
STATUTORY INSTRUMENTS

1996 No. 1679

PENSIONS

**The Occupational Pension Schemes
(Indexation) Regulations 1996**

<i>Made</i>	- - - -	<i>26th June 1996</i>
<i>Laid before Parliament</i>		<i>3rd July 1996</i>
<i>Coming into force</i>	- -	<i>6th April 1997</i>

The Secretary of State for Social Security, in exercise of the powers conferred by sections 51(5), 124(1) and 174(2) and (3) of the Pensions Act 1995^{F1}, and of all other powers enabling him in that behalf, by this instrument, which is made before the end of the period of six months beginning with the coming into force of the provisions of Part I of the Act by virtue of which they are made^{F2}, hereby makes the following Regulations:

- F1** 1995 c. 26. Section 124 (1) is cited because of the meaning ascribed to “prescribed” and “regulations”.

F2 See section 120(2)(c) of the Pensions Act 1995 which provides that the requirement to consult does not apply where regulations are made before the end of the period of six months beginning with the coming into force of the provisions of Part I of the Act by virtue of which they are made.

Citation, commencement and interpretation

1.—(1) These Regulations may be cited as the Occupational Pension Schemes (Indexation) Regulations 1996 and shall come into force on 6th April 1997.

(2) In these Regulations—

^{F3}
...

“the Act” means the Pensions Act 1995;

“appointed day” means the day appointed for the coming into force of section 51 of the Act for purposes other than authorising the making of these Regulations;

[^{F4}“the first abolition date” has the meaning given in section 181(1) of the Pension Schemes Act 1993;]

“indexation requirement” means the requirement under section 51(2) and (3) of the Act for certain occupational pension schemes to provide annual increases in the rate of pensions;

“pension scheme” means an occupational pension [^{F5}scheme, or a personal pension scheme registered under section 153 of the Finance Act 2004; and];

[^{F6}“protected rights” has the meaning given in section 10 of the Pension Schemes Act 1993, as it had effect immediately prior to the [^{F7}first] abolition date;]

[^{F8}“section 9(2B) rights” has the meaning given in regulation 2(1) of the Occupational Pension Schemes (Schemes that were Contracted-out) (No. 2) Regulations 2015;]

“transfer credits” has the meaning given in section 124(1) of the Act.

[^{F9}(3) For the purposes of the definition of “section 9(2B) rights” in paragraph (2) of this regulation, references to the principal appointed day are to the day designated as the principal appointed day for the purposes of Part 3 of the Pensions Act 1995 (certification of pension schemes and effects on member’s state scheme rights and duties).]

- F3** Words in [reg. 1\(2\)](#) omitted (6.4.2016) by virtue of [The Pensions Act 2014 \(Abolition of Contracting-out for Salary Related Pension Schemes\) \(Consequential Amendments and Savings\) Order 2016](#) (S.I. 2016/200), arts. 1(2), **6(a)**
- F4** Words in [reg. 1\(2\)](#) inserted (6.4.2016) by [The Pensions Act 2014 \(Abolition of Contracting-out for Salary Related Pension Schemes\) \(Consequential Amendments and Savings\) Order 2016](#) (S.I. 2016/200), arts. 1(2), **6(b)**
- F5** Words in [reg. 1\(2\)](#) substituted (6.4.2006) by [Taxation of Pension Schemes \(Consequential Amendments of Occupational and Personal Pension Schemes Legislation\) Order 2006](#) (S.I. 2006/744), arts. 1, **11(2)**
- F6** Words in [reg. 1\(2\)](#) inserted (6.4.2012) by [The Pensions Act 2008 \(Abolition of Protected Rights\) \(Consequential Amendments\) Order 2011](#) (S.I. 2011/1246), arts. 1(2)(a), **12(a)**
- F7** Word in [reg. 1\(2\)](#) inserted (6.4.2016) by [The Pensions Act 2014 \(Abolition of Contracting-out for Salary Related Pension Schemes\) \(Consequential Amendments and Savings\) Order 2016](#) (S.I. 2016/200), arts. 1(2), **6(c)**
- F8** Words in [reg. 1\(2\)](#) substituted (6.4.2016) by [The Pensions Act 2014 \(Abolition of Contracting-out for Salary Related Pension Schemes\) \(Consequential Amendments and Savings\) Order 2016](#) (S.I. 2016/200), arts. 1(2), **6(d)**
- F9** [Reg. 1\(3\)](#) added (6.4.2005) by [Personal and Occupational Pension Schemes \(Indexation and Disclosure of Information\) \(Miscellaneous Amendments\) Regulations 2005](#) (S.I. 2005/704), regs. 1(2), **7(3)**

[^{F10}Indexation of occupational pensions derived from the acceptance of transfers from pension schemes: transfers made before 6th April 2005]

2.—(1) [^{F11}Subject to the following provisions] of this regulation, where a person’s accrued rights to a pension payable under an occupational pension scheme to which section 51 of the Act applies, or any part of them, derive from the allowance by the scheme of a transfer credit in respect of rights which were subject to the indexation requirement, or to the requirements of section 162 of the Act, in any pension scheme of which that person has previously been a member, subsections (2) and (3) of section 51 of the Act shall apply to such part of that pension as is attributable to those rights as if they were attributable to pensionable service or to payments in respect of employment on or after the appointed day.

(2) Paragraph (1) of this regulation shall not apply in any case where a person’s accrued rights to a pension payable by an occupational pension scheme referred to in that paragraph, or any part of them, derive from rights which have, at any time prior to the allowance by such a scheme of a transfer credit in respect of them, been held in a personal pension scheme and which were not subject to the requirements of section 162 of the Act in that scheme.

[^{F12}(3) Paragraph (1) of this regulation shall not apply in any case where the transfer credit referred to in that paragraph is allowed by reference to a transfer which is made on or after 6th April 2005.]

- F10** Heading in reg. 2 substituted (6.4.2005) by [Personal and Occupational Pension Schemes \(Indexation and Disclosure of Information\) \(Miscellaneous Amendments\) Regulations 2005 \(S.I. 2005/704\)](#), regs. 1(2), **8(2)**
- F11** Words in reg. 2(1) substituted (6.4.2005) by [Personal and Occupational Pension Schemes \(Indexation and Disclosure of Information\) \(Miscellaneous Amendments\) Regulations 2005 \(S.I. 2005/704\)](#), regs. 1(2), **8(3)**
- F12** Reg. 2(3) added (6.4.2005) by [Personal and Occupational Pension Schemes \(Indexation and Disclosure of Information\) \(Miscellaneous Amendments\) Regulations 2005 \(S.I. 2005/704\)](#), regs. 1(2), **8(4)**

[^{F13}Indexation of occupational pensions derived from the acceptance of transfers from pension schemes: transfers made on or after 6th April 2005

2A.—(1) This regulation applies where—

- (a) a person's accrued rights to a pension payable under an occupational pension scheme ("scheme A") to which section 51 of the Act applies, or any part of them, derive from the allowance by the scheme of a transfer credit in respect of rights in any pension scheme ("scheme B") of which that person has previously been a member; and
- (b) the transfer credit is allowed by reference to a transfer which is made on or after 6th April 2005.

(2) Subsections (2) and (3) of section 51 of the Act shall apply to such part of the pension payable by scheme A as is attributable to any accrued rights deriving from the allowance of the transfer credit—

- (a) only to the extent that those accrued rights are—
 - (i) section 9(2B) rights; or
 - (ii) rights (other than section 9(2B) rights) which are allowed by reference to rights in scheme B that were subject to the indexation requirement at the time of the transfer; and
- (b) as if those accrued rights were attributable to pensionable service on or after the appointed day.]

- F13** Reg. 2A inserted (6.4.2005) by [Personal and Occupational Pension Schemes \(Indexation and Disclosure of Information\) \(Miscellaneous Amendments\) Regulations 2005 \(S.I. 2005/704\)](#), regs. 1(2), **9**

[^{F14}Indexation of occupational pensions derived from the acceptance of payments from insurance policies and annuity contracts: transfers made before 6th April 2005]

3.—[^{F15}(1)] [^{F16}Subject to paragraph (2) of this regulation] where a person's accrued rights to a pension payable under an occupational pension scheme to which section 51 of the Act applies, or any part of them, derive from the acceptance by the scheme of a payment from a policy of insurance or annuity contract in respect of rights which were subject to the indexation requirement, or to the requirements of section 162 of the Act, in any pension scheme of which that person has previously been a member, subsections (2) and (3) of section 51 of the Act shall apply to such part of that pension as is attributable to those rights as if they were attributable to pensionable service or to payments in respect of employment on or after the appointed day.

[^{F17}(2) Paragraph (1) of this regulation shall not apply in any case where the payment from the policy of insurance or annuity contract referred to in that paragraph is made on or after 6th April 2005.]

- F14** Heading in reg. 3 substituted (6.4.2005) by [Personal and Occupational Pension Schemes \(Indexation and Disclosure of Information\) \(Miscellaneous Amendments\) Regulations 2005 \(S.I. 2005/704\)](#), regs. 1(2), **10(2)**
- F15** Reg. 3 renumbered as reg. 3(1) (6.4.2005) by [Personal and Occupational Pension Schemes \(Indexation and Disclosure of Information\) \(Miscellaneous Amendments\) Regulations 2005 \(S.I. 2005/704\)](#), regs. 1(2), **10(3)**
- F16** Words in reg. 3(1) inserted (6.4.2005) by [Personal and Occupational Pension Schemes \(Indexation and Disclosure of Information\) \(Miscellaneous Amendments\) Regulations 2005 \(S.I. 2005/704\)](#), regs. 1(2), **10(4)**
- F17** Reg. 3(2) added (6.4.2005) by [Personal and Occupational Pension Schemes \(Indexation and Disclosure of Information\) \(Miscellaneous Amendments\) Regulations 2005 \(S.I. 2005/704\)](#), regs. 1(2), **10(5)**

[^{F18}Indexation of occupational pensions derived from the acceptance of payments from insurance policies and annuity contracts: transfers made on or after 6th April 2005

4.—(1) This regulation applies where—

- (a) a person's accrued rights to a pension payable under an occupational pension scheme ("scheme A") to which section 51 of the Act applies, or any part of them, derive from the acceptance by the scheme of a payment from a policy of insurance or annuity contract in respect of rights in any pension scheme of which that person has previously been a member; and
- (b) the payment was made on or after 6th April 2005.

(2) Subsections (2) and (3) of section 51 of the Act shall apply to such part of the pension payable by scheme A as is attributable to any accrued rights deriving from the acceptance of the payment from the policy of insurance or annuity contract—

- (a) only to the extent that those accrued rights are—
 - (i) section 9(2B) rights; or
 - (ii) rights (other than section 9(2B) rights) which are allowed by reference to rights specified in paragraph (3) of this regulation; and
- (b) as if those accrued rights were attributable to pensionable service on or after the appointed day.

(3) The rights specified in this paragraph are rights to payment under the policy of insurance or annuity contract which—

- (a) were subject to provision contained in (or endorsed on) the policy or contract requiring an increase in the annual rate of payment; and
- (b) in any case where the policy or contract was entered into before 6th April 2005, would have been subject to such provision if the policy or contract had been entered into on or after that date.]

- F18** Reg. 4 added (6.4.2005) by [Personal and Occupational Pension Schemes \(Indexation and Disclosure of Information\) \(Miscellaneous Amendments\) Regulations 2005 \(S.I. 2005/704\)](#), regs. 1(2), **11**

[^{F19}Purpose for which trustees may modify the scheme

5.—(1) This regulation prescribes a purpose for which the trustees of a trust scheme may by resolution modify the scheme under section 68 of the Act (power of trustees to modify schemes by resolution).

(2) The purpose is to—

- (a) reduce the amount of the annual increase in the rate of any pension that accrues after the date of the resolution; or
- (b) change the method for determining that amount in order to make such a reduction.

(3) No modification may be made for the purpose in paragraph (2) without the consent of—

- (a) where there is one employer in relation to the scheme, that employer; or
- (b) where there is more than one employer in relation to the scheme—
 - (i) all those employers; or
 - (ii) a person nominated by all those employers, or in accordance with the scheme rules, to act as their representative.]

F19 [Reg. 5](#) inserted (6.4.2009) by [Occupational, Personal and Stakeholder Pensions \(Miscellaneous Amendments\) Regulations 2009 \(S.I. 2009/615\)](#), regs. 1(2), **7(2)**

Signed by authority of the Secretary of State for Social Security.

Oliver Heald
Parliamentary Under-Secretary of State,
Department of Social Security

Status: Point in time view as at 06/04/2016.

Changes to legislation: There are currently no known outstanding effects for the The Occupational Pension Schemes (Indexation) Regulations 1996. (See end of Document for details)

EXPLANATORY NOTE

(This note is not part of the Regulations)

These Regulations are made before the expiry of the period of six months beginning with the coming into force of the provisions of Part I of the Pensions Act 1995 (c. 26) (“the Act”) by virtue of which they are made. They are accordingly exempt by section 120(2)(c) of the Act from the requirement for the Secretary of State to consult such persons as he considers appropriate.

Regulation 1 provides for citation, commencement and interpretation.

Regulation 2(1) provides for subsections (2) and (3) of section 51 of the Act to apply, on or after the day appointed for the coming into force of section 51 of the Act for purposes other than authorising the making of these Regulations (“the appointed day”), to such part of a pension payable by an occupational pension scheme to which that section applies as is derived from a transfer credit allowed by the scheme in respect of rights which have previously been subject to indexation under the requirements of section 51 or section 162 of the Act as if those rights were attributable to pensionable service or to payments in respect of employment on or after the appointed day.

Regulation 2(2) provides an exception from the provisions of regulation 2(1) in any case where a transfer credit has been allowed by an occupational pension scheme to which section 51 of the Act applies in respect of rights which have previously been held in a personal pension scheme and which were not subject to the requirements of section 162 of the Act in that scheme.

Regulation 3 provides for subsections (2) and (3) of section 51 of the Act to apply, on or after the appointed day, to such part of a pension payable by an occupational pension scheme to which that section applies as is derived from a transfer payment accepted by the scheme from a policy of insurance or annuity contract in respect of rights which have previously been subject to indexation under the requirements of section 51 or section 162 of the Act as if those rights were attributable to pensionable service or to payments in respect of employment on or after the appointed day.

An assessment of the compliance cost to business of the measures arising from the Act, including these Regulations, has been placed in the libraries of both Houses of Parliament. Copies can be obtained by post from the Department of Social Security, 11th Floor, Adelphi, 1-11 John Adam Street, London WC2N 6HT.

Status:

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Changes to legislation:

There are currently no known outstanding effects for the The Occupational Pension Schemes (Indexation) Regulations 1996.