HMRC Update 8 March 2023.

Making it easier for customers to view their payments and prove they're entitled to Child Benefit

We've launched a new digital service enabling parents and carers to <u>prove they have a valid claim to Child</u> <u>Benefit</u> and view their <u>last five Child Benefit payment dates</u> on GOV.UK.

Parents and carers often need proof of entitlement to Child Benefit for housing benefit, council tax, and other services. Previously, if a customer requested this information from us this would have taken up to ten days to receive but is now immediately available online, so there's no need to call us or wait to receive a letter.

Please share this information with your clients and members to make them aware of this new service and for them to share within their own networks.

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Voluntary National Insurance Contributions – extended deadline

On 7 March 2023, the Government extended the voluntary National Insurance deadline to 31 July 2023. This was announced by a <u>Written Ministerial Statement</u> and is available on GOV.UK.

The extension means that your clients and members now have more time to decide whether to fill any gaps in their National Insurance record dating back to April 2006, to boost their new State Pension.

We are urging customers to not leave it until the last minute, to make sure they do not miss out. They can check their <u>National Insurance record</u>, via the HMRC app or their Personal Tax Account, and will be able to pay any time before the deadline.

Eligible customers can also find out how to check their <u>State Pension forecast</u>, decide if making a <u>voluntary</u> <u>National Insurance contribution</u> is worthwhile for them and their pension, and how to make a payment on GOV.UK.

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