



corporate | services to pension funds

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At haysmacintyre we provide services to over 100 pension schemes ranging from large defined benefit and defined contribution schemes to earmarked schemes.

external audit

Schemes we audit vary in size (our larger schemes have assets of up to £200m) and in complexity, each having different arrangements and requirements, with some being fully outsourced and some being administered in-house. We use an up to date risk based approach, using electronic software and following the latest International Auditing Standards.

internal audit

We can examine procedures and controls at both in-house and outsourced pension functions. This service helps provide reassurance to trustees regarding compliance with regulatory codes of practice, most notably "Internal Controls". The service is available either in conjunction with, or separate to, our external audit and we would work closely with trustees and the administrator in providing value for money reports either on a one-off or a rolling basis.

employer covenant reviews

We are able to assist trustees in assessing and monitoring the strength of the sponsoring employer's covenant. It is important for trustees to be able to demonstrate that under scheme specific funding the terms of the recovery plan are regularly reviewed for appropriateness and that they continue to be achievable. Our specialist team is able to undertake reviews and work with trustees in assessing the risks to the scheme in this area.

risk registers

Monitoring risks and controls is a key aspect of good pension scheme governance. We are able to advise trustees in establishing a risk register and with its continued monitoring and risk mitigation.

other services

Our in-house pensions team can provide a range of other services to pension schemes. These include services to sponsoring employers as well as trustees. They include but are not limited to:

- preparation of financial statements and annual reports
- investment transition reviews
- risk management
- VAT
- self-assessment and tax

our dedicated pensions audit group

We have a specialist pensions audit group who carry out all our pension scheme audits. We believe that having a specialist group is essential to ensure we fulfil our clients needs and exceed their expectations. With increased complexity, legislation and disclosure it is essential that all aspects of our pension scheme audits are carried out by fully trained staff with relevant experience.

Our dedicated group is comprised of three partners and two senior managers, all of whom have considerable experience in auditing pension schemes. They are supported by a team of suitably trained and experienced senior staff.

Our partners do not work full time on pension scheme audits as we recognise that our clients, whilst appreciating their specialist pensions knowledge, prefer them to have an all round business knowledge and awareness which enables them to see the bigger picture and offer advice which adds value to their business. We currently have 50 staff accredited to carry out pension scheme audits.

truly partner and manager led

We offer a truly partner and manager led audit and our clients tell us that they value the time they spend with our audit partners and managers as the input, which is given and the suggestions offered are both useful and interesting. Our audit clients can expect to see partners and managers before, during and after the audit, as well as at other times during the year.

independent

Unlike some other firms we do not undertake pensions administration, consultancy or actuarial services. We concentrate on our area of expertise and do not attempt to sell other services when speaking to trustees about the audit, as we appreciate that the trustees will have already appointed other advisers.

working together in partnership

We believe that working in partnership with our clients is fundamental and mutually beneficial. We build long term relationships by working closely with our clients and have an ongoing and open dialogue with them. Working in partnership enables us to help our clients improve their systems and processes and help them to resolve issues when they arise.

value for money

Our clients tell us that they want first class services and to be confident that their statutory obligations are being met. It is also important that they receive value for money and therefore, we have made this our aim, with all fees agreed up front and no surprises.

adding value by bringing experiences from industry bodies

haysmacintyre is involved in industry sector groups and our partners and staff regularly attend industry events, such as NAPF, PRAG and ICAEW pensions events. We also have a presence on the ICAEW Pensions Technical Discussion Group. This enables us to keep fully up to date with relevant issues and industry developments which affect our clients.

about haysmacintyre

haysmacintyre, Chartered Accountants and tax advisers, comprises 24 partners and 160 staff based in Holborn, London. It provides high quality auditing and assurance, business and personal taxation, corporate finance, financial planning and other business support services.

Around 50% of the firm's business is within the corporate sector – small and medium sized enterprises, many of which are in the property, media and entertainment, technology, sports and business services sectors. The firm acts for a number of listed companies and assists new companies raise initial funds on the capital markets and through private equity. 35% of the firm's business is for charitable and not for profit organisations and the remainder is for professional practices and private individuals – whether senior executives, entrepreneurs or those with significant land or wealth at home or overseas.

haysmacintyre is a founding member of MSI Global Alliance (MSI), an international alliance of independent legal and accounting firms, with 250 members in 100 countries.

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