

NHS Pensions - Schedule of charges for pensions on divorce or the dissolution of a civil partnership from 1 July 2019

Background

As part of the divorce or dissolution process the assets of the marriage or civil partnership, including the value of pension benefits, are identified. An agreement is reached and an Order made by the court on how these assets, or the value of these assets, are to be shared.

The value of pension benefits may be offset against the value of other financial assets in the settlement or the court may decide the pension is shared or earmarked.

To facilitate these arrangements cooperation from pension schemes is essential and charging legislation permits schemes to recover costs for providing pensions information on divorce or dissolution of a civil partnership and for putting a Court Order into operation.

This schedule discloses the rate of charges for NHS Pensions to provide information in relation to divorce or dissolution of a civil partnership or to implement a Court Order.

These charges are subject to an annual increase each April, dependent on the rate of Consumer Price Index (CPI) at the end of the preceding September.

All charges include VAT at the standard rate of 20%.

Payment method

Important: all charges disclosed on this schedule must be paid up front. This means that NHS Pensions must receive full payment by bank transfer or cheque before providing any information or before the implementation of any Court Order can start.

All parties will be notified where the implementation of a Court Order has been postponed.

The bank account details for electronic payments are as follows:

Sort code: 60-70-80 **Account number:** 10021205

The reference for the payment should be your Scheme membership number (it starts SD) or your National Insurance Number followed by your surname. If payment is in respect of a Pension Sharing order, please quote the reference number (SD) of the member sharing their pension.

All cheques should be made payable to 'NHS Business Services Authority'.

The Pensions and Lifetime Savings Association (formerly the National Association of Pension Funds)

The implementation charges are within the charging guidelines published by the Pensions and Lifetime Savings Association (PLSA).

NHS Pensions will review its schedule of charges each year in line with PLSA guidelines. The current schedule should therefore always be checked before sending any payment to NHS Pensions.

Cash Equivalent Transfer Value (CETV)

Provision of a CETV in respect of a Scheme member, who is not in receipt of an NHS pension, (where statutory disclosures have not already been met within the preceding 12 months).	No charge
Provision of a CETV in respect of a Scheme member (where statutory disclosures have already been met within the preceding 12 months).	£408.00
Provision of a CETV in respect of a Scheme member (where statutory disclosures have not already been met within the preceding 12 months but where the CETV is required within 6 weeks).	£408.00
Provision of a CETV for a Scheme pensioner, or a deferred member over normal pension age.	£408.00
Provision of a CETV for a deferred member over normal pension age, who does not wish to claim their retirement benefits.	£408.00

Pension Sharing Administration

Acknowledgement and implementation of a pension sharing order (including record creation and maintenance).	£1693.56 (See annex A)
Supplementary work connected with a pension sharing order.	£112.00 - £283.00 per hour (based on complexity of calculation)
Acknowledgement and implementation of a variation order.	£283.00
Paying Agents record set up costs (These costs to be recovered by the Paying Agents by deduction from pension/lump sum payments).	£135.00 set up plus £52.00 per annum

All charges include VAT at the standard rate of 20%.

Pension Earmarking Administration

Acknowledgement and implementation of a pension attachment order for a life assurance lump sum only.	£408.00 (see annex B)
Acknowledgement and implementation of a pension attachment order for a pension and/or retirement lump sum.	£613.00 (see annex B)
Acknowledgement and implementation of a variation order.	£55.00 per hour (minimum charge one hour)
Supplementary work connected with a pension attachment order.	£112.00 - £283.00 per hour (based on complexity)
Transfer out associated with pensions earmarking.	£226.00
Transfer in associated with pensions earmarking.	£226.00
Paying Agents record set up costs for a pension and/or lump sum (These costs to be recovered by the Paying Agent by deduction from pension / lump sum payments).	£135.00 set up plus £52.00 per annum

Important Information - requesting an estimate of benefits to a future date.

Should you request an estimate to a future date or to your normal pension age then this projection may not be possible. This is due to the NHS Pension Scheme changes that came into effect from 1 April 2015.

**If you pay by cheque, it should be made payable to “NHS Business Services Authority”.
Please allow up to 10 working days for the payment to process.**

Annex A

The process for implementation of a sharing order involves the following steps:

- Examination and confirmation of acceptance (or otherwise) of wording of draft Joint Minute of Agreement.
- Checking all documentation relating to the actual Pension Sharing order, copy of final minute, decree etc. Letter confirming final order is enforceable.
- Contacting all relevant third parties for information to allow actual calculations to be carried out.
- Carrying out all required calculations.
- Amending the Debit member's record to reflect the changes as a result of the Pension Sharing order.
- Creating a Credit members record for the ex spouse.
- Notifying the Debit member and their solicitor of the effect of the Pension Sharing order on the Debit member's pension.
- Notifying the Credit member and their solicitor of the value of the Credit pension created as a result of the Pension Sharing order.
- Calculation and payment of the Credit pension, (and any lump sum due, if applicable) when the Credit member becomes eligible for payment of benefits.
- Calculation and payment of the Debit pension (and any lump sum due if applicable) when the Debit member retires taking into account the deduction due for the Credit members annual pension increase to that date.

Annex B

The process for implementation of a pension attachment order involves the following steps:

- Examination and confirmation of acceptance (or otherwise) of wording of draft pension attachment order.
- Checking all documentation relating to the actual pension attachment order, copy of final minute, decree etc. Letter confirming final order is enforceable.
- Amending the member's record to reflect the changes as a result of the pension attachment order.
- Calculation and payment of the member's retirement or death benefits taking into account the implemented pension attachment order.
- Contacting the former spouse at the member's retirement or death. The calculation and payment of earmarked retirement or death benefits.