

Monthly Report

January 2023

Leicestershire Fire Authority



West Yorkshire Pension Fund

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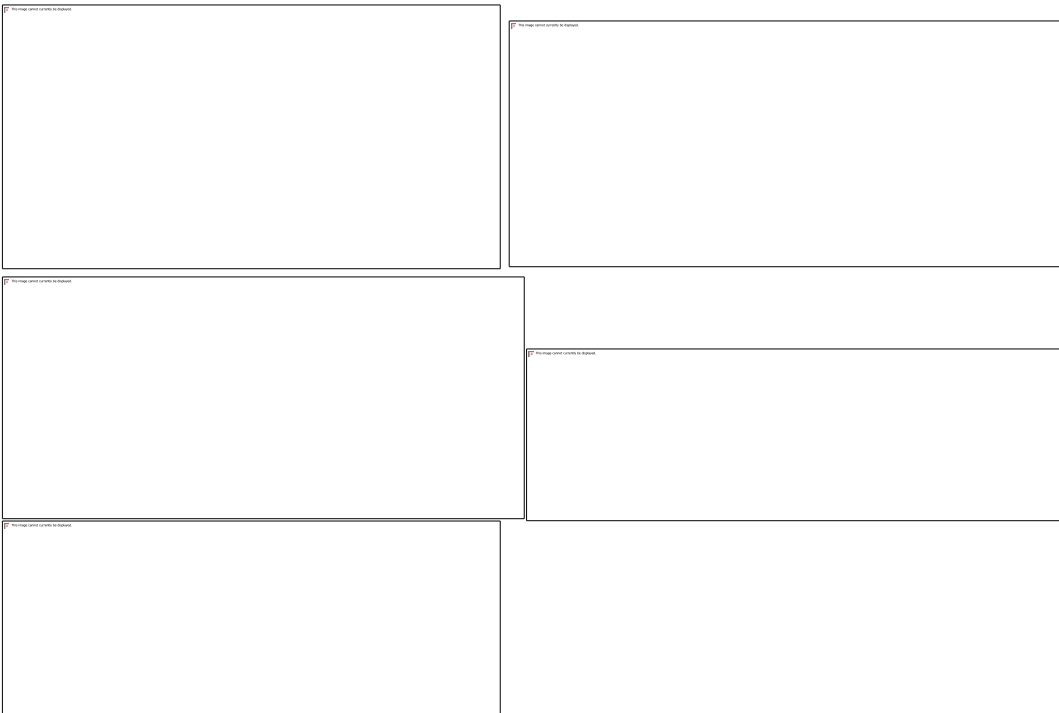
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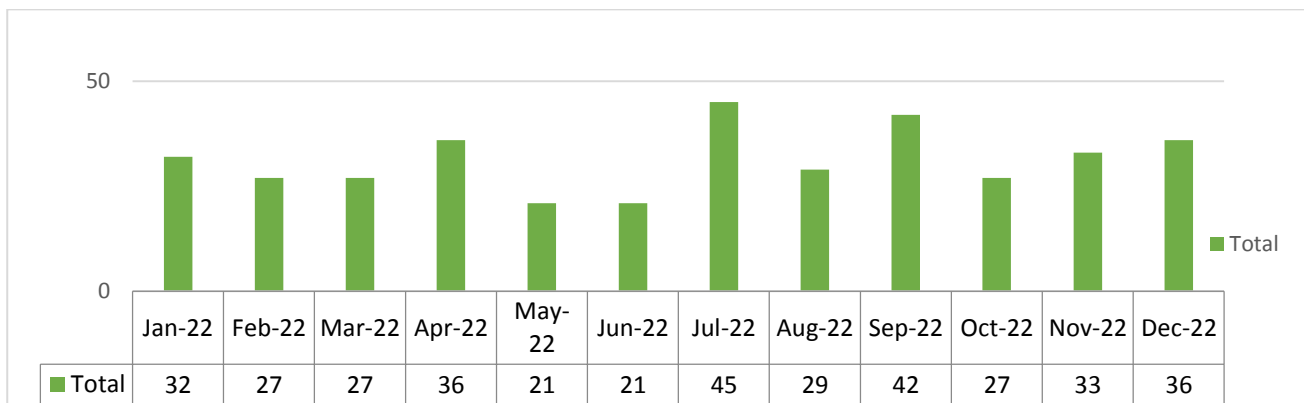


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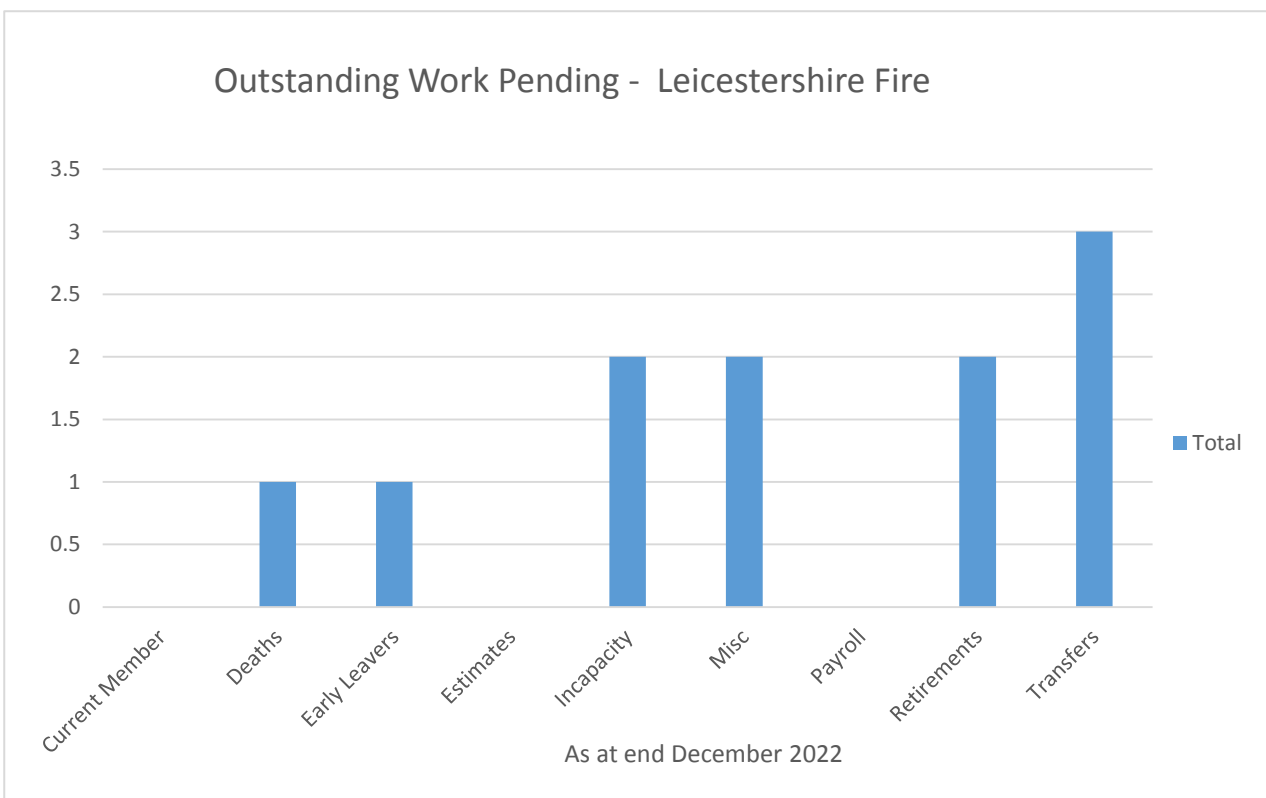
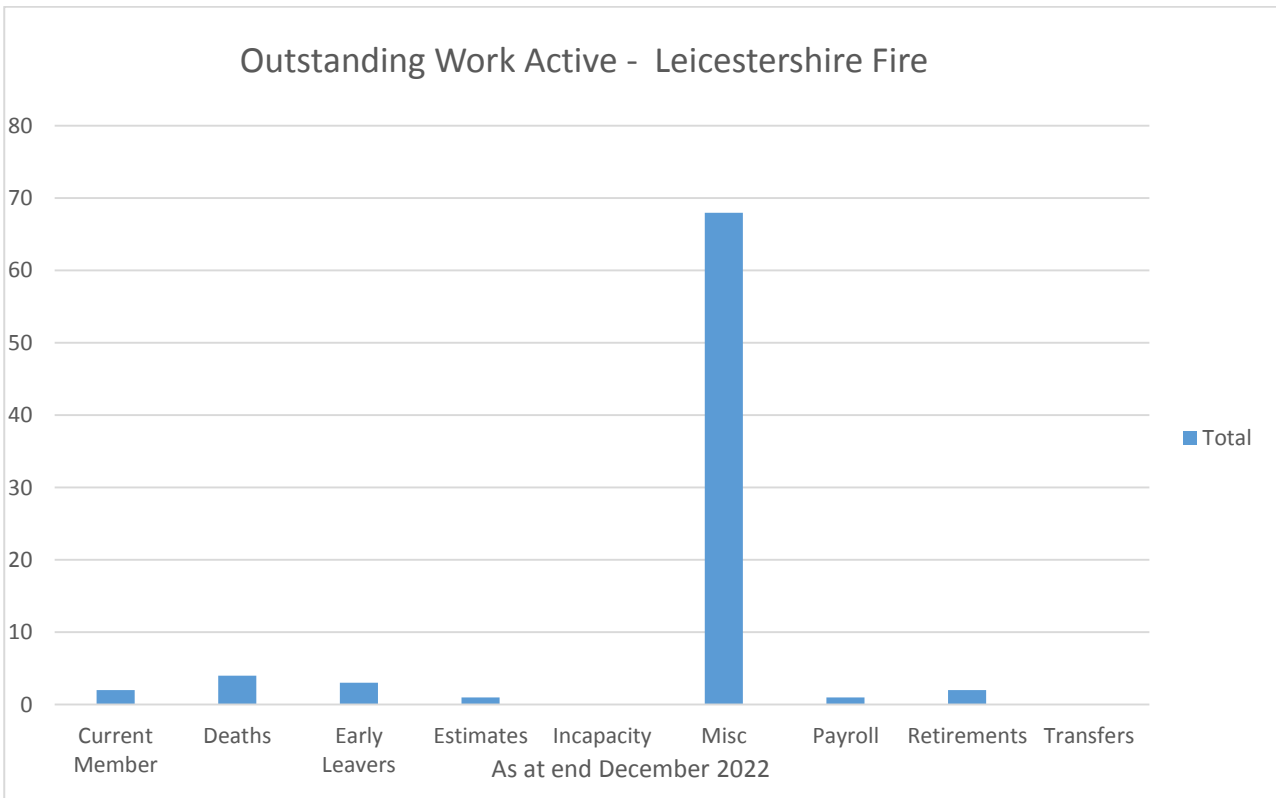
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1. Completed processes

1 to 31 December 2022						
Work Type	Total Cases	Target days for each case	Target met cases	Minimum Target Met	Target met percent	Average time taken
Deferred Benefits Set Up on Leaving	2	20	2	85	100	20
Pension Estimate	13	10	12	90	92.31	8.46
Pension Set Up/Payment of Lump Sum	1	3	1	85	100	3
Deferred Benefits Into Payment " Payment of Lump Sum	2	3	2	85	100	3
Retirement Actual	1	10	1	90	100	3
Set Up New Spouse Pension	1	5	1	85	100	2
General Payroll Changes	4	20	4	85	100	2.25
Age 55 Increase to Pension	2	20	2	85	100	8
NI adjustment to Pension at State Pension Age	2	20	2	85	100	9
Death in Retirement	1	10	0	85	0	27
Update Member Details	1	20	1	100	100	1
Dependant Pension To Set Up	1	10	1	100	100	2
Transfer Out Quote Fire	2	35	2	85	100	1
Deferred Benefits Into Payment Quote	1	35	1	85	100	11
Initial letter Death in Retirement	1	10	1	85	100	1
Monthly Pension	733	Pay date	733	100	100	



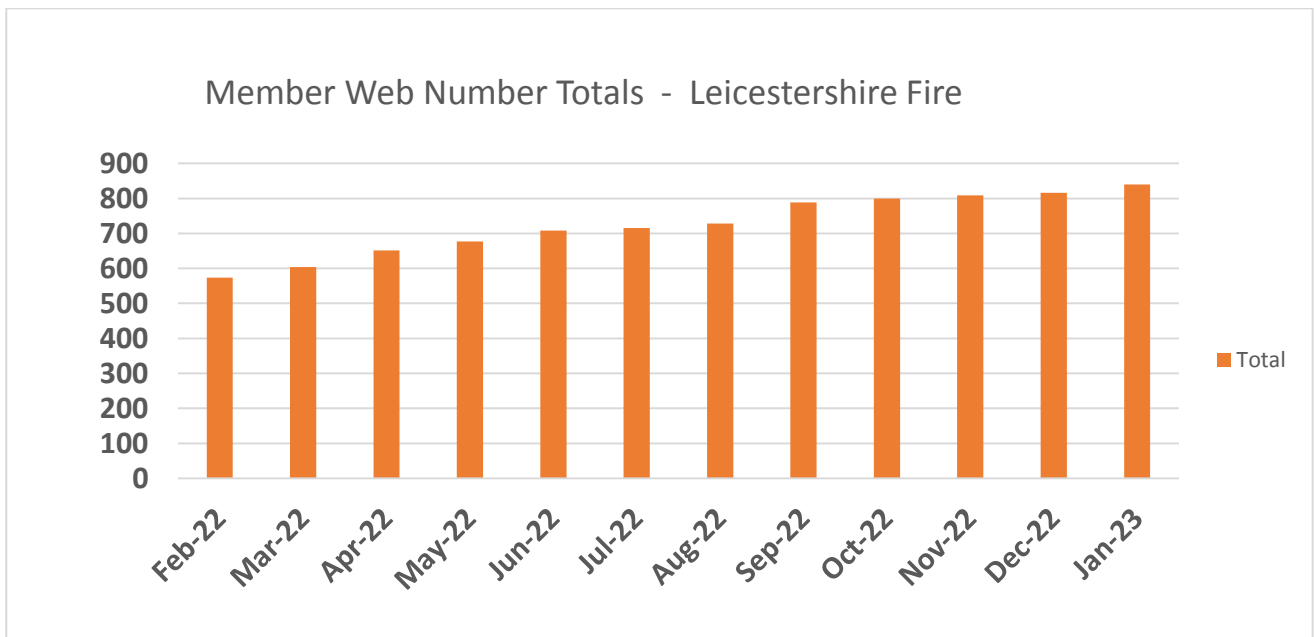
2. Work in Progress



3. Member Web Registrations

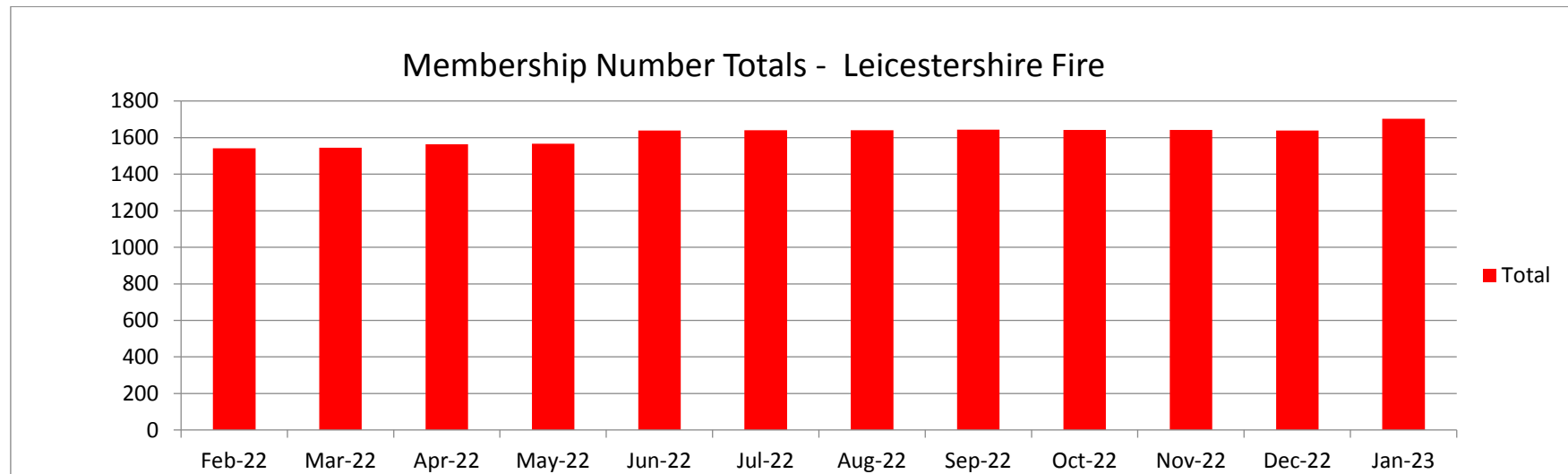
The number of members signed up to member web are:

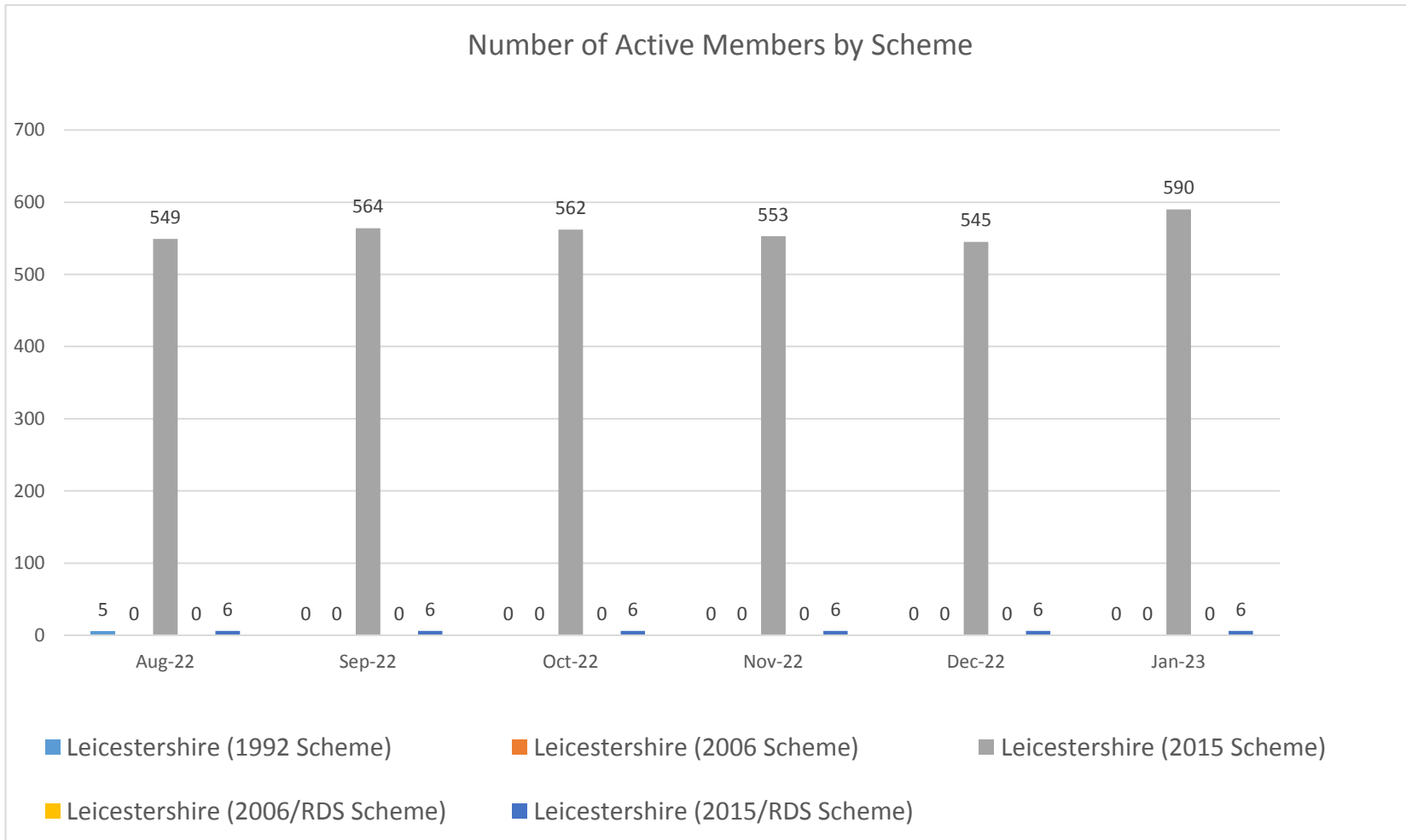
Status	Number
Active	320
Pensioner	378
Pensioner Ex-Spouse	0
Beneficiary Pensioner	18
Deferred Ex-Spouse	0
Deferred	124



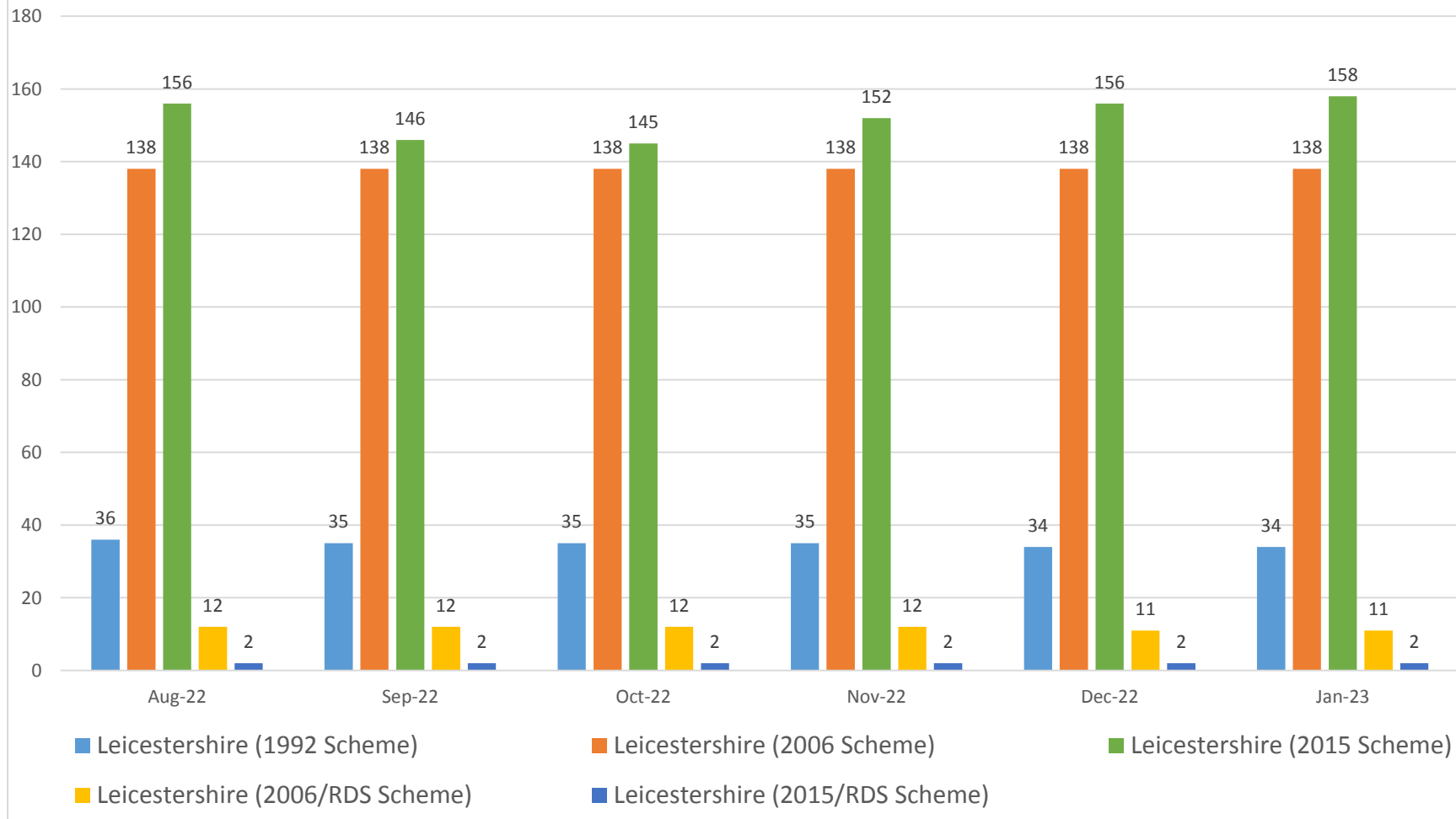
4.Membership Numbers

Scheme Name	Active Members	Deferred Members	Pensioners	Beneficiaries	Preserved Refund	Leavers Options Pending
Leicestershire (1992 Scheme)	0	34	546	81	1	0
Leicestershire (2006 Scheme)	0	138	26	4	9	0
Leicestershire (2006/RDS Scheme)	0	11	51	0	0	0
Leicestershire (2015 Scheme)	590	158	23	2	1	19
Leicestershire (2015/RDS Scheme)	6	2	1	0	0	0

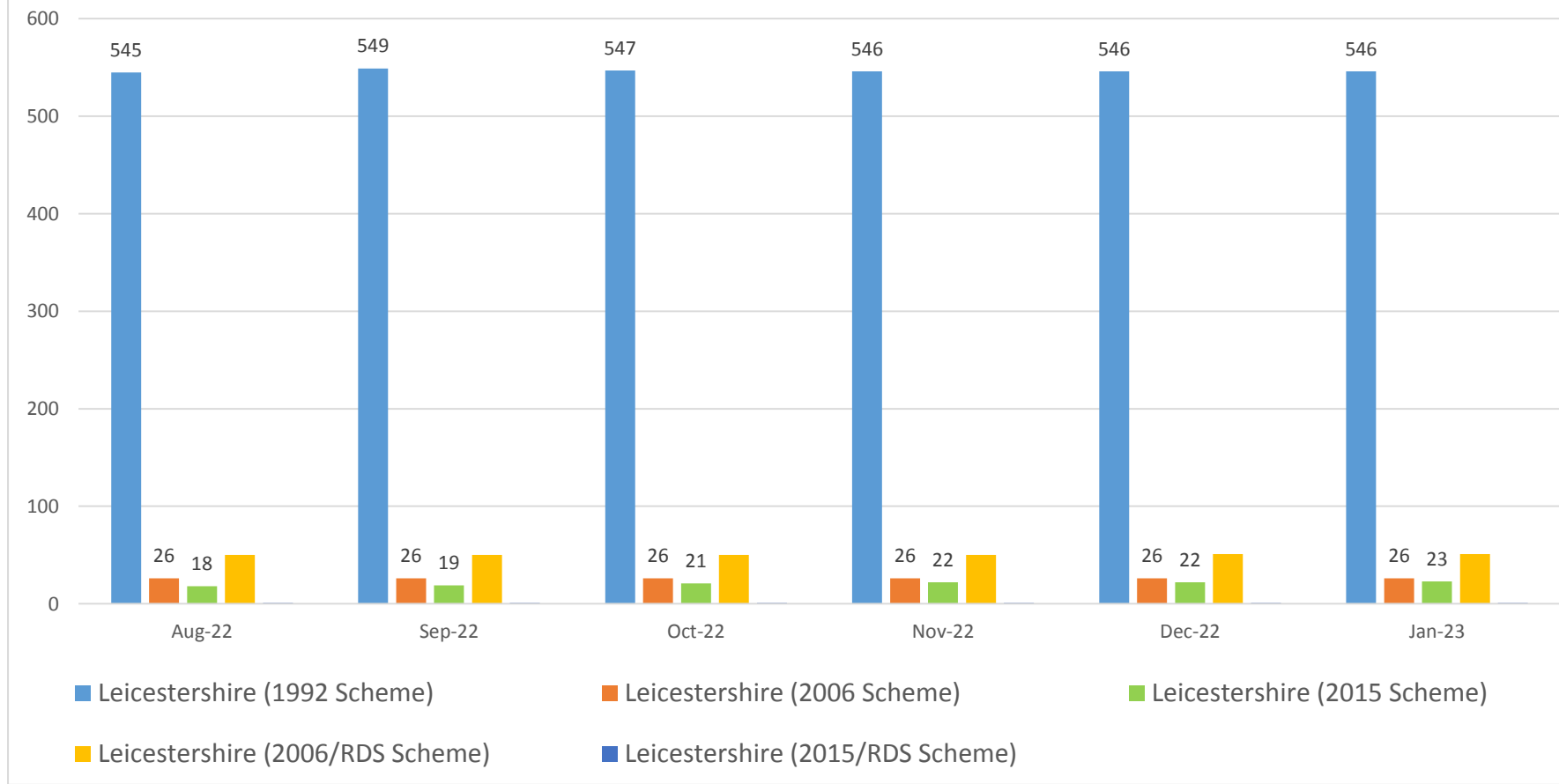




Number of Deferred Members by Scheme



Number of Pensioners by Scheme



5. Administration Update

WYPF are proud to announce that we have won the Good Governance Award at the 2022 LAPF Investment Awards. We were also shortlisted for the Scheme Administration Award.

The Good Governance Award recognises the importance of Governance and how we have implemented Governance in our processes to ensure all parties involved in the management of the Fund are aligned with our long-term objectives. This includes governance of shared and external services, transparency, and the management and mitigation of risks.

WYPF have also been shortlisted by Pensions Age under the following categories:

- DB Pension Scheme of the Year
- Pension Scheme Communication Award
- Pensions Administration Award

Winners will be announced at a ceremony in London on 21 March 2023.

Monthly Postings

Phase 3

Testing of phase 3 has slowed as we look for further LGPS employers to trial this with.

Furthermore, we believe that the current Phase 3 solution doesn't quite meet the high standard of cyber security that we demand and we are developing/improving this before Phase 3 is released to all employers and FRAs later in the year.

Month 12 Returns

With the delay of phase 3 it is imperative we improve the month 12 solution. Accurate and timely data is necessary for accurate records and for accurate and timely productions of ABS.

Furthermore, with Dashboards and Remedy just on the horizon, accurate data is essential to meet the requirements of the legislation.

Therefore, we are reviewing and developing the month 12 return and hope to provide a solution whereby users will be able identify fields unpopulated or populated with incorrect data prior to submission. This will enable users to submit more accurate data quicker and enable WYPF to process quicker, thereby freeing resource to be used on other important areas of administration.

Portal

We expect FRAs or their Payroll to submit the data via the portal. This allows the checking, creation and updating of member records to be automated. We know several FRAs or their Payroll have some issues and submit by other means. However, this means the checking is completed manually and takes us much longer to identify and rectify data issues for those FRAs.

We will contact these FRAs shortly to discuss the issues with a view to resolve them prior to month 12 and enabling submission via the portal.

Workshops

We will provide at least 2 workshops regarding month 12 returns. We will discuss the formatting required for successful submission via the portal. But we will also discuss scheme information so we may all understand what information is required in each field and why it is required.

The workshops will be aimed at Payroll (or those that submit the returns via the portal). Ideally it would be beneficial if all FRAs could attend these workshops with their Payroll colleagues.

Once these month 12 workshops have been delivered and we have your feedback, we will consider similar workshops regarding the postings for months 1 to 11 as these have slightly different data requirements.

We will provide further workshop information in coming months, however, if you have any concerns about postings please contact abdul.majid@wypf.org.gov , helen.scargill@wypf.org.uk or matt.mott@wypf.org.uk

6. Communication & Training

On 19 December WYPF attended a Shropshire FRA induction session remotely to give a scheme overview presentation.

- Member and client FPS factsheets were released and are available from the website www.wypf.org.uk/firefighters/factsheets/ (scheme member fact sheet) www.wypf.org.uk/employers/firefighters/forms-and-guides/ (client fact sheet)
- Remedy communications – LGA suggested text for ‘Still out of scope’ and ‘No longer out of scope’ has been sent members.
- Don’t forget to sign up for Hot Topics if you haven’t done already <https://wypfpensionmattersfire.wordpress.com/>

Pre-retirement seminars attended by WYPF during December:

None.

Pension boards

Derbyshire - 5th – Matt attended

Devon & Somerset – 7th

Lincolnshire – 13th

National / regional meetings

Tax Regulation consultation meeting with HMRC – 12th

Fire Communications Group – 12th

McCloud PDD/TWG meeting – 13th

Matthews TWG – 15th

Client training delivered by WYPF

None

7. Member Update

None

8. IT Update

None

9. Five Year Audit Plan 2019 – 2024

West Yorkshire Pension Fund Five Year Audit Plan 2019 - 2024	Frequency	Last Audit	Recommendations	Days	19/20	20/21	21/22	22/23	23/24	Total
Annual Accounts Verification	Annual	Jul 18	1	10	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	
Audits Per Year					1	1	1	1	1	5
Benefits										
Local Government Scheme Contributions	2 Yearly	Nov 18	0	20			✓		✓	
New Pensions and Lump Sums - WYPF										
- Normal and Early Retirements	5 Yearly	Mar 15	0	25	✓					
- Death in Service, Post Retirement Widow and Dependent Benefits	5 Yearly	Mar 17	0	20			✓			
- Ill Health Pensions	5 Yearly	Oct 13	2	20					✓	
- Flexible Retirements	5 Yearly	Apr 16	1	20		✓				
- Deferred Pensions	5 Yearly	Mar 18	0	20				✓		
Transfers Out	3 Yearly	Nov 17	0	20		✓				
Transfers In	3 Yearly	Sep 16	2	20	✓		✓			
Reimbursement of Agency Payments	5 Yearly	Mar 18	2	15				✓		
Life Certificates	5 Yearly	Oct 15	0	15		✓				
AVC Arrangements	5 Yearly	Sep 17	0	15				✓		
Admission of New Bodies	5 Yearly	Jan 15	0	20	✓					
Pensioners Payroll	2.5 years	Mar 16	3	20		✓			✓	
Purchase of Additional Pension	5 Yearly	Mar 17	1	15			✓			
Annual Benefits Statements	2.5 years	Oct 16	0	20	✓			✓		
New Pensions and Lump Sums - Fire Service	3 Yearly	Jul 18	1	15		✓			✓	
Audits Per Year					4	5	4	4	4	21

10. Overriding Disclosure Time Limits

Disclosure Requirement	Time Limit	Number of breaches in month
Material alterations to basic scheme information	Within 3 months of the change taking effect	0
Transfer Credits (quote)	Within 2 months	0
Annual Benefit Statements	By 31 August each year	0
Annual Benefit Statement (upon request)	Within 2 months of request, if not already provided within previous 12 months	0
Deferred Benefit Statements	By 31 August each year	0
Deferred Benefit Statement (upon request)	Within 2 months of request, if not already provided within previous 12 months	0
Pension Savings Statements	By 6 October each year	0
Cash Equivalent Transfer Value Out	Within 3 months of request	0
Accessing Benefits before Normal Pension Age	2 month of benefits becoming payable	0
Accessing Benefits on or after Normal Pension Age	1 month of benefits becoming payable	0
Notification of Deferred Benefit entitlement	2 months of being notified of leaver	0

Divorce Time limits

Type of request	Time limit	Number of breaches in month
Request for divorce information only.	3 months from receipt of the request.	0
Request for divorce information where you are notified that the information is required in connection with divorce proceedings that have already commenced.	6 weeks from receipt of the request.	0
Request for divorce information where a Court Order imposes a deadline.	Within the deadline specified by the Court.	0
Request for divorce information where you are notified that a Pension Sharing Order may be issued.	Within 21 days of receiving notification that a Pension Sharing Order may be issued or a date outside 21 days as specified by the Court.	0
Where the request is for information which does not include a Cash Equivalent Transfer Value	1 month from receipt of the request.	0
Pension Sharing Order received but some information* and/or charges are still outstanding.	A letter to both parties needs to be sent out within 21 days of receiving the Order to explain the Order cannot be implemented and request the missing information and/or charges.	0
Pension Sharing Order received including all relevant information* and charges.	A letter** must be sent to both parties within 21 days of the start of the implementation period notifying them of the deadline.	0
Pension Sharing Order Received including all relevant information and charges.	4 months to implement the Order of the date of receipt of the final information which allows calculation	0
PSO has been implemented.	A letter* must be sent to both parties within 21 days of implementing the PSO to notify both parties their entitlement.	0

11. Calendar of Events

January	February	March	April
Life Certificates HMRC Event Reporting Payment of Unauthorised Lump Sum and Scheme Sanction Charge to HMRC	Life Certificates Review of DWP benefits for Injury cases GAD Data Collection Spreadsheet	Life Certificates	Apply Pensions Increase Apply Care Revaluation Issue P60's Life Certificates Pensioner Newsletter
May	June	July	August
Life Certificates	Active Newsletter Life Certificates Issue Deferred Annual Benefits Statements	Life Certificates Issue Deferred Annual Benefits Statements Issue active Annual Benefits Statements	Issue active Annual Benefits Statements Life Certificates
September	October	November	December
Pension Estimates Assumption Exercise Life Certificates Pension Savings Statement	Life Certificates Participate in NFI tPR Scheme Returns	tPR Annual Survey Life Certificates	IAS19 Data capture exercise for Actuaries Life Certificates

12. Regulations/Fire Scheme Update

Please take a few minutes to read the Firefighters' Pension (England) Scheme Advisory Board Bulletin (Link to Bulletin below) and take any action required. [FPS Bulletin 64 - December 2022 \(fpsregs.org\)](#)

FPS

IQMP central list

In [FPS Bulletin 62 - October 2022](#), we advised that following feedback from the sector on the difficulties of identifying an Independent Qualified Medical Practitioner (IQMP) for ill health referrals and reassessments, the LGA was proposing to hold a central list of IQMPs that FRAs would be able to approach.

We are pleased to confirm that we have received a number of replies from FRAs who have shared with us the contact details of the IQMPs that they currently use. As a result, several IQMPs have given their permission for the LGA to publicise their contact information on the protected area of the FPS Regulations and Guidance website. This information can be located under IQMP/IQMP provider contact information on the [ill-health and injury page](#).

New address for Health Partners (Board of Medical Referees)

From 1 January 2023, Duradiamond/ Health Partners' address will be:

Health Partners Group Ltd

The Roller Mill

Mill Lane Uckfield

East Sussex

TN22 5AA

They will have a postal redirection notice in place for three months.

New webpage created – Retrospective remedy

We are pleased to advise that a [new webpage for retrospective remedy](#) has been created on the FPS Regulations and Guidance website. This page contains useful information and documents about the retrospective remedy which comes into force on 1 October 2023.

Current documents available include the age discrimination remedy eligibility factsheet, the originally out of scope-now in scope member letter, the originally out of scope-still out of scope member letter, and the age discrimination remedy ill health re-assessment factsheet.

Consolidated Regulation 65

As advised in [FPS Bulletin 57 - May 2022](#), changes have been made to the reformed scheme rules. [Regulations 65\(2A\) and \(2B\)](#) have been inserted into the FPS 2015 regulations with effect from 1 April 2022 to ensure that a protected member who applied for IHR before 31 March 2022, where the application is determined in their favour after that date, is treated no less favourably than if the application had been determined on that date.

This means that for members where the ill-health assessment process began on or before 31 March 2022, the member is assessed for ill-health retirement against an NPA of 55. This will mean that there should be no cases where an affected member would have qualified for ill-health retirement under the legacy 1992 scheme but does not qualify under the reformed scheme.

The members benefit entitlement should be calculated in the same manner as set out in the FPS 2015 regulations.

The amendment to regulation 65 has been added to the [consolidated regulations page](#) of the FPS Regulations and Guidance website.

Other News and Up dates

HM Treasury publishes remedy Directions

On 14 December 2022, HM Treasury (HMT) made the [Public Service Pensions \(Exercise of Powers, Compensation and Information\) Directions 2022](#). They came into force on 19 December 2022 and apply to England, Northern Ireland, Scotland, and Wales.

The Directions set out how certain powers in the Public Service Pensions and Judicial Offices Act 2022 must be exercised. The Act gives relevant government departments powers to rectify Sargeant/ McCloud discrimination by making secondary legislation.

For the FPS, the Directions apply to the following powers in the Act:

- Powers to reduce or waive liabilities in relation to correction of benefits and tax relief on contributions adjustments – [section 18](#). This includes the facility for FPS 2006 contributions to be retained by the scheme until a deferred choice election is made.
- Powers to make provisions for:
 - o treatment of voluntary contributions paid in the FPS 2015 (Added Pension) – [section 20](#),
 - o transfers in to or out of the scheme – [section 21](#), and
 - o other specific circumstances – [section 22](#).
- A scheme manager's power to pay compensation, setting out the scenarios in which compensation would apply – [section 23](#) (direct compensation).
- Powers to make regulations compensating members by adjustment to scheme pays debits – [section 24](#) (indirect compensation).
- Powers relating to tax relief on a contingent decision to buy Added Years – [section 25](#).
- The power to make regulations setting out how interest should be calculated and paid on amounts due to the remedy – [section 26](#). The Directions confirm the rates of interest that will apply to various payments, following consultation with the Government Actuary's Department.
- The power to make regulations setting out the process to follow for paying amounts due to the remedy, including where amounts may be netted off - [section 26\(1\)\(b\)](#).

- Powers relating to Remediable Service Statements (RSS), including elements which must be provided – [section 29](#). The Directions confirm that the RSS must be combined with the Annual Benefit Statement, other than the first RSS which is issued.

The Directions and related documents have been added to the [related legislation page](#) of the FPS Regulations and Guidance website.

TPR's joint regulatory strategy update

On 7 December 2022, the Pensions Regulator (TPR) and the Financial Conduct Authority published an [update to their 2018 joint regulatory strategy](#). The strategy sets out how the two bodies work together to tackle issues in the pensions sector.

The update outlines their progress on the strategy's regulatory objectives and next steps in light of new strategic priorities. The update sets out eight ongoing work streams covering:

- productive finance
- value for money
- regulatory framework for effective stewardship
- pension scams strategy
- defined benefit (DB) transfer advice
- DB schemes and transfer activity
- pensions dashboards
- supporting consumer decision-making.

As part of the next steps, both parties agree to continue their alliance to develop a consistent framework for assessing value for money, assess the stewardship regulatory framework in 2023 and continue to support the pensions dashboards initiative.

Useful links

- [The Firefighters' Pensions \(England\) Scheme Advisory Board](#)
- [FPS Regulations and Guidance](#)
- [FPS Member](#)
- [Khub Firefighters Pensions Discussion Forum](#)
- [FPS1992 guidance and commentary](#)
- [The Pensions Regulator Public Service Schemes](#)
- [The Pensions Ombudsman](#)
- [HMRC Pensions Tax Manual](#)
- [LGA pensions website](#)
- [LGPS Regulations and Guidance](#)
- [LGPC Bulletins](#)