



TPR to crackdown on schemes for poor reporting

The Pensions Regulator (TPR) is to commence a crackdown on any pension schemes where trustees are not compiling accurate data and on those who are not performing regular validity checks.

Trustees of hundreds of pension schemes are to be ordered to urgently review the data they hold as part of the review on poor record-keeping.

The trustee boards of 400 schemes will be required to report to TPR what proportion of their members they hold accurate common and scheme specific data for. Failure to comply with the notice carries a fine of up to £5,000 for an individual or up to £50,000 in any other case.

David Fairs, TPR's Executive Director of Regulatory Policy, Analysis and Advice, said:

"Accurate record-keeping is vital to good governance and administration – without it trustees cannot ensure that savers will get accurate information or receive the pensions they are entitled to.

"Requiring trustees to carry out reviews will force them to look closely at their data and administration and take appropriate action to bring their systems up to scratch."

A total of 1,200 schemes are being contacted with a polite reminder that they should be performing data reviews of both common and scheme-specific data every year. Trustees and scheme managers are responsible for ensuring these reviews are completed.

The move comes as TPR tightens its regulatory grip to drive up standards of governance and administration and deliver better outcomes for pension savers. In addition to record-keeping, communications will be sent to more than 1,000 schemes this year about issues such as dividend payments to shareholders and the length of recovery plans.

As a response to checking the data they hold, trustees that discover that the data they hold is of poor quality will be expected to draw up improvement plans to rectify the problem.

If you have any queries please contact your usual 44 Consultant or email admin@44benefits.co.uk

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