

13 September 2018 Publications Gateway Reference Number: 08456

A message from NHS England and NHS Business Services Authority

For the attention of GPs who are members of the NHS Pension Scheme

When NHS England was established in 2013, it inherited, from Primary Care Trusts, the IT systems that hold contributions data and calculate pensionable earnings for GPs in the NHS Pensions Scheme. NHS Business Services Authority (NHS BSA) is responsible for administering the NHS Pension Scheme. As part of the Primary Care Services England (PCSE) contract, Capita has been responsible for the administration of GP pension contributions since September 2015.

As part of NHS England's quality assurance of the pension scheme records, a small sample review has been carried out which has shown discrepancies between some of the pensionable earnings and contributions data which has been provided to NHS BSA.

We would like to assure you that your pension entitlement is safe. Our priority is to ensure that where there are any discrepancies, they are identified and resolved as quickly as possible.

NHS England is carrying out a complete review of all data led by an independent pension's expert who has been jointly appointed with Capita. This review may take some time to complete, so as a matter of urgency we will prioritise the records of any GPs who are nearing retirement age (56 or over), GPs who have recently retired and GPs who have died in service.

NHS England will seek advice from HMRC and the Government Actuary's Department (GAD) with regards to the tax implications to members.

What do you need to do?

You don't need to do anything at this stage and may not need to in the future.

If the review shows any discrepancy in your data, you will be contacted directly with clear advice on what to do next. This may involve re-submitting annual certificates for years where there are discrepancies. We will ensure this is as straightforward as possible for you.

Some Total Reward Statements (TRS) are now available online for year ending 31 March 2017 and the remainder are due in December 2018. If you have not received confirmation that your TRS is available by 17 December, please contact us.

If you have queries relating to your TRS, please contact the NHS Pensions TRS Helpline (0300 330 13510) or email: nhsbsa.trs@nhsbsa.nhs.uk.

If you have any queries about the accuracy of the information recorded about your pension's data, please contact PCSE and select GP pensions as the type of enquiry: https://pcse.england.nhs.uk/contact-us.

We will provide updates throughout the review.