitled until he leaves that employment, unless paragraph (3) applies.

(3) If the member—

- (a) continues in the same employment for a further period of five years after attaining state pensionable age; and
- (b) does not then leave it,

he is entitled from the end of that period to so much of his retirement pension as equals that guaranteed minimum (unless he consents to a postponement of the entitlement).

(4) For paragraph (1), a person has a guaranteed minimum if he has such a minimum under section 14 of the Pension Schemes Act 1993 in relation to benefits under these Regulations.

(5) A person's retirement pension is not to be reduced under regulation 31(4) to less than the aggregate of—

- (a) any minimum rate of equivalent pension benefits applicable under the Insurance Acts, and
- (b) one eightieth of his final pay (expressed as an annual rate), multiplied by the length in years of the whole period of his membership in contracted-out employment during the period beginning with the relevant date and ending with 30th April 1995.

(6) In paragraph (5) "the relevant date" means—

- (a) in the case of a man, 17th May 1990; and
- (b) in the case of a woman, 6th April 1978.

(7) Where a person's local government employment is or was contracted-out employment, a surrender under regulation 33 (together with any previous surrenders) must not result in the annual rate of the retirement pension being less than one eightieth of his final pay multiplied by the length in years of the whole period of his membership in contracted-out employment beginning with the relevant date and ending with 30th April 1995.

(8) Where a person making a surrender under regulation 33 has a guaranteed minimum, the surrender (together with any previous surrenders) must not result in the weekly rate of the retirement pension being less than the guaranteed minimum.

(9) Where a person making a surrender under regulation 33—

- (a) is in local government employment,
- (b) has attained normal retirement age, and
- (c) has total membership of at least two years or a transfer value credited to him,

references in paragraphs (7) and (8) to the retirement pension are references to the retirement pension which would become payable if he ceased to hold his employment on the day the surrender takes effect.

(10) This regulation overrides any provision in these Regulations to the extent to which it conflicts with it, except—

- (a) regulation 49 (commutation);

- (b) regulation 110 (application of abatement policy in individual cases);
- (c) regulation 111 (forfeiture); and
- (d) regulation 112 (interim payments directions).

Revaluation of guaranteed minimum

37.—(1) Where the guaranteed minimum of a person who has ceased to be an active member is appropriately secured, his earnings factors for the purposes of section 14(2) of the Pension Schemes Act 1993 must be determined—

- (a) by reference to the last order under section 21 of the Social Security Pensions Act 1975(4) or section 148 of the Social Security Administration Act 1992(5) (revaluation orders) to come into force before the end of the tax year in which he ceased to be an active member; and
- (b) without reference to the last such order to come into force before the end of the final relevant year.

(2) For such a person the weekly equivalent mentioned in section 14(2) of the Pension Schemes Act 1993 is to be increased—

- (a) by at least the prescribed percentage for each relevant year after the end of the tax year in which he ceased to be an active member, and
- (b) in accordance with such additional requirements as may be prescribed for the purposes of section 16(3) of the Pension Schemes Act 1993(6).

(3) In this regulation—

“appropriately secured” has the meaning given in section 19 of the Pension Schemes Act 1993(7);

“final relevant year” has the meaning given in section 16(5) of that Act;

“relevant year” has the meaning given in section 14(8) of that Act(8); and

“prescribed percentage” has the meaning given in regulation 62 of the Occupational Pension Schemes (Contracting-out) Regulations 1996(9).

Death grants

Death grants

38.—(1) If a member dies, the administering authority may make payments to or for the benefit of the member's nominee or any person appearing to the authority to have been his relative or dependant at any time.

- (2) The aggregate amount paid under paragraph (1) must not exceed the member's death grant.
- (3) The multiplier for an active member's death grant is 2.
- (4) The multiplier for a deferred member's death grant is the same as for his retirement grant.

(4) 1975 c. 60.

(5) 1992 c. 4.

(6) Section 16(3) of the Pension Schemes Act 1993 (c. 48) was amended by the Pensions Act 1995 (c. 26), Schedule 5, paragraph 28.

(7) Section 16(5) of the Pension Schemes Act 1993 (c. 48) was amended by the Pensions Act 1995 c. 26, Schedule 5, paragraph 28(b).

(8) Section 14(8) of the Pension Schemes Act 1993 was amended by the Pensions Act 1995, Schedule 5, paragraph 27.

(9) S.I. 1996/1172.

(5) The multiplier for a pensioner member's death grant is 5, but the amount so calculated is reduced by the amounts of any retirement pension paid to him.

(6) If the administering authority have not made payments under paragraph (1) equalling in aggregate the member's death grant before the expiry of the period of 2 years beginning with his death, they must pay an amount equal to the shortfall to the member's personal representatives.

(7) For these Regulations, any payments made under paragraph (1) must be treated as payments made by way of death grant.

Reduction of death grants: re-employed pensioners

39.—(1) If—

- (a) after the deceased became entitled to a pension under the Scheme (“the previous pension”) he entered further local government employment,
- (b) on leaving the further employment he became entitled to a pension (“the additional pension”) but not to a single pension by making an election under regulation 29, and
- (c) his entitlement to the previous or additional pension was by virtue of an election under regulation 31,

the death grant payable because of his membership in the further employment must be reduced (or extinguished) to the extent necessary to prevent his total pension benefits exceeding (or further exceeding) his relevant final pay.

(2) A person’s total pension benefits are the total of—

- (a) every death grant and all pension payments made as respects his previous pension (including increases under the Pensions Increase Act 1971⁽¹⁰⁾ and the Pensions Increase Act 1974⁽¹¹⁾), and
- (b) all pension payments made as respects his additional pension (including such increases).

(3) A person’s relevant final pay is the greater of—

- (a) the final pay used for calculating his previous pension (adjusted for inflation), and
- (b) the final pay used for calculating his additional pension.

(4) The pay for an employment must be adjusted for inflation by calculating the amount to which it would have increased if it were an official pension becoming payable from the end of that employment.

Surviving spouses’ pensions

Surviving spouse’s short-term pension

40.—(1) If an active or pensioner member dies leaving a surviving spouse, the spouse is entitled to a short-term pension.

- (2) It is payable for three months after the member's death.
- (3) But if there are eligible children in the spouse’s care, it is payable for a further three months.
- (4) Where the deceased was an active member, the short-term pension is equal to the deceased’s final pay.

(5) Where the deceased was a pensioner member, the short-term pension is equal to his retirement pension immediately before the death (but see regulation 42).

⁽¹⁰⁾ 1971 c. 56.

⁽¹¹⁾ 1974 c. 9.

(6) In this regulation “pensioner member” includes a person whose retirement pension has been commuted under regulation 50 (exceptional ill-health).

(7) If there is more than one surviving spouse, they become jointly entitled under paragraph (1).

Surviving spouse’s long-term pension

41.—(1) If a member dies leaving a surviving spouse, the spouse is entitled to a spouse’s long-term pension.

(2) If the deceased was an active or pensioner member, the long-term pension is payable from the end of the period for which the short-term pension is payable.

(3) The long-term pension payable on a deferred member's death is payable from the death.

(4) If the deceased was an active member with a total membership of at least two years, the long-term pension is equal to half the ill-health pension to which the deceased would have been entitled under regulation 27 if he had become entitled to a pension under that regulation on the date he died.

(5) If the deceased was an active member with a total membership of less than two years or a deferred member, the multiplier for the long-term pension is—

$$\frac{\text{the deceased's total membership}}{160}$$

(but see regulation 42).

(6) If the deceased was a pensioner member, the long-term pension is equal to half his retirement pension immediately before the date of death (but see regulation 42).

(7) If there is more than one surviving spouse, they become jointly entitled under paragraph (1).

Reduction of some surviving spouses’ pensions

42.—(1) Where a male pensioner member or deferred member marries and dies, the pension to which his widow is entitled under regulation 40 or 41 is calculated as if his retirement pension were only so much of his actual pension as is attributable to the period of his membership in contracted-out employment after 5th April 1978.

(2) Except in the case of a short term pension payable to the widower of an active member, the pension to which a widower is entitled under regulation 40 or 41 is calculated as if the member's retirement pension were only so much of her actual pension as is attributable to her membership after 5th April 1988.

(3) But relevant additional membership also counts as membership after that date.

(4) Relevant additional membership is membership—

(a) forming the enhanced element of a member's total period of membership by virtue of a retirement to which regulation 28 applied after 5th April 1988,

(b) added by virtue of a resolution under Chapter II of Part III or regulation 143 of these regulations or under the Transitional Regulations after that date,

(c) counted by reason of a payment made under Chapter III of Part III or paragraph 7 of Schedule 4 after that date (or treated by the Transitional Regulations as so made),

(d) treated as membership after that date by virtue of the Transitional Regulations, or

(e) attributable to a transfer value accepted by the Scheme after that date.

Surviving spouse's guaranteed minimum pension

43.—(1) If the GMP rule applies, the pension to which a person is entitled under regulation 40 or 41 must be not less than the surviving spouse's guaranteed minimum.

- (2) The GMP rule applies if—
- (a) the employment in which the deceased was a member was contracted-out employment; and
 - (b) he had a guaranteed minimum in relation to benefits under these Regulations.
- (3) Paragraph (1) overrides any contrary provision in these Regulations except—
- (a) regulation 49 (commutation of small pensions);
 - (b) regulation 111 (forfeiture); and
 - (c) regulation 112 (interim payments directions).

Children's pensions

Meaning of "eligible child"

- 44.**—(1) The eligible child of a deceased member is—
- (a) the deceased's legitimate or adopted child, or
 - (b) a child who was wholly or mainly dependent on the deceased at the time of his death.
- (2) A person only counts as a child if—
- (a) he is aged under 17,
 - (b) since he became 17 he has been engaged continuously in full-time education or in training for a trade, profession or vocation, or
 - (c) he is physically or mentally incapacitated and became so whilst a child within paragraph (a) or (b).
- (3) If an appropriate administering authority wish, they may treat education or training as continuous despite a break.

Children's short-term pensions

45.—(1) If an active or pensioner member dies leaving one or more eligible children, they are entitled to a children's short-term pension.

(2) If a short-term pension is payable to a surviving spouse under regulation 40, the children's short-term pension is payable only for three months after the death.

(3) Otherwise, it is payable for six months after the death.

(4) Where the deceased was an active member, the pension is equal to the deceased's final pay.

(5) Where the deceased was a pensioner member, the pension is equal to his retirement pension immediately before the death.

(6) If a short-term pension is payable to a surviving spouse under regulation 40, the child's short-term pension is reduced by that pension.

(7) Where, if a children's long-term pension and a surviving spouse's long-term pension were payable instead of short-term pensions, that would result in a greater aggregate pension, long-term pensions shall be payable instead of short-term pensions.

(8) Where—

- (a) a children's short-term pension is payable for a child who is not in the care of a person to whom a short-term pension is payable (or would be payable apart from paragraph (7)), and
 - (b) a children's long-term pension would be greater,
- the long-term pension shall be payable instead of the short-term pension.

(9) In this regulation "pensioner member" includes a person whose retirement pension has been commuted under regulation 50 (exceptional ill-health).

Children's long-term pensions

46.—(1) If a member dies leaving one or more eligible children, they are entitled to a children's long-term pension.

(2) If the deceased was an active or pensioner member, it is payable from the end of the period for which the short-term pension is payable.

(3) The pension payable on a deferred member's death is payable from the death.

(4) An eligible child ceases to be entitled to a long-term pension when he ceases to be a child within regulation 44(2).

(5) If the deceased was an active member, the pension is the appropriate fraction of the pension to which he would have been entitled if on the date of death he had become entitled under regulation 27(1) (ill-health).

(6) If the deceased was a deferred member, the pension is the appropriate fraction of the amount of the pension to which he would have been entitled if on the date of death he had become entitled under regulation 25 (normal retirement).

(7) If the deceased was a pensioner member, the pension is the appropriate fraction of his retirement pension.

(8) If, apart from this paragraph, the calculation of the long-term pension would be based on a member's retirement pension calculated on the basis of membership of less than—

- (a) 10 years, or
- (b) the period he would have been entitled to count if his active membership had continued until his 65th birthday,

(whichever is the shorter), then that period should be used instead in calculating it.

(9) The appropriate fractions are—

- (a) where there is one eligible child—
 - (i) if a surviving spouse's long-term pension is payable and the child is in the care of the spouse, one quarter,
 - (ii) otherwise one-third;
- (b) where there is more than one eligible child—
 - (i) if a surviving spouse's long-term pension is payable, one half,
 - (ii) otherwise two-thirds.

(10) If a child in full-time training for a trade, profession or vocation is receiving pay at an annual rate exceeding the training rate—

- (a) the pension is reduced by the excess, but
- (b) if the pension would be greater without the child, he need not be counted.

(11) In paragraph (10) "the training rate" means the current annual rate of an official pension which began to be paid on 1st April 1994 at an annual rate of £1,450.

Discretions as to payment of children's pensions

47.—(1) If a children's pension is payable for more than one eligible child, the appropriate administering authority may apportion it amongst the children as they think fit.

(2) The appropriate administering authority may pay the whole or part of a children's pension to a person other than an eligible child, to be applied for the benefit of one or more eligible children as the authority direct.

Dependants of re-employed pensioners

48.—(1) If—

- (a) after a member became entitled to an unreduced retirement pension, he entered further local government employment in which he died, and
- (b) assuming that immediately before he died he had retired from the further employment, he would have been entitled to elect under regulation 29 for a single pension,

the benefits payable under the Scheme on his death (except short-term pensions) and any surrendered benefits must be calculated in the case of each beneficiary using whichever of assumptions A and B gives that beneficiary the most favourable benefits.

(2) Assumption A is that the deceased did so retire and assumption B is that he did so retire and so elect.

(3) An unreduced retirement pension is a pension which is not reduced under regulation 31(4) (early leavers).

(4) If after a member became entitled to a relevant pension, he entered further local government employment in which he died, the benefits payable under the Scheme on his death (except short-term pensions) must be calculated on assumption A.

(5) A relevant pension is a superannuation allowance under Part 1 of the Act of 1937 or a pension under the former regulations, a local Act scheme, or a retirement pension under the 1974 regulations, the 1986 regulations, the 1995 regulations or these Regulations, which was reduced or suspended on account of the further employment.

(6) Where—

- (a) a member dies in a new employment, and
- (b) assuming he had retired from it on the date he died, he would have been entitled to a retirement pension under this Chapter (whether payable immediately or not),

the short-term pension under regulation 40 is the sum of—

- (i) his final pay in the new employment, and
- (ii) the rate at which his retirement pension from his former employment is payable (after taking into account any reduction under regulation 110 (application of abatement policy in individual cases)).

(7) Where a member dies in a new employment, the long-term pension under regulation 41 is the greater of amount A or amount B.

(8) Amount A is half the sum of—

- (a) the member's retirement pension, and
- (b) the retirement pension to which he would have been entitled if on the date of death he had become entitled to a pension under regulation 27(1) (ill-health) from the new employment.

(9) Amount B is half the retirement pension to which the member would have been entitled if on the date of death he had become entitled under regulation 27(1) and had elected under regulation 29 for a single pension.

(10) Amount A and amount B are both to be calculated on the basis that the retirement pensions have not been—

- (a) reduced by virtue of a surrender under regulation 33; or
- (b) increased under regulation 54 (effect of increases under Chapter II of Part III for older members).

Commutation

Commutation: small pensions

49.—(1) If the annual rate of the retirement pension which a member who has attained state pensionable age is entitled to be paid is not more than £195, the appropriate administering authority may pay him a lump sum representing the capital value of the pension.

(2) The appropriate administering authority may also pay a lump sum representing the capital value of a long-term pension which is payable to any surviving spouse or to or in respect of an eligible child or children, if the annual rate does not exceed £260.

(3) If a member is entitled to more than one retirement pension under the Scheme or more than one long-term pension is payable under the Scheme following a deceased member's death, a lump sum is only payable if the aggregate amount payable to that member or following that death is less than £195 or, as the case may be, £260.

(4) Any increase payable under the Pensions (Increase) Act 1971⁽¹²⁾ in respect of a pension must be included in its annual rate.

(5) The capital value of a pension must be calculated as shown in guidance issued by the Government Actuary.

(6) Where a payment is made in respect of a retirement pension, a payment representing the capital value of any long-term pension, which would be payable to the member's spouse if that spouse survived the member, must also be made.

(7) The payment of a lump sum in respect of a pension discharges the appropriate administering authority from their liability for it and, where the payment is made to a member, for any short-term or long-term pensions which may become payable on his death.

(8) The appropriate administering authority must deduct from any payment under this regulation any tax to which they may become chargeable under section 599 of the Taxes Act⁽¹³⁾.

Commutation: exceptional ill-health

50.—(1) If, when a retirement pension first becomes payable to a member, the appropriate administering authority are satisfied that his life expectancy is less than one year, they may pay him a lump sum equal to five times the amount by which the annual rate of the retirement pension exceeds his guaranteed minimum.

(2) Such a payment discharges the authority's liability for that pension (except the guaranteed minimum) and for any lump sum death grant calculated by reference to that pension under the Scheme.

(3) The authority must deduct from any such payment any tax to which they may become chargeable under section 599 of the Taxes Act.

⁽¹²⁾ 1971 c. 56.

⁽¹³⁾ Section 599 was amended by the Finance Act 1989 (c. 26), Schedule 6, paragraphs 11, 18.

Status: This is the original version (as it was originally made). This item of legislation is currently only available in its original format.
