



The Pensions Regulator reports on Intermediaries understanding and activity relating to automatic enrolment

The Pensions Regulator's report titled 'Intermediaries' understanding and activity relating to automatic enrolment and ongoing duties' dated December 2017 reported that more than half of payroll administrators (55%), accountants (52%) and bookkeepers (56%) expected their clients to rely on them completely to fulfil their ongoing automatic enrolment duties.

Accountants, payroll administrators and bookkeepers expected to help, on average, around two-thirds to three-quarters of their clients with ongoing automatic enrolment duties. The below table shows the ongoing duties that the intermediaries anticipate helping their clients with;

	Payroll	Accountant	Bookkeeper
<i>Base: All that support/plan to support with AE</i>	141	108	96
Monitoring the ages and earnings of their new and existing staff and checking their AE eligibility every time they are paid	94%	82%	84%
Calculating and paying contributions to their staff's pension	94%	81%	84%
Keeping records of their AE activities for six years and opt-out notices for four years	85%	79%	77%
Enrolling staff and writing to them to let them know how AE applies to them as they become eligible	83%	70%	74%
Managing employee requests to join/leave a scheme	82%	67%	78%

Whilst knowledge of automatic enrolment legislation is improving within intermediaries there is still some work to go. The report highlighted that 27% of accountants, 31% payroll administrators and 33% of bookkeepers were not aware that instant automatic enrolment duties commenced in October 2017. The intermediaries questioned were also tested on their understanding of postponement by assessing whether they could identify three true and one false statement. 48% of payroll providers identified all the answers correctly, followed by bookkeepers and accountants 33% and 25% respectively.

44 Benefit Solutions Payroll Services

The 44 Benefit Solutions Payroll Team, as well as ensuring the above duties are processed correctly, recognises the importance of effective monitoring of the workplace pension to ensure best practice and best member outcomes as per The Pensions Regulator's Six Principles. The Regulator believes that if schemes follow these principles in their design, set-up and on-going operations it will help them to deliver the six elements necessary for members to receive good outcomes. **The 44 Benefit Solutions Payroll Team incorporates their wealth of experience in pensions and employee benefits with the administration of payroll services to provide a comprehensive automatic enrolment service proposition.**

If you wish to discuss how 44 Benefit Solutions can you support your Company for payroll, pension scheme administration and/or the monitoring of your workplace pension scheme please contact 01277 523144 or admin@44benefits.co.uk

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