



The Pensions Regulator launches new round of short notice spot checks

From this month The Pensions Regulator will be targeting employers across the UK who are suspected of providing false or misleading information about how they are meeting their automatic enrolment duties with short notice spot checks. Employers will be notified of the inspection a few days prior to the visit.

The Pensions Regulator will also concentrate on those that have received an escalated penalty notice for pensions non-compliance, as well as a number of employers selected at random.

The inspections are primarily to detect non-compliance but will also allow The Pensions Regulator to gain insight into employer behavior. The information collected from these visits will be included in the annual 'Automatic enrolment commentary and analysis' report.

Darren Ryder, director of automatic enrolment at The Pensions Regulator, said: "It is an offence for employers to provide The Pensions Regulator with false information on their declaration of compliance, but there are tell-tale signs indicating an employer might not be telling the truth. We can also detect employers who are failing to meet their automatic enrolment duties despite being issued with a penalty and we will take action if we suspect either of these is the case.

"The vast majority of employers are meeting their responsibilities and automatic enrolment is now business as usual. But where employers fail to comply with the law, we will use our full range of powers to ensure staff get the pensions they are due."

If you have any queries or would like assistance with automatic enrolment please contact your 44 Consultant or Katie St Pier on 01277 523144 or k.stpier@44benefits.co.uk

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