



Association of  
Pension Lawyers  
in Ireland

# ESSAY COMPETITION 2024

## DEADLINE

Tuesday, 25 June 2024

## LENGTH

Essays should be between 2,000 and 3,000 words

## CONTACT

Entries to be submitted to Clementine Farrell, email [clementine.farrell@mccannfitzgerald.com](mailto:clementine.farrell@mccannfitzgerald.com)

Rules available at [www.apli.ie](http://www.apli.ie)

## ESSAYS ARE INVITED ON THE TOPIC:

There are many stakeholders involved in an occupational pension scheme (participating employers, active members, deferred members, pensioner members, spouses and/or children in receipt of benefits). As many defined benefit schemes approach maturity, some are in the fortunate position to have surplus assets. Such schemes may have broad powers on how to use such surplus assets on scheme wind up including augmenting some or all member benefits and/or returning surplus assets to the employers. What is the appropriate balancing act when Trustees are considering the competing interests of the main stakeholders' respective claims to surplus assets in a pension scheme context? In considering this query, please discuss the purpose of a pension scheme and whether some stakeholders should be preferred over others. **(80 MARKS)**

Please also briefly discuss the treatment of defined benefit scheme surpluses in the United Kingdom with a particular focus on recent case law. **(20 MARKS)**



Open to all students of law and all Trainee Solicitors / Barristers and Solicitors / Barristers qualified less than 2 years

## PRIZES

1st place  
**€4,000**

2nd place  
**€1,000**

