

# ESS ESTIMATE FUNCTIONALITY UPDATE

## February 2024

Further to recent developments we are delighted to confirm that it is now possible to run calculations for members planning retirement beyond 31<sup>st</sup> March 2024. Please be aware that with this development come a few changes to the input fields on the calculation form.

As you can see in the below screenshots a new drop-down menu has been added that requires you to select the type of CARE earnings that you will be entering - either *Current 1<sup>st</sup> April to Calculation date* or, new in this release, *Annual Figure*.

Please note that you should still input your figures in whole numbers only: decimal points, or figures with decimal places in them, will not allow the calculation to be performed. For example, enter 10000 rather than 10000.00, 10000. or 10000.45.

## PROJECTING BEYOND 31<sup>ST</sup> MARCH 2024

In order to produce an estimate for members from 1<sup>st</sup> April 2024 and beyond, please ensure that you use only the *Annual Figure* option. This figure must represent the member's *Actual Pensionable Pay* (CARE earnings) for a full year. The most reasonable figure to use is the member's actual pay for the previous scheme year. The illustration below shows a full-time member whose *Final Pensionable Pay* (full time equivalent for the past 365 days) and *Actual Pensionable Pay* (CARE pay) are both £50,000.

Run Calculation

Miss LUNA LOVEGOOD : BK346573C : 80111410

Quotation type:

Retirement - Voluntary

To view an estimate of benefits at Retirement, fill in the form and then click 'Run calculation'.

Calculation Date \*

01/04/2024

Waived Early Retirement Penalty?

No

Rule 85 granted in Full

No

PI Override Date \*

01/04/2024

Current Final Pensionable Pay rounded to whole number \*

50000

CARE Earnings entered represent

Annual Figure (only input one figure > 0)

Main CARE Earnings rounded to whole number (fill in even if 0) \*

50000

50/50 CARE Earnings rounded to whole number (fill in even if 0) \*

0

Cancel

Run calculation

Please note that in a change to previous methodology, there is no longer a requirement to inflate the member's Actual Pensionable Pay to accommodate for estimates that are more than 12 months in the future.

For projections beyond 31<sup>st</sup> March 2025 we recommend using the latest full scheme year's *Actual Pensionable Pay*. For example, if you wish to run a calculation with a retirement date of 30<sup>th</sup> April 2025 today you would use the member's Actual Pensionable Pay for the latest full scheme year. Please note that, as always been the case with estimates, the further into the future you project the less accurate the result will be. This is due to the uncertainty surrounding future pay fluctuations affected by reductions in hours, pay awards, breaks in service, etc.

30000

CARE Earnings entered represent

Annual Figure (only input one figure > 0)

Main CARE Earnings rounded to whole number (fill in even if 0) \*

## ESTIMATES WITH A DATE OF LEAVING IN THE CURRENT SCHEME YEAR

For estimates within the scheme year, you can choose to use an annual figure for the member's *Actual Pensionable Pay* (CARE earnings) or a part-year figure from the 1<sup>st</sup> April of the current scheme year to the date of leaving: this is how you have been used to running estimates up until now.

An estimate using pay from 1<sup>st</sup> April of current scheme year to date of leaving for the member's *Actual Pensionable Pay* (CARE earnings):

Run Calculation

Miss LUNA LOVEGOOD : BK346573C : 80111410

Quotation type:  
Retirement - Voluntary

To view an estimate of benefits at Retirement, fill in the form and then click 'Run calculation'.

Calculation Date \*  
28/02/2024

Waived Early Retirement Penalty?  
No

Rule 85 granted in Full  
No

PI Override Date \*  
28/02/2024

Current Final Pensionable Pay rounded to whole number \*  
50000

CARE Earnings entered represent  
Current 1 April to Calculation date

Main CARE Earnings rounded to whole number (fill in even if 0) \*  
45833

50/50 CARE Earnings rounded to whole number (fill in even if 0) \*  
0

Cancel

Run calculation

### EXAMPLE

Using pay for the period from 1<sup>st</sup> April of the current scheme year to the date of leaving:

Current Final Pensionable Pay = full-time equivalent pay for the previous 365 days

Actual Pensionable Pay (CARE Earnings) = actual pay earned from 1<sup>st</sup> April to date of leaving – in this case 28<sup>th</sup> February

$£50000 \times 333 \text{ days} / 365 \text{ days}$

Or

$£50000 \times 11 \text{ months} / 12 \text{ months}$

Further information about calculating pay (including for term-time only members) can be found in our Calculating Pay leaflet.

An estimate using an annual figure for the member's *Actual Pensionable Pay* (CARE earnings):

Run Calculation

Miss LUNA LOVEGOOD : BK346573C : 80111410

Quotation type:  
Retirement - Voluntary

To view an estimate of benefits at Retirement, fill in the form and then click 'Run calculation'.

Calculation Date \*  
28/02/2024

Waived Early Retirement Penalty?  
No

Rule 85 granted in Full  
No

PI Override Date \*  
28/02/2024

Current Final Pensionable Pay rounded to whole number \*  
50000

CARE Earnings entered represent  
Annual Figure (only input one figure > 0)

Main CARE Earnings rounded to whole number (fill in even if 0) \*  
50000

50/50 CARE Earnings rounded to whole number (fill in even if 0) \*  
0

Cancel

Run calculation

In addition to these enhancements there is no longer a requirement for CARE to be 'banked' before an estimate is run – calculations will now be based on and projected from the latest annual CARE earnings held on record for the member.

## REMINDER

Please note that in line with previous updates ill-health calculations are not yet available and there may be some instances where you will need to refer other calculations to us to be performed. Please continue to refer these to us as outlined in our previous communications [attached].

If you have any queries or issues in relation to ESS please contact [WMPFEmployerSystemSupport@wolverhampton.gov.uk](mailto:WMPFEmployerSystemSupport@wolverhampton.gov.uk).