



North East Scotland Pension Fund  
**nespf**

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# **Pension Administration Strategy**

**Quarterly Reporting December 2020**

# 1. NESPF performance from 1<sup>st</sup> April to 31<sup>st</sup> December

## 1.1 Key administration tasks

Measuring performance is essential to evidence the efforts made by both the Pension Fund and Scheme employers to comply with statutory requirements and deliver a high-quality pension administration service. The Pension Fund aims to provide the information below within the agreed timescales shown.

Administration Task	Target	Completed cases during reporting period			Additional targets for completed cases during reporting period				Uncompleted cases during reporting period	
		Cases	Achieved	Percentage	+ 5 days	+ 10 days	+ 20 days	> + 20 days	Cases	Revised %
Notification of death in service	5 days	22	21	<b>95.5%</b>	95.5%	95.5%	95.5%	1	10	<b>65.6%</b>
Notification of retirement estimate	10 days	302	301	<b>99.7%</b>	99.7%	99.7%	100.0%	0	14	<b>95.3%</b>
Notification of retirement benefits	10 days	1175	1014	<b>86.3%</b>	93.7%	96.5%	98.0%	23	177	<b>75.0%</b>
Notification of deferred benefits	10 days	1405	1304	<b>92.8%</b>	94.6%	95.8%	96.0%	57	318	<b>75.7%</b>
Notification of refund	10 days	1025	990	<b>96.6%</b>	97.9%	99.4%	99.8%	2	34	<b>93.5%</b>
Notification of transfer in value	10 days	33	28	<b>84.8%</b>	84.8%	87.9%	90.9%	3	9	<b>66.7%</b>
Notification of transfer out value	10 days	206	94	<b>45.6%</b>	51.5%	53.0%	57.7%	66	16	<b>42.3%</b>
		<b>4168</b>	<b>3752</b>	<b>90.0%</b>				<b>152</b>	<b>578</b>	<b>79.1%</b>

**Completed cases during reporting period** - reporting output is based on 5 and 10 day targets built into workflow cases for processing administration tasks as declared in the pension administration strategy:

- Overall percentage and overall revised percentage have both gone down 1% from previous quarter
- The only positive is retirement benefit percentages continue to improve from first quarter - 74.3% up to 86.3% and 61.9% up to 75%.

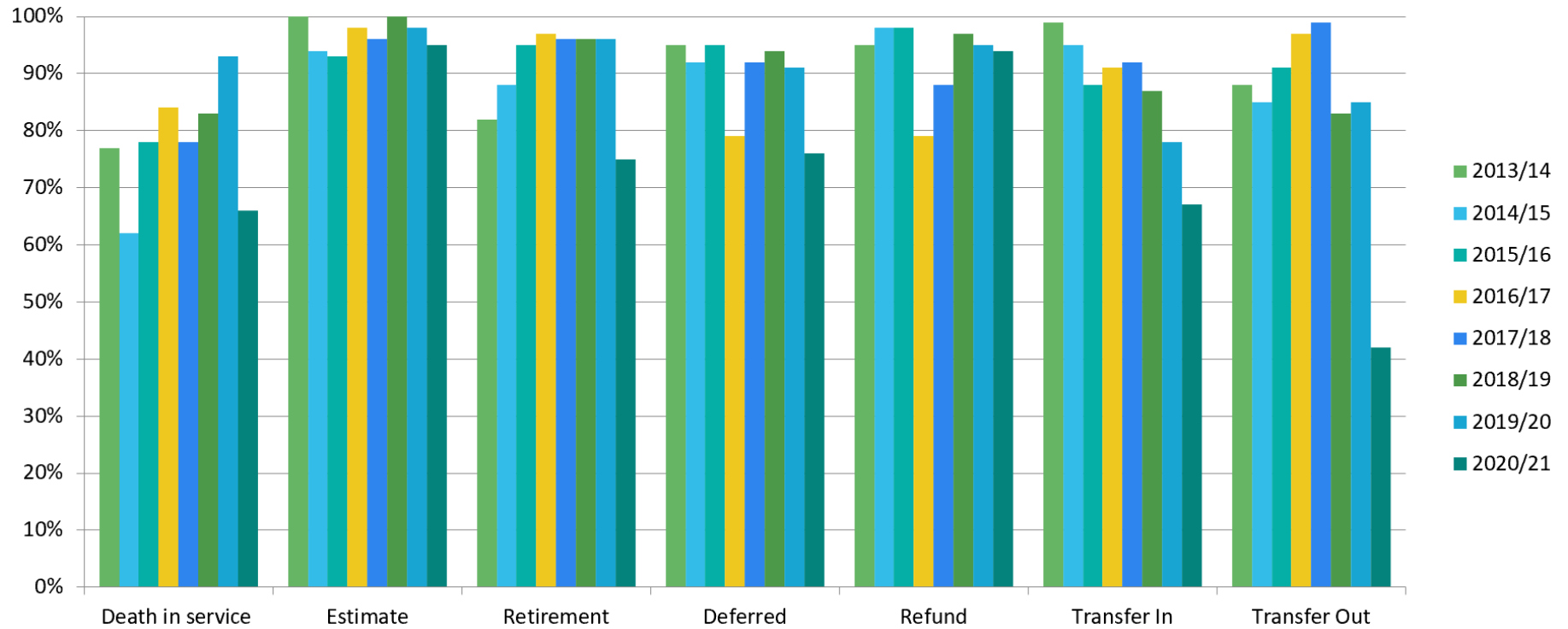
**Additional targets for completed cases during reporting period** - reporting output is based on adding 5/10/20 days to the 5 and 10 day targets built into workflow cases for processing administration tasks:

- 152 cases taking more than +20 days shows it is still taking longer to complete cases, this time last year 34 were reported.

**Uncompleted cases during reporting period** - cases identified that were due to be completed and do not have a Reply Due date set in advance of the end of the reporting period:

- 578 cases were identified and contributed to the revised percentages, this time last year 126 were reported
- The impact of Covid-19 and home working remains significant.

## 1.2 Previous years comparison



## 2. Employer performance from 1<sup>st</sup> April to 31<sup>st</sup> December

### 2.1 Policy on discretions received (85%)

Each Scheme employer is required under regulation 58 of the Local Government Pension Scheme (Scotland) Regulations 2018 to prepare a written statement of its policy on how it will exercise various discretions provided by the Scheme. This 'discretions policy' must be kept under review by employers and revised as necessary.

Employers			
Aberdeen City Council	Aberdeen Cyrenians	Aberdeen Endowments Trust	Aberdeen Foyer
Aberdeen Heat and Power	Aberdeen Performing Arts	Aberdeen Sports Village	AIYF
Aberdeenshire Council	Aberlour	Archway	Bon Accord Care
Bon Accord Support	Outdoor Access Trust for Scotland	Fersands and Fountain	First Aberdeen
Forth & Oban (City)	Fraserburgh Harbour	Grampian Valuation Joint Board	Home Start Aberdeen
Inspire	Mental Health Aberdeen	Moray College	NESTRANS
North East Scotland College	North East Sensory Services	Osprey Housing	Pathways
Peterhead Port Authority	Printfield Community Project	Robert Gordons College	Robert Gordon University
Sanctuary Scotland	Scottish Fire and Rescue	Scotland's Lighthouse Museum	Scottish Police Authority
Scottish Water	Sport Aberdeen	St Machar Parent Support Project	Station House Media Unit
The Moray Council	Visit Scotland	Xerox	

## 2.2 Signed PLO statements received (46%)

Following the revision of the NESPF Pension Administration Strategy in April 2018 each Scheme employer must designate a named individual to act as a Pension Liaison Officer, the main contact regarding any aspect of administering the Local Government Pension Scheme (LGPS).

Pension Liaison Officers			
Aberdeen City Council	Aberdeen Cyrenians	Aberdeen Endowments Trust	Aberdeen Foyer
Aberdeen Heat and Power	Aberlour Childcare Trust	Alcohol & Drugs Action	Archway
Bon Accord Care	Bon Accord Support	Outdoor Access Trust for Scotland	Fraserburgh Harbour
Moray College	North East Scotland College	North East Sensory Services	Pathways
Peterhead Port Authority	Printfield Community Project	Robert Gordons College	Scottish Fire and Rescue
Scottish Water	Sport Aberdeen	St Machar Parent Support Project	Visit Aberdeenshire
Xerox			

## 2.3 Quantity of data received (710,681)

All Scheme employers are now required to provide monthly data using I-Connect, by way of a monthly file extracted from the payroll system or by completing electronic forms for individual members.

I-Connect events processed	Total
Starters (new start and opt in)	2,612
Amendments (address, personal details, hours and absence)	13,813
Leavers (exit and opt out)	2,014
Contributions (employee, employer and additional)	232,919
Salary	231,448
Cumulative CARE Pay	224,272
Works Address	3,603

## 2.4 Quality of data received

The quality of data received from Scheme employers is assessed and checked by the Employer Relationship Team (ERT). Red, Amber and Green flags will be used to assess the quality of the data. The Pension Fund will seek, at the earliest opportunity, to work closely with Scheme employers in identifying areas of unsatisfactory performance and provide the necessary training and development for improvement.

Since the introduction of the requirement to provide monthly information in this format the quality of the data received through i-Connect has been of a very high standard. This allows the Fund to provide accurate and up to date information to members, meet the requirements of The Pension Regulator and improved the accuracy of the financial information held for the valuation of the Fund.

Green	I-Connect events processed and validated by ERT
Amber	I-Connect events processed however missing or incorrect data identified by ERT
Red	I-Connect events not processed
Blank	Data not provided (as at 2021)

\* Moved to another LGPS for administrating or employer has terminated from the fund

Employer	Submission	Apr	May	Jun	Jul	Aug	Sep	Oct	Nov	Dec	Jan	Feb	Mar
Aberdeen City Council	Extract File												
Aberdeenshire Council	Extract File												
Bon Accord Care	Extract File												
Bon Accord Support	Extract File												
Grampian Valuation Joint Board	Extract File												
Moray Council	Extract File												
NESTRANS	Extract File												
Police Scotland (Aberdeen & Glasgow)	Extract File												
Robert Gordon University	Extract File												
Moray College	Extract File												
North East Scotland College	Extract File												
Scottish Water	Extract File												
Scottish Fire and Rescue Service	Extract File												
Sport Aberdeen	Extract File												
Aberdeen Endowments Trust	Online Return												
Aberdeen Cyrenians	Online Return												
Aberdeen Foyer	Online Return												
Aberdeen Heat and Power	Online Return												

Aberdeen Performing Arts	Online Return												
Aberdeen Sports Village	Online Return												
Aberlour Child Care Trust	Online Return												
Archway	Online Return												
Citymoves Dance Agency	Online Return												
Alcohol & Drugs Action	Online Return												
Fersands and Fountain	Online Return												
First Aberdeen	Online Return												
Forth and Oban (City)	Online Return												
Forth and Oban (Shire)	Online Return												
Fraserburgh Harbour	Online Return												
Homestart Aberdeen	Online Return												
Homestart NEA	Online Return												
ID Verde	Extract File												
Inspire	Online Return												
Inspire Catering Scotland LLP	Online Return								*	*	*	*	
Mental Health Aberdeen	Online Return												
North East Sensory Services	Online Return												
Osprey Housing	Online Return												
Outdoor Access Trust Scotland	Online Return												
Pathways	Online Return												
Peterhead Port Authority	Online Return												
Printfield Community Project	Online Return												
Robert Gordon College	Online Return												
Robertson FM City	Online Return												
Robertson FM Shire	Online Return												
Sanctuary Scotland	Online Return												
SCARF	Online Return												
Scotlands Lighthouse Museum	Online Return												
St Machar Parent Support Project	Online Return												
Station House Media Unit	Online Return												
Visit Scotland	Online Return						*	*	*	*	*	*	*
Xerox	Online Return												