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Dear all,

The LGPS (Benefits, Membership and Contributions) Regulations 2007

The enclosed Q&A Briefing has been produced to deal with some immediate concerns already brought to the attention of CLG's Local Government and Fire Pensions Division in relation to the above Regulations. It is intended to be the first in a series assisting the implementation of the new scheme. It will also assist those currently accessing the new forum site. Separate information has been sent out regarding regulation 3 – employee contribution rates – and a further letter will follow dealing with ill-health retirements and the release of deferred benefits on ill-health grounds. It is also worth repeating our intended timetable of changes which are in the pipeline, as shown below.

Draft Transitional Regulations – to give effect to Annex C of the Department's letter of 4 April 2007 – **are to be circulated shortly.**

The new Scheme Administration Regulations – previously consulted on between 22 December 2006 and 23 March 2007 **are to be finalised in May.** These regulations essentially only seek to transpose the existing Scheme provisions. These Regulations will also incorporate changes which are shortly to be made to the 1997 LGFPS Regulations.

CLG is in close and helpful touch with the LGE and Trades Unions in all these matters; any comments will be made available to all stakeholders. Should interested parties wish to have a more detailed input from CLG, please get in touch with us via web links, www.communities.gov.uk/lgps or direct, in the normal way, to LGPensions@communities.gsi.gov.uk.

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