



Important Announcement to Members of the Schemes

The purpose of this Announcement is to serve as a reminder of the actions being taken by Dalriada Trustees Limited ("Dalriada") to recover members' funds, and to provide an update to members on the situation regarding the Fraud Compensation Fund ("the FCF"). If members have any specific queries in relation to this Announcement or their membership of the Schemes in general, please contact us. Our details are on the final page of this Announcement.

The Fraud Compensation Fund ("FCF")

Ultimately the best chance of any significant recovery for members of the Schemes is via a claim for compensation to the FCF. The FCF is a fund, managed by the Board of the Pension Protection Fund ("PPF"), that provides compensation where schemes have suffered a loss as a result of an offence involving dishonesty. Further detail on Dalriada's interactions with the FCF, as well as the legal case which sought clarification on certain legislative issues to do with the FCF, is set out in the Announcement issued to members in November 2020.

Dalriada has been working closely with the FCF with regards to submitting a potential claim on behalf of members of the Schemes. We provided initial evidence to the FCF that would allow them to gain an understanding of how the Schemes were set up and run.

We are very pleased to confirm that the PPF Board has agreed that there are reasonable grounds for believing there was dishonesty within the Schemes, and that there are Scheme asset reductions attributable to that dishonesty.

This is clearly very positive news and Dalriada is delighted to be able to communicate this positive outcome to members of the Schemes.

The total value of compensation to be paid to the Schemes is still to be calculated and agreed with the FCF. We will be appointing accountants for this purpose and will continue to work closely with the FCF towards an agreed level of compensation, as well as to confirm the date of payment to the Schemes.

In order to proceed with a formal claim, the Schemes need to satisfy a number of requirements. For example, the FCF is a compensation fund of "last resort", which means that the FCF will need to be satisfied that no further recoveries can be made from elsewhere, or else, that the costs and/or time likely to be incurred pursuing any recovery could outweigh any potential return. Dalriada will therefore be working with the FCF on the extent to which recovery actions should continue to be pursued.

As part of the claims process the FCF has noted that some members may have previously received a payment which, whilst not necessarily made from the Schemes, was related to their transfer to one of the Schemes. As a condition of paying compensation to the Schemes, the FCF requires that any such payments confirmed by members to have been received are offset against the amount of compensation the FCF pays (and against the benefits those members receive out of that compensation). This is because the FCF considers those payments were assets of the Schemes, which members have already received.

Dalriada has written to members of the Schemes to request the relevant information to allow the FCF to calculate the final level of compensation payable, and to allow Dalriada to subsequently calculate the value of members' benefits within the Schemes. We would urge members respond to the letter issued and provide the information requested.

The FCF considers that they have the power to make this a condition of paying compensation, so as to effect a reduction in compensation, and will adopt this approach for all schemes seeking compensation. Consequently, and among other things, we are acting on these conditions imposed by the FCF.

Members also need to be aware that, if they did receive a payment, this may have tax consequences for them (for example, if this was an unauthorised payment or, depending on how the payment was made, on some other basis) and Dalriada may need to advise HMRC of this. Dalriada is unable to advise members on these tax consequences, and we recommend that members obtain separate independent financial advice on any tax which may be due.

Unfortunately, we cannot at this point confirm to members any timescales, but we aim to complete the outstanding steps as soon as it is practicable.

Further Information on the FCF

We have added a Frequently Asked Questions document on the Schemes' website which provides further information on the FCF. You can find a copy by accessing the link below or by visiting the FCF's website at www.fraudcompensationfund.co.uk. Please contact Dalriada directly with any queries and not the FCF.

FAQ Document: https://www.dalriadatrustees.co.uk/wp-content/uploads/2019/12/FCF FAQ Members.pdf

Scheme Costs

Members should be aware that the Schemes have inevitably incurred, and will continue to incur, significantly higher costs than would be the case for similarly sized conventional schemes. This is typical when dealing with schemes of this nature that have been mismanaged by previous trustees, and where TPR has seen fit to intervene and appoint a professional trustee (like Dalriada) to take appropriate, necessary actions.

Dalriada has and will continue to report on costs accrued in its annual Chair Statements. Copies of the relevant documents can be accessed via the Scheme's website: Fast Pensions Schemes - Dalriada Trustees

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As the majority of the costs incurred by both Dalriada and our legal advisers are attributable to dealing with the fraud and/or dishonesty offences involved, these costs will form part of the compensation payable by the FCF.

Member Website

Dalriada has a dedicated member website for the Schemes, which includes copies of all Announcements, alongside any relevant governance documents. A link to the Schemes' website can be found here: Fast Pensions Schemes - Dalriada Trustees

What should I do if I have any further questions?

Should you have any queries in relation to this Announcement or your membership of the Scheme, please contact us.

You can contact us as follows:

By Telephone: 028 9041 2090

By Post: Dalriada Trustees Limited

Linen Loft

27-37 Adelaide Street

Belfast BT2 8FE

By Email: FastPensions@dalriadatrustees.co.uk

Other Useful contact details

If you have a complaint or dispute concerning your workplace or personal pension arrangements you should contact:

The Pensions Ombudsman Telephone: 0800 917 4487 Website: www.pensions-ombudsman.org.uk

If you have general requests for information or guidance concerning your pension arrangements contact the Money and Pension Service (MaPS).

Previously pensions guidance has been provided across the three consumer facing brands of MaPS: Pension Wise (PW), The Pensions Advisory Service (TPAS) and the Money Advice Service (MAS).

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MaPS has now launched MoneyHelper where all retirement and pensions guidance has been brought together under one brand and one website: moneyhelper.org.uk.

Consumers can request an appointment by following the links, emailing virtual.appointments@maps.org.uk or by calling the pensions helpline on 0800 011 3797.

These appointments are free and impartial.

The email address to the pensions guidance team for general pensions queries is pensions.enquiries@moneyhelper.org.uk

Issued by Dalriada Trustees Limited August 2024































