

## ERPF - Employer Bulletin 9

### Important dates for your 2016 diary

Dear Employer

The purpose of this email is to advise all Fund employers:-

- that the administering authority has reported itself to the Pensions Regulator (see Employer Bulletin 2 and 3 for background details issued in October 2015);
- of the timetable for submission of year end returns in 2016 to ensure there is no breach in 2016; and
- that the Fund will be running workshops, planned for 11 and 18 January 2016, aimed to help employers provide accurate year end returns and timely and accurate data in order for the Fund to be able to fulfil its legal obligations.

The Pensions Regulator was informed on 19 November 2015 that the Fund was in breach of regulation 89 of the Local Government Pension Scheme (LGPS) Regulations 2013 which requires East Riding of Yorkshire Council, as administering authority to the East Riding Pension Fund, to issue annual benefit statements to each of its active, deferred, deferred pensioner and pension credit members' by 31 August 2015 for the 2014/15 Scheme year.

Deferred annual benefit statements were not issued until 12 October 2015. The majority of active annual benefit statements (approximately 20,000 or 63%) will be issued on 30 November 2015 with the remaining statements being issued on flow as and when queries are resolved with employers.

This was due to significant data and IT system issues faced by the Fund and Fund employers.

### **The timetable for submission of year end returns in 2016 to ensure there is no breach in 2016**

It is vital that all employers adhere to the following timetable. Failure to do so is likely to incur fines from the Pensions Regulator which will be passed onto employers who have not met the deadlines set out in the timetable.

***Employers to submit year end returns for 2015/16 by 19 April 2016***

***19 April 2016 to 27 May 2016 - Fund to check year end returns to validate data for loading and posting to the member records.***

***Fund will notify employers by 27 May 2016 where there are any queries and employers will have until 17 June 2016 to resubmit an accurate year end return***

***17 June 2016 to 22 July 2016 - Fund to load and post correct year end returns received by 17 June 2016***

**22 July 2016 - Data will be sent to Print and Design for issue of annual benefit statements by 31 August 2016.**

## **Workshops**

To help employers provide accurate year end returns for 2015/16, we will be running workshops on **11 and 18 January 2016**. All employers will shortly be sent invites to the workshops so please ensure you keep the dates 11 and 18 January 2016 free.

Kind regards,

*Liz Vollans*

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