**Regulation and Policing**

**Fact Finding**

**Answers**

Our powers fall into three categories:

1. gathering information
2. regulatory and enforcement action
3. acting against avoidance

**Gathering information**

We gather information from a number of sources to help us identify and monitor risks. These include:

* employers’ declarations that they comply with their workplace pension duties
* scheme returns
* reports about breaches of the law – known as ‘whistleblowing reports’
* funding information and documents from defined benefit schemes, such as recovery plans
* notifiable event reports
* research and analysis
* thematic reviews

Where the law allows, we share information with other public bodies. This includes the Pension Protection Fund, HM Revenue and Customs, the Financial Conduct Authority and the Department for Work and Pensions.

We use the information we gather to find and look into potential problems.

**Regulatory and enforcement action**

We can choose from a range of options if we need to take regulatory and enforcement action. These include:

* issuing notices that require individuals, companies or third parties to take specific action within a certain time
* recovering late or missing payments from an employer on behalf of a scheme
* banning trustees who we don’t consider fit and proper for the role
* issuing fines for breaches of the law
* prosecuting certain offences in the criminal courts
* appointing a trustee to a scheme to enable it to be run effectively

**Acting against avoidance**

We have powers to act where an employer with a defined benefit scheme tries to avoid their pension obligations. In some cases, the target for TPR action may include those associated or connected to the employer. For more information, read about our anti-avoidance powers.