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Employer Spreadsheet updates

Please make sure you are using the latest New Starts **spreadsheet checker**. It includes the new 2021 employee contribution rates. Anyone using the old checker will not be able to correctly validate the data for scheme members joining from or after April 1st.

Please also make sure you are using the latest "Change in hours or name or address or department" spreadsheet.

To allow us to upload the hour changes directly onto our system we require the 5 digit employer number in order to identify the record to be updated.

The updated versions of our excels and forms can be downloaded from our website at:
<https://www.spfo.org.uk/index.aspx?articleid=14443>

Year End Returns 2020/21

Employers should have submitted final i-Connect files or Year End Returns by cob 14th May. Failure to meet this deadline will result in charges being raised per our Administration Strategy.

I-Connect

We hope to arrange a Teams Forum later this month for Employers who have still to move to i-Connect.

Fund Value

Value of investments as at 31st March was more than £26 billion – the highest ever.

Employer Cost Cap

During April, GAD produced draft results of the 2017 Cost Cap valuation. Cost of benefits had increased by 0.2% (after allowance for McCloud remediation). So there was no breach of the cost cap and no further action is required.

AGM 2021-Change of Date

The SPF 2021 AGM will now be held via Teams on the morning of **Wednesday 23rd June**. Details to follow.

For Reference

The LGPC has published bulletins [208](#) and [209](#)

Included In the bulletins of particular note:

208

- GAD guidance – Purchase of Additional Survivor Benefits
- SPPA Circular 2021/02 – Tiered contribution rates

209

- New Employee and Councillor Brief Guides (*published in member area of SPFO website*)