



The Pensions Regulator – cyber security should be key

The Pensions Regulator (TPR) has highlighted the importance of trustees ensuring scheme controls are in place in the wake of the recent cyber-attacks. Cybercrime is growing exponentially and defined benefit pension schemes are particularly vulnerable.

Trustees should be assessing their risk of a cyber-attack and taking steps to protect member data and scheme assets. The recent global ransomware attacks have highlighted the importance of knowing what administrators, IT services and other providers have in place to ensure information is safe and how they assess scheme protection.

Therefore, trustees should ensure all key persons are suitably vetted and trained. Controls should be in place to avoid security breaches and a plan to deal with any breaches if they were to occur.

Some basic tips

Below sets out some helpful tips for those who may, as members of a trustee board or corporate team, be obvious targets for “social engineering” attacks:

- **Passwords:** protect all attachments and use a different password for work-related purposes
- **Email addresses:** check incoming addresses carefully and take care when typing email addresses
- **Privacy:** change social media settings and consider using private browsing

Trustees should ensure the risk of cyber-attacks is on the schemes’ risk register and trustees should consider raising it at their next formal trustee meeting. For more information about protecting against cyber threats, visit the [National Cyber Security Centre’s](#) website.

For further information please contact your 44 Consultant.

June 2017

44 Benefit Solutions Ltd

105 High Street, Brentwood, Essex, CM14 4RR

44 Benefit Solutions Ltd is an Appointed Representative of 44 Financial Ltd which is authorised and regulated by the Financial Conduct Authority

Registered Address: Pera Business Park, Nottingham Road, Melton Mowbray, LE13 0PB Reg: 08272027

This publication is for the general guidance of our clients only. It is not financial advice and is not an authoritative statement of law.