

Arcadia Group Senior Executives Pension Scheme

Update on the Progress of Scheme Wind- Up

As we explained in earlier correspondence, the Scheme has exited the PPF assessment period and is now being wound up. During winding up, the Trustee is required to give periodic updates to members about certain aspects of the winding up process. In particular the Trustee is required to let members know about the work that is being undertaken to:

- establish scheme liabilities; and
- to recover monies due to the Scheme.

Summary of the work undertaken

Significant work to identify and check scheme liabilities was completed during the assessment period. However, further work is required after the end of the assessment period, including preparing for transfer of the scheme administration to Aviva.

Over the last year, the Trustee has been working to understand the implications of some important legal decisions affecting pension schemes. In particular, the Trustee has been considering the impact for the Scheme of various legal cases in relation to GMP equalisation. We will be providing affected members with more information about this over the coming months.

Recoveries to the Scheme

The Arcadia liquidator is still working on recovering assets for creditors of the Arcadia Group, which includes the Scheme. A second dividend was paid to creditors during 2023, with an indication to pay a third dividend to creditors later this year. They have not yet notified creditors of the amount of the third dividend or exactly when it will be received. After the third dividend, the liquidator has indicated that they expect to pay an additional dividend in 2025.

It is only once the liquidator has made their final payments to the Trustee that it will be possible to finalise the buy-out with Aviva and complete the winding up of the Scheme. The Trustee does not know when the final payment will be received and is therefore unable to confirm when the wind-up will be completed. The Trustee will keep you updated on developments.

Presently, AGSEPS is not expected to have sufficient assets to secure members' benefits in full. Once a final position has been reached on the proposed merger and all monies have been received from the Arcadia liquidation, the Trustee will be able to confirm the final benefits that can be secured for you.

If you have any queries about the administrative process of winding-up the Scheme or this update, please contact Barnett Waddingham as follows:

Email: arcdiamembers@barnett-waddingham.co.uk

Call: 0345 646 0061 (local rates apply) or +44 117 313 7234 (from overseas)

Write: Arcadia Group Senior Executives Pension Scheme, Barnett Waddingham LLP, Hartwell House, Victoria Street, Bristol,

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