



HM Revenue & Customs

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HM Revenue and Customs
Pensions Schemes Services
BX9 1GH

Phone 03000 519 617

Web www.gov.uk

Date 28 November 2022
Our Ref APSS530
SRN S0000020333

Dear Sir or Madam

Notice to give information and produce documents about an application to register a pension scheme

This letter is an information notice. It is a legal request for information and documents. I am making this request under section 153A of the Finance Act 2004.

Pension scheme name: The Firewater Scheme

Thank you for your application dated 23 November 2022 to register the pension scheme named above. You have applied to register the pension scheme under the Finance Act 2004.

What you need to do

To help us decide if we will register the pension scheme, you need to give us some information and documents. We believe these are reasonably required to consider your application for registration.

This notice means that, by law, you must let us have the information and the documents listed on the enclosed schedule by 12 January 2023. Please send the information and documents by post to the address at the top of this letter.

Please put your submission reference number, S0000020333 on the first page of your reply.

We need to keep all of the documents you send us. This means you need to make sure you have copies for your own records.

If you cannot do what this notice asks or reply by the date given, please contact us now. You can:

- write to the address at the top of this letter
- email us at pensions.compliance@hmrc.gov.uk

If you need extra support, for example if you have a disability, a mental health condition, or do not speak English/Welsh, go to www.gov.uk and search for 'get help from HMRC'.
Text Relay service prefix number – 18001

What will happen if you do not do what this notice asks

If you do not do what this notice asks by 12 January 2023, we can decide not to register the pension scheme.

Please take care when doing what this notice asks. If you carelessly or deliberately give inaccurate information or produce a document containing an inaccuracy, we may charge you a penalty of up to £3,000 for each inaccuracy. We will do this under section 153E of the Finance Act 2004.

We will not charge a penalty if you tell us about an inaccuracy at the time you give us the information or produce the document. If you later find an inaccuracy, you must tell us straight away.

What you can appeal against

You cannot appeal against this notice. You can only appeal if we send you a notification that tells you our decision not to register the pension scheme.

If we've decided not to register the pension scheme, we'll give details about how to appeal.

More information

I have enclosed factsheet PSS/FS1, 'Pension scheme registration information notices' which gives you more information about the type of notice we have sent to you. If you have any questions once you have read this, please phone us on 03000 519 617.

When you have given us the information we've asked for, we'll write to you to let you know our decision. If we need more information to make a decision, we'll write to you and tell you what we need.

If you contact us, we can deal with you more quickly if you quote our reference number and give us your contact details.

John Bhandal

Join the millions of taxpayers already using their Personal Tax Account to access a range of services. It takes just a few minutes to get started, go to www.gov.uk/personal-tax-account Or you can use the HMRC app.

To find out what you can expect from us and what we expect from you go to www.gov.uk and search for 'HMRC Charter'.



Pension scheme registration information notices

We have given you this factsheet because we have given you a pension scheme registration information notice.

What is a pension scheme registration information notice

This is a document that legally requires a person to give us certain information and documents to allow us to decide whether or not to register a pension scheme.

When we use a pension scheme registration information notice

We will send an information notice to help us decide whether or not to register a pension scheme. This could be to the scheme administrator, or to another person.

What the pension scheme registration information notice will tell you

The information notice will tell you:

- what information and documents you will need to give us
- how and when to give us what we need
- about any appeal rights

What information and documents we can ask for in a pension scheme registration information notice

We can ask for information and documents if we believe it is reasonable to ask for them because they are relevant in helping us to decide whether or not to register a pension scheme.

If you think that something we have asked for is unreasonable or not relevant to that decision, please tell the officer that sent you the information notice. They will consider your reasons carefully and if they still think they need it, they will tell you why.

Customers with particular needs

If there is anything about your health or personal circumstances that may make it difficult for you to deal with this information notice, please tell the officer that issued the notice. Telling them will mean that they can help you in the most appropriate way.

For example, if:

- English is not your first language
- you would like us to use a certain format to communicate with you, for example, Braille or Text Relay. If you use Text Relay by textphone dial 18001 + number, by phone dial 18002 + number

For more information go to hmrc.gov.uk/contactus/particular-needs.htm

If you need help or more information

If you have any questions, please contact the officer dealing with the information notice. You can also look for the information you need on our website. Go to hmrc.gov.uk/pensionschemes/index.htm

Authorising a representative

You can authorise someone to deal with us on your behalf. This includes professional advisers, friends or relatives. They can deal with us just for the pension scheme registration information notice, or more permanently for your day to day tax affairs.

If you want to authorise a professional adviser, they will be able to give you a form to complete and send to us. If you want to authorise someone other than a professional adviser, you will need to write to tell us who you want to authorise and what you want them to deal with for you.

What information and documents we cannot ask for in a pension scheme registration information notice

We cannot ask you to give us information or documents:

- that are not in your possession and you cannot get the documents, or copies from whoever holds them
- that have been created as part of the preparation for a tax appeal
- that are personal records concerned exclusively with a person's physical, mental, spiritual or personal welfare
- that are privileged communications between lawyers and clients for the purpose of obtaining or giving legal advice
- if you are an auditor, tax adviser or journalist and the information or documents have been created for the purposes of your profession
- if you are the subject of journalistic material and the information or documents have been created by a journalist for the purposes of their profession

The rules about what information and documents fall into these categories, especially personal or privileged communications, can be complicated. If you think that anything we have asked for may fall into these categories, please discuss this with the officer dealing with the application to register the pension scheme.

When you can appeal against a pension scheme registration information notice

You can appeal against an information notice if you are a person other than the scheme administrator and we are writing to you for information that will help us to decide whether to register a scheme. If you think that the request is unreasonable or not relevant to the decision, and we do not agree, you can appeal to the independent tribunal that deals with appeals. We will tell you how to do this.

If you need more time to give us what we have asked for, you should contact the officer that sent you the information notice.

When you can't appeal against a pension scheme registration information notice

You cannot appeal against the information notice if you are a scheme administrator and we have sent it to you to help us decide whether to register a pension scheme.

Asking another person for information about a scheme

In some circumstances we may need to go to a person other than the scheme administrator for information. If we ask another person for information, we will send a copy of the information notice to the scheme administrator.

What if you are unhappy with our service

If you are unhappy with our service, please tell the person or office you have been dealing with. They will try to put things right. If you are still unhappy, they will tell you how to complain.

There is more information on our website. Go to [hmrc.gov.uk/complaints-appeals/how-to-complain/make-complaint.htm](https://www.hmrc.gov.uk/complaints-appeals/how-to-complain/make-complaint.htm)

What happens if you fail to comply with an information notice

If you are the scheme administrator and you do not give us everything we ask for within the specified period, we may decide not to register the scheme. As the scheme administrator you can appeal this decision. If you are another person and you do not give us everything that the information notice asks for within the specified time period, we may charge you a £300 penalty. If you have still not complied with the notice by the time we have issued the £300 penalty, we may then charge you daily penalties of up to £60 a day for each day that you do not comply.

If you conceal, destroy or otherwise dispose of any document that the information notice asks for, or arrange for it to be concealed, destroyed or disposed of, you may have to pay a penalty.

If we agree that you have a reasonable excuse for not giving us information or documents, we will not charge you a penalty but we will still ask you for the information, documents (or replacement documents) to be provided within an agreed timescale.

A reasonable excuse is normally an unexpected or unusual event that is either unforeseeable or beyond your control. What is or is not a reasonable excuse depends on an individual's abilities and circumstances. Those abilities and circumstances may mean that what is a reasonable excuse for one person may not be a reasonable excuse for someone else. If you think you have a reasonable excuse please tell us.

Examples of reasonable excuse may include, when:

- you have been seriously ill
- someone close to you has died
- you have lost the documents in a fire or flood

What happens if you provide inaccurate information or documents

If you carelessly or deliberately provide inaccurate information or produce a document containing an inaccuracy, we may charge you a penalty of up to £3,000 for each inaccuracy. We will not charge you a penalty if you tell us about the inaccuracy at the time you provide the information or produce the document. If you later find an inaccuracy, you must tell us without delay.

Your principal rights and obligations

You have:

- the right to be represented. You can appoint a representative to act on your behalf in responding to this notice. This includes professional advisers, friends, relatives and so on
- the right to consult your adviser. We will allow a reasonable amount of time for you to do so
- an obligation to take care to get things right. If you have an adviser, you must still take reasonable care to make sure that any documents and records they send us on your behalf are correct

Your Charter explains what you can expect from us and what we expect from you. For more information go to www.gov.uk/hmrc/your-charter

We have a range of services for disabled people. These include guidance in Braille, audio and large print. Most of our forms are also available in large print. Please contact our helplines for more information.

These notes are for guidance only and reflect the position at the time of writing. They do not affect the right of appeal.

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Documents or information needed for The Firewater Scheme

- 1 A signed and dated paper copy of the complete scheme rules and any executed amendments to the scheme rules.
- 2 A signed and dated paper copy of the completed deed establishing the scheme and any executed amendments to that deed.
- 3 If the scheme has a bank account, please tell us the:
 - account number
 - sort code
 - name of the account
 - bank statements from the date the account was opened to the current date
- 4 If there are less than 10 members give the full name, address, phone number and National Insurance number of each known intended member.
- 5 Give us:
 - details of the target membership
 - original copies of the marketing material
 - details of any web based material
 - the full names, addresses and contact details of the introducers to be used
- 6 Give us:
 - details of each proposed type of investment
 - a copy of the business plan for each proposed investment
 - the full name, address and contact phone number for each proposed investment provider

If there are currently no specific investment proposals, give the reasons why this scheme was set up and the reasons why the individuals listed under 5 above want to transfer their pension benefits to this scheme.
- 7 The projected fund value at the end of the first year of the pension scheme's existence.
- 8 Confirm if this pension scheme is intended to be offered for auto enrolment.
- 9 For each employer who is in the scheme give the following information:
 - full name
 - address
 - contact phone number
 - number of people employed
 - confirmation of whether they are registered for tax with HMRC
 - PAYE reference
 - VAT reference or a statement that the business is not VAT registered
 - corporation tax reference (if they are a company)
 - partnership tax reference (if they are an LLP or a partnership)
 - Self-Assessment tax reference (if they are an individual)
- 10 If this scheme is not:
 - an occupational scheme
 - a public service pension scheme

give us a copy of the permission under the Financial Services and Markets Act 2000 provided by the Financial Conduct Authority.

- 11** For all other persons who gave advice for setting up the pension scheme or that instructed you to set up this scheme or will be involved in the administration of the scheme if it's registered, give the following information:
- full name
 - contact address
 - contact number
 - role
 - details of how many schemes you've been instructed to set up and register with HMRC by this person

You do not need to include details of people you've already told us about in previous questions.