

The Local Government Pensions Committee
Secretary: Mike Walker

CIRCULAR

Please pass on sufficient copies of this Circular to your Treasurer/Director of Finance and to your Personnel and Pensions Officer(s) as quickly as possible

No. 191 NOVEMBER 2006

PRACTITIONER & EMPLOYER TRAINING EVENTS

'UNDERSTANDING' WORKSHOPS

COMPENSATION, AUGMENTATION, INJURY AWARDS AND GRATUITY BENEFITS

Purpose of this Circular:

Since the release electronically of this Circular it has come to our attention that **ALL** the courses Planned for January and February have sold out. We have therefore added some further dates in March which are scheduled later in this Circular.

1. This Circular has been issued to advise authorities of a number of regional workshops being organised by the Local Government Pension Committee that are aimed at both administering and employing authority staff. The workshops will look at the Compensation, Augmentation, Injury Awards and Gratuity benefits provided under:
 - a) the Local Government (Early Termination of Employment) (Discretionary Compensation) (England and Wales) Regulations 2006,
 - b) the Local Government Pension Scheme Regulations 1997 (as amended), and
 - c) the Local Government (Discretionary Payments) Regulations 1996 (as amended).

Email info@lge.gov.uk
www.lge.gov.uk

Managing Director Jan Parkinson

Background

2. Since 2003 the LGPC has held numerous one-day *Understanding Workshops* covering various subject areas including Compensation, Transfer Values, Retirement Benefits, Death & Survivor's Benefits, Pensions on Divorce, and Guaranteed Minimum Pensions, among others. The Compensation workshops were last delivered in 2003 since then there has been significant changes in the Compensation provisions in England and Wales which has led to numerous requests for training on the new and transitional provisions.

Intended Audience

3. The Understanding series is topic-specific and although little or no knowledge is expected of the delegates in the particular subject area, it is assumed that delegates will normally have a sound working understanding of the basics of the Local Government Pension Scheme.

Format of workshops

4. At the Understanding Workshops, delegates have the benefit of an experienced tutor, hands-on exercises and a workbook they can take away for future reference. Each Understanding workshop will start at 10:00 a.m. and finish no later than 4:00 p.m., with lunch and refreshment breaks included. As the workshops are delivered "locally" this should avoid the time and expense of overnight stays for many delegates.

Workshop Content

5. Course content covers:
 - Redundancy Payments
 - Compensation Payments ("66/104 Weeks")
 - Early Retirement
 - Pension Fund Benefits
 - Enhanced Rechargeable Benefits
 - Tax Liability
 - Effects of Re-employment
 - Requirement to Publish a Policy Statement
 - Considerations when formulating policy
 - Augmentation of Scheme Membership
 - Injury Awards
 - Loss of Employment through Incapacity
 - Reduction in Remuneration
 - Death Benefits
 - Allowances for Pensioners
 - Gratuities

Cost and Booking

- The delegate rate for these workshops, inclusive of lunch, refreshments and all delegate materials is £145 (plus VAT at the standard rate). Early booking is strongly recommended as places are strictly limited.

Bookings are made via the events booking facility on the Local Government Employers website at www.lge.gov.uk/events. When booking, you will need full delegate details to hand including the address to which the invoice for payment is to be sent. Should any event be full you will be asked to place your name on a reserve list for that location. It is important to do so as, not only will you have a chance of attending if any cancellations occur, but it also enables the LGPC to judge demand for future events or, on occasion, to organise overflow events.

If you experience any difficulties in using the website booking facility or do not have access to the internet, please contact Elaine English, LGPC Executive Officer, on 0207 187 7344.

Workshop Venues and Dates

- Details of Venues and dates are scheduled below:

Courtyard by Marriott Hotel, Lincoln	18 th January 2007	- SOLD OUT
Jurys Inn Hotel, Birmingham	23 rd January 2007	- SOLD OUT
Marriott Hotel, Cardiff	30 th January 2007	- SOLD OUT
Courtyard by Marriott Hotel, Liverpool	6 th February 2007	- SOLD OUT
Layden House, London	9 th February 2007	- SOLD OUT
Marriott Hotel, Leeds	13 th February 2007	- SOLD OUT
Courtyard by Marriott Hotel, Ipswich	15 th February 2007	- SOLD OUT
Thistle Hotel, Exeter	20 th February 2007	- SOLD OUT
Layden House, London	22 nd February 2007	- SOLD OUT
Layden House, London	23 rd February 2007	- SOLD OUT

New dates

Marriott Hotel, Cardiff	6 th March 2007
Layden House, London	13 th March 2007
Marriott Hotel, Leeds	15 th March 2007
Courtyard by Marriott Hotel, Liverpool	20 th March 2007
Layden House, London	27 th March 2007

Actions for administering authorities

8. Many employing authority staff could benefit by attending a workshop and increased understanding of the issues at employer level would benefit the administering authority too. All Administering Authorities are therefore urged to copy this Circular to all employers in their Fund (other than to Local Authorities to whom this Circular has been sent direct) or bring the Circular to the attention of employers by directing them to the Circular on-line at www.lge.gov.uk/pensions/circulars.html

Tim Hazlewood
LGPC Training and Development Manager
22 November 2006

Distribution sheet

Chief executives of local authorities
Pension managers (internal) of administering authorities
Pension managers (outsourced) and administering authority client managers
Officer advisory group
Local Government Pensions Committee
Trade unions
DCLG
COSLA
SPPA
Private clients

Website

Visit the LGE's website at: www.lge.gov.uk/

Copyright

Copyright remains with the Employers' Organisation for Local Government. This Circular may be reproduced without the prior permission of LGE provided it is not used for commercial gain, the source is acknowledged and, if regulations are reproduced, the Crown Copyright Policy Guidance issued by HMSO is adhered to.

Disclaimer

The information contained in this Circular has been prepared by the LGPC Secretariat, a part of Local Government Employers (LGE). It represents the views of the Secretariat and should not be treated as a complete and authoritative statement of the law. Readers may wish, or will need, to take their own legal advice on the interpretation of any particular piece of legislation. No responsibility whatsoever will be assumed by LGE for any direct or consequential loss, financial or otherwise, damage or inconvenience, or any other obligation or liability incurred by readers

relying on information contained in this Circular. Whilst every attempt is made to ensure the accuracy of the Circular, it would be helpful if readers could bring to the attention of the Secretariat any perceived errors or omissions. Please write to:

LGPC
Local Government House
Smith Square
London
SW1P 3HZ

or email: tim.hazlewood@lge.gov.uk
tel 01530 242777
fax 01530 244771