



Brian Bailey
Director of Pensions

West Midlands Pension Fund
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Our Reference:

Your Reference:

Contact: Helpdesk

Telephone: **0300 111 1665**

Dear Councillor,

Local Government Pension Scheme (LGPS)

As you will no doubt be aware, The Local Government Pension Scheme and Discretionary Compensation (Local Authority Members in England) Regulations 2003 {SI 2003/1022} and the Local Authorities (Member's Allowances) (England) Regulations 2003 {SI2003/1021} make provision for elected members, subject to the recommendation of the local remuneration panel to join the Local Government Pension Scheme (LGPS).

The contribution rate for councillor members is 6% of the councillor's pensionable allowance, as specified in the Council's scheme of allowances. Councillor members are not permitted to make additional contributions for the purpose of buying additional years – the option does exist, however, for councillor members to make additional voluntary contributions (AVCs). The Fund has set up the **Pension Connection™** with the Fund's AVC provider **PRUDENTIAL** that will assist in obtaining more information on this option. The number to call is **0845 607 0077**.

The amendments to the Scheme mean that a councillor member will be entitled to benefits if they have accrued three months' membership or if they have reached the 'normal retirement age' of 65.

Elected members cannot transfer in previous service that they may have accrued elsewhere, nor can they amalgamate the service accrued with that held in another LGPS employment.

You will find full details of the benefits attributable to membership in the following Fund publication:

• **A Guide to the Local Government Pension Scheme for Eligible Councillors in England**

These should have already been given to you by your own authority. However, if not, please contact the Fund and we will arrange for copies to be sent to you immediately.

If, after reading the guides, you would like to discuss any particular issues, please do not hesitate to contact us using the contact details provided.

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Data Protection To protect any personal information held on computer, Wolverhampton City Council is registered under the Data Protection Act 1998. This allows members to check that their details held are accurate. The Fund may, if it chooses, pass certain details to a third party, if the third party is carrying out an administrative function of the Fund, for example, the Fund's AVC provider. Members who wish to apply to access their data on Data Protection Act grounds should contact the City Council's Data Protection Officer on (01902) 554498, via e-mail at dataprotection@wolverhampton.gov.uk

This authority is under a duty to protect the public funds it administers, and to this end may use information for the prevention and detection of fraud. It may also share this information with other bodies administering public funds solely for these purposes.

West Midlands Pension Fund

Visits can be made to the Fund's offices
Opening hours: Monday - Thursday 8.30am - 5.00pm
Friday 8.30am - 4.30pm



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form A1 councillor application to join



Your employer will usually start to deduct pension contributions from your councillor's allowance automatically following your election to join. It is important that you complete this form to tell the Pension Fund administrators the relevant information with regards to becoming a member of the Local Government Pension Scheme (LGPS). You should have received an information booklet and/or leaflet about the Scheme. If you have not received it or would like another, please contact us immediately.

For further information contact our Helpdesk on **0300 111 1665**, email us at **PensionFundEnquiries@wolverhampton.gov.uk** or visit our website at **wmpfonline.com**

REMEMBER TO TELL US IF YOU CHANGE YOUR ADDRESS, AS THIS IS USED TO SEND YOU YOUR ANNUAL BENEFITS STATEMENT AND OTHER IMPORTANT INFORMATION.

YOUR PERSONAL DETAILS Please complete this form in black ink

Surname:	<input type="text"/>	Home address:	<input type="text"/>
First names:	<input type="text"/>	Post code:	<input type="text"/>
Previous name(s):	<input type="text"/>	Tel. no. Home:	<input type="text"/>
Title: Mr <input type="checkbox"/> Mrs <input type="checkbox"/> Miss <input type="checkbox"/> Other <input type="checkbox"/>		Work:	<input type="text"/>
Please specify 'other':	<input type="text"/>	Mobile:	<input type="text"/>
Gender: Male <input type="checkbox"/> Female <input type="checkbox"/>		E-mail:	<input type="text"/>
Date of birth:	<input type="text"/>		
Status: Single <input type="checkbox"/> Married <input type="checkbox"/> Civil partnership <input type="checkbox"/> Divorced <input type="checkbox"/> Widowed <input type="checkbox"/>			
National Insurance no.: <input type="text"/>		Do you currently have any other form of local government employment?	Yes <input type="checkbox"/> No <input type="checkbox"/>
Name of authority:	<input type="text"/>	If so, please give details	<input type="text"/>

PLEASE CHOOSE OPTION 1 OR 2 BELOW AND RETURN TO YOUR EMPLOYER'S PENSION OFFICER.

OPTION 1 **YES** I wish to be a Local Government Pension Scheme (LGPS) member.

OPTION 2 **NO** I do not want to be a member of the Local Government Pension Scheme (LGPS).

I UNDERSTAND THAT THIS IMPORTANT DECISION WILL MEAN THAT NEITHER MY DEPENDANTS NOR I WILL BE ENTITLED TO ANY BENEFITS RELATIVE TO MY PERIOD OF NON-MEMBERSHIP. I FURTHER UNDERSTAND THAT THE AUTHORITY OR WOLVERHAMPTON CITY COUNCIL (AS SCHEME ADMINISTRATORS) CANNOT ACCEPT ANY LIABILITY WHATSOEVER ARISING FROM THIS PERSONAL DECISION.

Signed: Date:

Print Name:

PLEASE RETURN THIS FORM TO YOUR EMPLOYER

