Criminal Justice Committee Wednesday 17 September 2025 23rd Meeting, 2025 (Session 6)

Note by the Clerk on the Firefighters' Pensions (Remediable Service) (Scotland) Amendment (No. 2) Regulations 2025 (SSI 2025/187)

Overview

- 1. At this meeting, the Committee will consider the following Scottish Statutory Instrument (SSI), which is subject to the negative procedure. The Committee is invited to consider the instrument and decide what, if any, recommendations to make.
- 2. More information about the instrument is summarised below:

Title of instrument: <u>The Firefighters' Pensions (Remediable Service) (Scotland)</u>
<u>Amendment (No. 2) Regulations 2025</u> (SSI 2025/187)

Laid under: The Public Service Pensions Act and the Public Service Pensions and Judicial Offices Act 2022

Laid on: 20 June 2025

Procedure: Negative

Deadline for committee consideration: 29 September 2025 (Advisory deadline for any committee report to be published)

Deadline for Chamber consideration: 2 October 2025 (Statutory 40-day deadline for any decision whether to annul the instrument)

Commencement: 3 October 2025

Procedure

- 3. Under the negative procedure, an instrument is laid after it is made, and is subject to annulment by resolution of the Parliament for a period of 40 days beginning on the day it is laid.
- 4. Once laid, the instrument is referred to:
 - the Delegated Powers and Law Reform (DPLR) Committee, for scrutiny on various technical grounds, and
 - a lead committee, whose remit includes the subject-matter of the instrument, for scrutiny on policy grounds.
- 5. Any MSP may propose, by motion, that the lead committee recommend annulment of the instrument. If such a motion is lodged, it must be debated at a

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- meeting of the Committee, and the Committee must then report to the Parliament (by the advisory deadline referred to above).
- 6. If there is no motion recommending annulment, the lead committee is not required to report on the instrument.

Delegated Powers and Law Reform Committee consideration

- 7. The DPLR Committee considered the instrument on Tuesday 2 September 2025 and reported on it in its 57th Report, 2025. The Committee made no recommendations in relation to the instrument
- 8. However, it welcomed that the instrument fulfils commitments by the Scottish Government to correct errors previously identified in the <u>Firefighters' Pensions</u> (Remediable Service) (Scotland) Regulations 2023 (SSI 2023/242) and the <u>Firefighters' Pensions</u> (Remediable Service) (Scotland) Amendment Regulations 2025 (SSI 2025/113).

Purpose of the instrument

9. The purpose of the instrument is to correct minor errors in the <u>Firefighters'</u> <u>Pensions (Remediable Service) (Scotland) Regulations 2023 (SSI 2023/242)</u> including in respect of some amendments to the 2023 Regulations made by the <u>Firefighters' Pensions (Remediable Service) (Scotland) Amendment Regulations 2025 (SSI 2025/113).</u>

Committee consideration

- 10. So far, no motion recommending annulment has been lodged.
- 11. Members are invited to consider the instrument and decide whether there are any points they wish to raise.
- 12. If members have no points to raise, the Committee should note the instrument (that is, agree that it has no recommendations to make).
- 13. However, should a motion recommending annulment be lodged later in the 40-day period, it may be necessary for the Committee to consider the instrument again.

Clerks to the Committee September 2025

Annexe A: Scottish Government Policy Note

The Firefighters' Pensions (Remediable Service) (Scotland) Amendment (No. 2) Regulations 2025

(SSI 2025/187)

The Scottish Ministers make the following Regulations in exercise of the powers conferred by sections 1(1) and (2)(f), 2(1) (together with paragraph 6(c) of schedule 2) and 3(1) and (2)(a) (together with paragraph 13 of schedule 3) and (c) and (3) of the Public Service Pensions Act 2013 ("the 2013 Act") and sections 5(1) and (5), 6(1), 7(3), 8(1) and (3), 10(1), 11(1) and (5), 12(1) and (3), 18(1) to (3), (5), (6) and (8), 19(1), (4) and (5), 22(1), (2) and (6), 24(1) and 29(1), (7) and (8) of the Public Service Pensions and Judicial Offices Act 2022 ("PSPJOA 2022") and all other powers enabling them to do so.

To the extent required by section 27 of PSPJOA 2022, these Regulations are made in accordance with Treasury Directions made under that section.

Summary Box

The purpose of the instrument is to correct minor errors in the Firefighters' Pensions (Remediable Service)(Scotland) Regulations 2023 (SSI 2023/242). This instrument is in addition to the Firefighters' Pensions (Remediable Service) (Scotland) Amendment Regulations 2025 (SSI 2025/113).

UN Convention on the Rights of the Child (Incorporation) (Scotland) Act 2024 Compatibility

In accordance with section 23(2) of the United Nations Convention on the Rights of the Child (Incorporation) (Scotland) Act 2024, the Scottish Ministers certify that, in their view, The Firefighters' Pensions (Remediable Service) (Scotland) Amendment (No.2) Regulations 2025 is compatible with the UNCRC requirements as defined by section 1(2) of the Act.

EU Alignment Consideration

This instrument is not relevant to the Scottish Government's policy to maintain alignment with the EU.

Consultation

No consultation has been undertaken as there is no material change to the policy. Rather, this Instrument corrects minor errors in the original Scottish Statutory Instrument (SSI 2023/242).

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Impact Assessments

An Equality Impact Assessment (EQIA) has not been completed as this is an amendment instrument centred on the correction of references, definitions and typographic errors. The EQIA to the original regulations, the Firefighters' Pensions (Remediable Service) (Scotland) Regulations 2023, is available on the SPPA website¹

Financial Effects

The Minister for Public Finance confirms that no Business and Regulatory Impact Assessment (BRIA) is necessary as changes to employee contributions has no significant financial effects on the Scottish Government, local government or on business.

Scottish Public Pensions Agency An Agency of the Scottish Government

20 June 2025

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¹2015 Remedy Equality Impact Assessment - Firefighters' Pension Scheme.pdf