

Who should attend

Trade unionists, employment lawyers working in support of trade unions, and academics and students with an interest in industrial relations and labour law.

CPD accreditation

All IER seminars and conferences attract credit hours under the Law Society's Continuing Development Scheme and the General Council of the Bar's New Practitioners' Programme and Established Practitioners' Programme. Delegates requiring CPD points may be charged an additional administration fee of £10 to cover costs.

Additional information

Name changes are accepted up until the time of the event. Delegates who advise IER of their cancellation more than 15 working days in advance will receive a credit note with 10% deduction for administration.

Costs

	Full Price	Early Bird Discount (with upfront payment by cheque or online)
IER Subscribers	£80 per delegate	£75 per delegate
Trade Unions	£100 per delegate	£90 per delegate
Commercial	£240 per delegate	£220 per delegate

Please note: legal firms that subscribe to the Institute are entitled to one subscriber-rate place per conference.

Reduced prices can be negotiated for block bookings. Please telephone the office for further information 0151 207 5265

Bookings: 3 easy ways to pay

1. Website: go to www.ier.org.uk/events and look for this conference. To get your earlybird discount pay online using paypal.
2. Post: to get your early bird discount send a cheque with your booking form. Cheques are payable to IER, post to IER, 4th Floor, Jack Jones House, 1 Islington, Liverpool L3 8EG
3. Email: office@ier.org.uk to make your booking.

How to get there

Train: Lime St Station (British Rail) and Central Station (Merseyrail) are a five minute walk away. Bus: 500 from Liverpool John Lennon Airport to City Centre.

Booking form

Please reserve ___ places at the Liverpool Pensions Conference at £ ___ each

Name

Address

Email

Organisation

Please invoice me/I enclose a cheque for £

Return completed form to IER, 4th Floor Jack Jones House, 1 Islington, Liverpool, L3 8EG, tel: 0151 207 5265, fax: 0151 207 5264, or email office@ier.org.uk

Pensions: changes and challenges

A one day conference
Wednesday 26th February 2014
9.30am to 3.30pm
at The Adelphi Hotel, Liverpool

Liverpool
#pensions



Organised by
The Institute of
Employment Rights

About the conference

The issue of pensions affects huge numbers of men and women and is at the top of the trades unions' agenda to protect workers' rights. The world of pensions is changing fast and now, more than ever, it is vital that trade unionists and others who protect workers' rights understand the implications of these changes – both for people currently receiving a pension and for all of us who will be affected in years to come.

There are two significant pieces of legislation: The Public Service Pension Act which received royal assent in April 2013 and the Pensions Bill 2013 which is still going through the parliamentary process.

The Public Service Pension Act affects workers in the public services – the NHS, the civil service, teachers and the armed forces - and has introduced a number of reforms including increasing the average contributions that scheme members must pay; linking the amount of pension benefit that a person receives on retirement to their average salary rather than to their final salary; and linking the Normal Pension Age (NPA) to the State Pension Age (SPA) so that people can now only claim their pension when they reach state retirement age of 67.

The Pensions Bill proposes changes to the state pension which includes the introduction of a 'single-tier' state pension, which would replace the current system of a basic state pension plus an earnings-related state second pension. It is argued that this will lead to some simplification of the State pension but this will be a long-time coming and, crucially, the proposed rate of £146.30 per week in current terms, is much too low. In the longer term the reforms mean that most working people will end up receiving a significantly lower State pension. And the reforms do nothing for existing pensioners.

Further proposed changes include the abolition of contracting out, where people who have contracted out don't accumulate a state second pension but instead pay a lower rate of NICs; an acceleration of the increase in the state pension age to 67; and regular reviews of state pension age via a mechanism to hold a compulsory review of the state pension age at least every six years.

Pensions will be one of the key battlegrounds in the coming general election and this conference will provide the experts and the arguments to enable trade unionists to arm themselves and challenge the Coalition's attack on pensions.

Programme

- 9.30 Registration
- 9.50 Welcome from Chair
Carolyn Jones, Director of IER
- 10.00 Third time lucky: building a progressive pensions consensus
Craig Berry, University of Sheffield
- 10.30 Developments in public sector pensions:
new 'Fair Deal' arrangements
Christine Haswell, PCS
- 11.00 Questions and discussion
- 11.15 Break
- 11.30 If public service pensions survive, can they halt
the decline for everyone else?
Glyn Jenkins, UNISON
- 12:00 Teachers' pensions: a perspective from the NUT
Andrew Morris, Head of Pensions, NUT
- 12:30 Questions and discussion
- 12:45 LUNCH
- 1.45 The single-tier state pension
Neil Duncan-Jordan, National Pensioners Convention
- 2:15 Age Discrimination
Ben Collins, Old Square Chambers
- 2:45 Pensions: where next?
Bryn Davies, Director, Union Pension Services Thompsons
- 3:15 Questions and Discussion
- 3:30 Close