



Your Ref:

Our Ref: HR/MR

Date: 27 June 2025

Private & Confidential

The Pensions Regulator
Telecoms House
125-135 Preston Road
Brighton
BN1 6AF

Chief Fire Officer
Peter Rickard

When telephoning ask for:

Michelle Richardson
Tel: 01429 874023
Email: mrichardson@clevelandfire.gov.uk
www.clevelandfire.gov.uk

To whom it may concern

Cleveland Fire Scheme

I write to inform you of a disclosure breach which has occurred on the Scheme:

1. Scheme Information

- **Scheme Name:** Firefighters Pension Schemes
- **Scheme Address:** PO Box 562, Middlesbrough, TS1 9JA
- **Pension Scheme Reference Numbers:** 10276673, 10276797 and 10271423

2. Scheme Manager

- **Name:** Peter Rickard
- **Role:** Chief Fire Officer
- **Contact Details:** prickard@clevelandfire.gov.uk

3. Reporter Details

- **Name:** Michelle Richardson
 - **Position:** Head of Human Resources
 - **Organisation:** Cleveland Fire Brigade
 - **Contact Details:** mrichardson@clevelandfire.gov.uk
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Cleveland Fire Brigade

Training & Administration Hub, Endeavour House, Queens Meadow Business Park, Hartlepool TS25 5TH

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4. Description of the Breach

- **Type of Breach:** Failure to issue all Remediable Service Statements (RSS) within the statutory timeframe.
 - **Statutory Deadline:** 31st March 2025
 - **Date Breach Identified:** 8th April 2025
 - **Details of the Breach:** The Public Service Pensions and Judicial Offices Act 2022 (PSPJOA 2022) implemented the McCloud remedy for the Firefighters' Pension Scheme and set out the legal framework for issuing RSS to affected members. 43 members did not receive an RSS by the statutory deadline; this equates to 12.2% of affected members.
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5. Assessment of Material Significance

- **Cause:** Data quality queries with some pay data and contribution adjustments provided by the Employer to the Administrator were identified by the Administrator on the 18th March 2025, but were unable to be resolved by the deadline.
- **Effect:** 43 members did not have accurate information about their pension entitlements, resulting in a risk of financial uncertainty which could impact on financial planning and retirement decisions.
- **Reaction:** There was a legitimate reason as to why 4 of these members did not receive an RSS, these members have been written to advise of delay due to waiting for HO guidance on how to process PSO debits. The Scheme Manager has exercised their discretion under Section 29(10B) to extend the deadline for these members.

All data quality queries have been responded to, and all updated data has been provided to the Administrator who is processing weekly runs to issue the outstanding backlog of RSS.

Communication has been sent to all affected members to advise them of the delay whilst work continues to process the outstanding RSS by the Administrator.

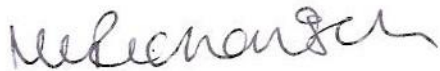
- **Wider Implications:** It is unlikely that there are wider scheme issues and that the scheme is in breach of other legal requirements. However, there is potential for this to erode member trust and confidence which could lead to dissatisfaction and submission of IDRs. All members approaching retirement have had their benefits calculated correctly and been paid on time.
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6. Reason for Reporting

I believe this breach is of material significance to The Pensions Regulator because of potential detriment to members who have not been issued with an RSS.

7. Declaration

I confirm that this report is made in accordance with my legal duty under Section 70 of the Pensions Act 2004 and that the information provided is accurate to the best of my knowledge.

A handwritten signature in dark ink, appearing to read 'M. Richardson', is positioned above the 'Signature:' label.

Signature:

Date: 27/06/2025