You can get detailed guidance on pension liberation, which you may find useful in deciding if you should action a transfer request, from The Pensions Regulator. Go to www.thepensionsregulator.gov.uk

If an individual wants to transfer into your scheme from another registered pension scheme, the transferring scheme may approach us to establish the status of your scheme.

Deregistration

We may carry out checks to ensure that the pension scheme continues to meet the criteria to be a registered pension scheme for tax relief and exemptions.

If we identify that any of the criteria in section 158 of the Finance Act 2004 apply then we may deregister the pension scheme. If that should happen, you will be liable to a deregistration tax charge of 40% of the total of:

- the amount of any sums held for the purposes of the pension scheme immediately before it ceased to be a registered pension scheme
- the market value at that time of any assets held for the purposes of the pension scheme

You can get more information on recognised transfers, unauthorised payments and deregistration in the Registered Pensions Schemes Manual (RPSM). Go to www.hmrc.gov.uk/manuals/rpsmmanual