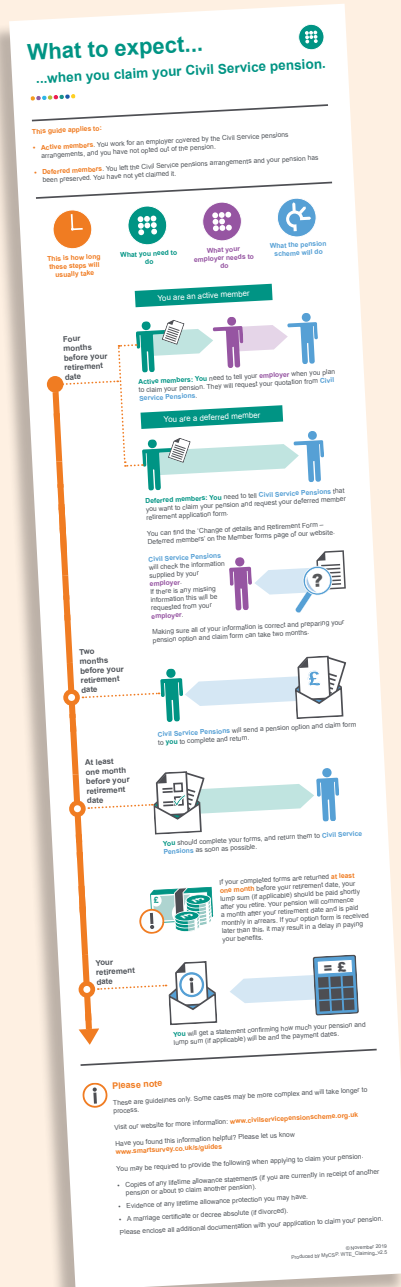


CURRENT FOCUS

What to expect guides

We've had a number of requests recently to provide information on the retirement process, highlighting who does what and by when. Please help us to ensure members know 'what to expect' by providing them with the handy guide which can be found [here](#).



REF video

In case you haven't watched the video, please do take the time to scroll through the various content which includes updates on 2015, Data, the ever-popular feature 'On your radar' and engagement. So far:

- 86% of viewers found it useful/extremely useful
- 90% of viewers were satisfied/very satisfied with the information presented

Please refer to the email sent to you on 30 November to access the link to the video.

Added pension window

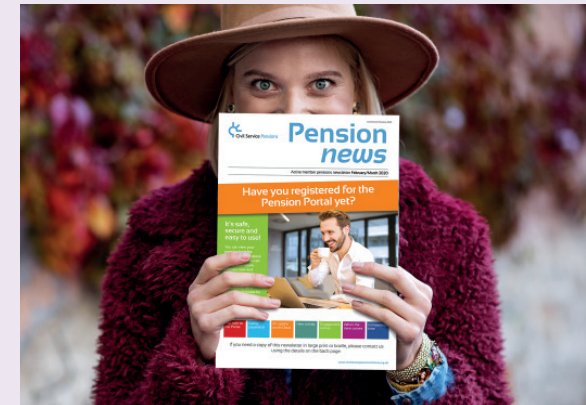
The Added Pension EPN was posted on the scheme website on 8 December – it can be found [here](#). As a reminder, members of classic, classic plus, premium, nuvos or alpha can top-up their benefits by buying added pension. Added pension can be bought via a lump sum payment or monthly contributions. Members of alpha are also able to buy an EPA (by monthly contributions only). By contributing to an EPA, members of alpha are able to take part of their pension earlier than their Normal Pension Age without any early payment reduction.

The EPN details the window of time in which members can take action.

COMING SOON

Active member newsletter

We've started work on the next active member newsletter which will start its distribution to members home addresses (apart from members of our secure employers where we have an alternative distribution process) in late January. Thank you to those employers who've volunteered to support our focus groups so that the end result best serves the needs of our members.



Planning ahead

The Scheme Year planner will be available to view on the scheme website from 1 January. Please familiarise yourself with the content to keep abreast of key dates and activities.

The 2015 Remedy Programme and Ill Health Retirements

As you'll be aware, the public services pension scheme consultation has closed and we're awaiting HM Treasury's response in Q1 of 2021.

A priority for us now is to address those members who are unable to work due to illness and who were moved into alpha from a previous PCSPS scheme. Over the last few months, we've been working with the Scheme Administrator (MyCSP) to update the Ill Health Retirement (IHR) processes to end the age discrimination.

Under the new process, we're proposing that where appropriate, a member should be assessed under

both schemes. If the Scheme Medical Adviser determines that a member qualifies under both alpha and PCSPS criteria, they'll be provided with two quotations and offered a choice of taking their benefits from either scheme. The process for members not eligible for this option will remain the same. We'll initially only process members who didn't qualify for transitional protection. That is, those members who migrated into alpha on the 1 April 2015.

As you'd expect, there's a lot of work required to implement this process change and details we need to work through with HM Treasury. Where we can, we've started work and we're

currently updating application forms and guidance that will go onto the scheme website and we're consulting with the Scheme Medical Adviser regarding the proposed changes.

We're also considering how to remedy those members who've already taken ill health retirement from alpha and who are affected by the 2015 reforms. This is currently at an early stage, but we'll be looking to share more information with you in the New Year.

Lookout for a 2015 Remedy programme and ill health retirements update in Hot Topics in February.



And finally...

As it's that time of year, we'd like to wish all our employers a very Merry Christmas, happy holidays and season's greetings. It's certainly been a strange and challenging year. Thank you for your ongoing support and partnership during what have been some dark times. Hopefully, lighter days are on the horizon. We wish you all the very best for 2021 and look forward to seeing you in person throughout the year, once more.

Printing?

This document is designed to be printed in A3, landscape, so check your settings before printing.

