

Pension

WINTER 2023 • ACTIVE MEMBER NEWSLETTER



The McCloud
judgement
and remedy

Transfer
time limits

Free pension
planning and
retirement
courses –

BOOK NOW!

★ ENGAGE

with your LGPS

PENSION

FREE ONLINE EVENTS

[CLICK HERE TO BOOK](#)



- HOW MUCH PENSION WILL I GET?
- HOW CAN I INCREASE MY PENSION?
- CAN I GET TAX-FREE CASH?
- WHAT WILL MY FAMILY GET IF I DIE?

Choose session **1**, **2** or **3** (see below) depending on when you joined the scheme and the subject you're interested in.

Course dates – [Click here](#) for session start times (morning and afternoon available) and to book a place

1. Pre April 2014 joiners

Thursday January 18
Monday February 12
Monday March 18
Monday April 15
Monday May 13
Monday June 17

2. Post April 2014 joiners

Thursday January 18
Monday February 12
Monday March 18
Monday April 15
Monday May 13
Monday June 17

3. Increasing your benefits

Friday January 19
Tuesday February 13
Thursday March 21
Tuesday April 16
Thursday May 16
Thursday June 20

Plus

Retirement courses 2023/24

If you're starting to think more seriously about your retirement plans, why not join Affinity Connect, our pre-retirement partner, for an informative **online retirement planning session**. Keeping your retirement plans on track is really important, so it's always best to start planning early! Feedback tells us that members who have

attended past courses wished that they would have attended sooner. This course is perfect for you if you are within up to ten years of retirement and want more information about how to maximise retirement savings.

Workshops cover **estate planning, managing change, income in retirement, state pension and other benefits, personal taxation, money management, budgeting in retirement, making your money last, wellbeing, lifestyle** and more.

Course dates (more coming)

[Click here to book online](#)

2024	11 January	9:30am - 12:00pm
	13 February	1:00pm - 3:30pm
	29 February	9:30am - 12:00pm
	20 March	1:00pm - 3:30pm
	27 March	9:30am - 12:00pm
	8 April	1:00pm - 3:30pm
	3 May	9:30am - 12:00pm

These workshops provide information only and will not include or constitute financial advice.

The McCloud judgement and remedy



The Court of Appeal 'McCloud' judgment on age discrimination we've reported on before means changes to the Local Government Pension Scheme (LGPS) were needed. The changes, which came into effect on 1 October 2023, are called the **McCloud remedy** and remove the age discrimination found in the court case.

Not all members are affected by the changes and even those affected will see either no increase to their pension or just a small change. Pensions will not be reduced.

You may be affected if:

- you were paying into the LGPS or another public service pension scheme before 1 April 2012
- you were paying into the LGPS between 1 April 2014 and 31 March 2022, and
- you have been a member of a public service pension scheme without a continuous break of more than five years.

Background

In 2014, the LGPS changed from a final salary scheme to a career average scheme – a pension that builds up based on what you earn each year. Older members who were closer to retirement were protected from the changes by comparing the pension from their career average scheme with the pension they would have built up in the final salary scheme. The member received the higher amount on retirement. This protection is called the **underpin**.

To remove the McCloud age discrimination, qualifying younger members will now receive underpin protection too. But underpin protection only applies to pensions built up between 1 April 2014 and 31 March 2022, or sooner if you left the LGPS or reached your final salary normal retirement age (usually 65) before 31 March 2022.

From 1 April 2022, there is no underpin protection. Pensions built up after this date are based on the career average scheme only.

What do I need to do?

You don't need to do anything and there's nothing we can tell you at this stage. If you qualify for underpin protection, we will give you an estimate of how it may affect your pension in your **2025** pension statement.

Will my pension increase?

Most members won't see an increase because the pension they build up in the career average scheme is higher than the pension they would have built up in the final salary scheme. If there is an increase, it is likely to be a small increase and we will contact you – **please take no action now.**

For more comprehensive information about the judgement and who the changes are likely to affect, visit the McCloud section of the national LGPS website on www.lgpsmember.org/McCloud-Remedy

Transfer time limits matter

If you're thinking about leaving the pension scheme and transferring your LGPS pension to another provider, don't leave it too late. You would have to leave this scheme and choose to transfer your pension at least one year before your normal pension age (NPA). That's most likely your state retirement age, but some members have a protected NPA of age 60 or 65.

Always be aware of pension scams and don't make rash decisions. Fall foul of a scam and you could lose some or all of your money.

See pension-scams.com or fca.org.uk/scamsmart

Have you checked your online pension statement?

You can see your latest statement and your previous statements online by signing in to your online MyPension account.

Always check your statement carefully and if anything looks wrong – especially if it's your pay – tell your employer straightaway.

Watch our short video on this at www.wyfpf.org.uk/pensionstatement

Want a bigger pension?

Paying extra with AVCs or APCs can be an effective way to increase your income in retirement. Always consider taking independent financial advice. Read all about it at www.wyfpf.org.uk/payingextra



It's time to go online

View your pension record and your statements with our online My Pension service. **NEW FEATURE** – get an instant estimate of your pension for your chosen retirement date.

Register today at www.wypf.org.uk/register

Moving house?

If you move house, we need to know your new address – not only to keep your records up to date but to make sure personal or sensitive information going to your old address doesn't put you at risk of identity fraud. So when you move, please tell your employer your address as soon as you can; they will then tell us. If you're paying AVCs, tell your AVC provider.

Pension scams and how to take action

Pension scams continue to be a very real threat. They can take many forms and could be about insurance policies, pensions transfers, or high-return investment opportunities. Scammers are sophisticated and opportunistic and will try many things. They're very likely to target the vulnerable. As always, beware of investments that seem too good to be true.

Report suspected scams to Action Fraud straightaway on **0300 123 2040** or with the online reporting tool at www.actionfraud.police.uk/reporting-fraud-and-cyber-crime



Who gets your death grant?

If you die while you're paying into the scheme we pay a death grant of at least three times your pay (actual amount may be different if you have other LGPS pensions). You can choose who should get this money by making a nomination, so if you haven't done it yet, [download a form from our website](#) now.

Privacy and your data

Read how we use the data we hold about you at www.wypf.org.uk/privacy

Your LGPS pension is protected

In an uncertain world it's reassuring to know that your future pension is fully protected and unaffected by market changes. We are part of the LGPS, the Local Government Pension Scheme, a **defined benefit** scheme in which benefits are set out in law and therefore fully protected from the impact of short-term market instability. Like all LGPS pension funds we are diversified long-term investors, securely managed to protect our members' pensions from short-term fluctuations in market values. You can be assured that the pension you are building up is safe and sound.

Contact us

Phone **01274 434999**

Monday to Friday 8.45am to 4.30pm

Email pensions@wypf.org.uk

Our postal address is PO Box 67 Bradford BD1 1UP