

LGPC Bulletin 251 – May 2024

This bulletin contains updates for all LGPS stakeholders. It includes important articles on:

- [Gender pensions gap research – call for volunteers](#) - share with employers
- updates to guides and factsheets ([England and Wales article](#)) ([Scotland article](#)) - update any local versions of the guides, factsheets and leaflets
- [PCELS update](#) (England and Wales) - review and apply the transitional arrangements
- [Data standards version 1.2](#) - discuss the data standards with ISP to make sure the ISP is compliant
- [consultation on PSIG](#) - consider responding to the consultation
- [previous pension benefits declaration form version 1.1](#) - review and consider using the updated form and the accompanying notes

which need action by certain stakeholders.

If you have any comments or articles for future bulletins, please contact query.lgps@local.gov.uk.

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LGPS England & Wales Scheme Advisory Board (SAB)

Annual report guidance

The SAB intends to briefly review the [current version of the annual report guidance](#) towards the end of 2024. The review will obtain feedback from administering authorities on their experience of implementing the guidance.

The current version of the guidance was published in March 2024, which we covered in [Bulletin 249](#).

Additionally, the LGA and the Department for Levelling Up, Housing and Communities (DLUHC) will meet to review proposals to amend the SF3 return so that it asks for a similar table of data on investments.

Audit information guide

As reported in [Bulletin 250](#), the Board along with the Institute for Chartered Accountants in England and Wales has commissioned a guide to explain the timeline and information flow for triennial valuation and accounting/audit purposes.

The guide should be published imminently on the [Board's website](#).

The aims of the guide are:

- to aid mutual understanding, explaining some of the background and respective constraints
- to include signposting for the different parties to where they should be requesting the information they need
- to provide visual maps showing the flow of information between employers, actuaries, funds, custodians and auditors
- to provide a model questionnaire with key questions for actuaries to complete each year and provide to scheme employer auditors.

The intended audience are auditors, fund practitioners and employers. Once published, administering authorities will be encouraged to share the guide with employers.

Consolidation of LGPS administering authorities

The Local Government Minister, Simon Hoare MP, has written to all LGPS administering authority chief executives in England, asking them for an update on pooling of investments. At the same time, he asked them to consider whether they could make 'long-term savings and efficiencies if your LGPS fund became part of a larger fund through merger or creation of a larger pensions authority'. The Minister

asked for 'plans' to be returned by 19 July 2024 and has held roundtable events to discuss the plans.

The Board presumes that the calling of the General Election for 4 July 2024 means that the responses are no longer expected, but it is possible that some administering authorities may wish to respond.

In response to this and ongoing discussion within the LGPS community on structures, the Board is also arranging several events in late June. Pension committee chairs have been invited to a discussion with the Board's Chair, Cllr Roger Phillips, in person on 27 June 2024 at the LGA offices, and online on 25 June – both 6pm to 7pm. Officers will shortly be invited by email to an in-person event at the LGA offices at 11am on 17 June 2024. The event will be chaired by Jo Donnelly and held under Chatham House rules.

Funding strategy statement (FSS) guidance

The current FSS guidance was last updated in 2016. The Board has established a working group and has begun a detailed review of the guidance. As part of this, the group is currently drafting revised content with the ambition to:

- deal more fully with the setting up of academies on conversion
- cover the 'new' employer flexibilities and deferred debt arrangements
- develop guidance on consulting with employers and other relevant parties
- address recent employer representations around asset strategies and 'partial terminations'
- give pointers on policies needed for considering exit debts and credits.

Key aims are to make the guidance shorter, sharper and more accessible for all stakeholders – such as scheme employers. The ambition is to get a revised draft approved through SAB, the Chartered Institute of Public Finance and Accountancy (CIPFA) and DLUHC channels before the end of the calendar year.

Gender pensions gap research – call for volunteers

As part of the ongoing work that the SAB is doing on the gender pensions gap in the LGPS, we are looking for employers interested in taking part in further research to help determine the underlying causes of the gap and ways to help close the gap. We would appreciate the support of fund officers in sharing this request with their employers. Those who are interested can contact the SAB by emailing sabsecretariat@local.gov.uk.

Action for administering authorities

Share with your employers the SAB's call for volunteers.

Gender pensions gap - letter to the Chief Secretary to the Treasury

The Board has sent [a letter about the gender pensions gap](#) to the Chief Secretary to the Treasury, Laura Trott MP. The letter suggests that the Government takes a consistent and active approach to the gender pensions gap across public sector pension schemes.

Cllr Roger Phillips, the Board Chair, argued that a gender pensions gap analysis, like that commissioned by the Board, would give a dynamic picture of how scheme members' salaries change over time and illustrates the different trajectories of men and women's careers. As such it would add context and richness to the statutory gender pay analysis that public sector employers already undertake.

An update on the work of the Gender Pensions Gap Working Group will be provided to the Cost Management, Benefit Design and Administration Committee when it next meets on 1 July 2024.

Good governance consultation update

The Board had hoped that the long-awaited consultation on DLUHC's response to the good governance recommendations would be launched in early summer 2024. The consultation was expected to include draft amendments to regulations and guidance to implement most of the recommendations made. The main regulations that were to be changed were regulations 55 (governance compliance statements) and 59 (pension administration strategy).

This will now be delayed due to the General Election on 4 July.

The Local Government Minister has allowed budget in year 2024/25 for the SAB to take on another member of staff, with initial thinking being that this person will scope out the good governance recommendation to establish a peer support offer for LGPS funds.

Opt out survey now live

On 20 May 2024, the Board issued a short survey to local government employers with the aim of improving understanding of the LGPS membership and why some people choose to opt out.

The Board is interested in what data these employers hold, their experience of staff opting out and the value placed on offering a high-quality defined benefit scheme like the LGPS in recruitment and retention.

The survey was sent to the main HR/personnel contacts within the LGA's member councils. It closes on 7 June 2024.

The Pensions Regulator's (TPR) new General Code

In February 2024, shortly after the new Code was published, the Board held an online focus group for administering authorities. The purpose was to gather initial feedback on the Code and understand what support and interpretation is needed to assist authorities with compliance.

Subsequently, the SAB Secretariat met separately with the main governance advisers to ensure that there are no mixed messages being sent to administering authorities. The Secretariat also hosted a webinar to discuss the Code's requirements and challenges it presents for the LGPS.

The Secretariat knows that there are clear overlaps in some modules with the expected-consultation on the good governance recommendations (as well as the compliance and reporting committee's workstreams). While the Secretariat hopes that implementation of the good governance recommendations should help resolve some of the ambiguity, authorities should not delay reviewing their own compliance with the Code while awaiting the consultation.

The Board has also met with TPR to discuss the review of the public sector toolkit. TPR has said that this is being revised but would not commit to it remaining a standalone product for the public sector and said it might be incorporated into a new series of thematic toolkits that they were producing.

Valuation reports

Regulation 66 of the LGPS Regulations 2013 requires administering authorities to publish and supply to the Secretary of State any valuation reports or certificates obtained under regulations 62 or 64. The Board reasonably assumes that this is intended to also apply to regulations 64A and 64B.

The Board would appreciate it if administering authorities also share valuation reports, including updates/variations, with the Board, so that it can maintain its [fund valuation page on its website](#).

When sending updates or variations, it would be helpful to flag where changes have been made so the Board can keep a clear account of changes on its website.

Website

[The SAB's website](#) provides information about its work. Use the links below to find out more about:

- [a summary of the last Board meeting](#)
 - [latest news](#)
 - [SAB meeting and agenda papers](#)
 - [committee meetings and agenda papers](#)
 - [Responsible Investment Advisory Group meetings and agenda papers](#).
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LGPS England & Wales

Academy LGPS guidance updated

On 7 May 2024, the Education and Skills Funding Agency published updated [guidance on academies and LGPS liabilities](#). The updated guidance now includes a definition of 'pass-through arrangements'.

The guidance is aimed at academy trusts, administering authorities and actuaries. It covers the LGPS academy guarantee provided by the Department for Education.

Updates to guides, factsheets and leaflets

On 23 May 2024, Rachel Abbey emailed administering authorities confirming we have published updated versions of our guides.

Member guides

- Employee brief guide - version 2.5
- Retirement planning guide - version 1.6
- Councillors full guide - version 2.5
- Annual allowance factsheet for members - version 1.11
- Guide to AVCs - version 2.5
- Update for councillors in England - version 2.4
- Introductory leaflet for councillors in Wales - version 2.1.

The updates include:

- the latest on the McCloud position
- the removal of the lifetime allowance and the introduction of the lump sum allowances
- 2024/25 contribution tables
- new APC limits
- other minor changes.

Employer guides

- HR guide - version 4.5
- Payroll guide - version 4.5.

The new versions, plus versions showing tracked changes, can be found on the [Administrator guides and documents page](#) of www.lgpsregs.org.

The guides are published in Word so administering authorities can add contact information and any other specific details.

Additional steps may be needed if the documents are converted to PDF for publication, to ensure they comply with [the Public Sector Bodies \(Websites and Mobile Applications\) \(No. 2\) Accessibility Regulations 2018](#) - for more information see [Bulletin 190](#). For example, any tables will need tagging correctly.

You can find more information online about:

- how to [create accessible PDFs](#)
- [creating accessible PDFs in Adobe Acrobat](#).

Action for administering authorities

Update any local versions of the guides, factsheets and leaflets.

PCELS update

Lorraine Bennett forwarded an email from DLUHC on 15 May 2024 about the payment of pension commencement excess lump sums (PCELS) from the LGPS.

The email confirmed that DLUHC is currently considering the long-term policy on whether to allow PCELSs to be paid from the LGPS (and if so, what the limits should be).

A consultation on the long-term policy was expected to be published very shortly; however, it has been delayed due to the General Election.

The email also set out DLUHC's view on what administering authorities should do in the meantime:

[...] paragraph 132 of Schedule 9 to the Finance Act 2024 contains transitional provisions that allow administrators to pay PCELSs in the period before scheme rules are updated. Under this paragraph, where a scheme had a rule relating to a member's entitlement to a lifetime allowance excess lump sum (LTAELS), that rule has effect, so far as possible, as if it was a rule relating to the entitlement to a PCELS.

Prior to the LTA's abolition, the LGPS in England and Wales allowed members to take all of their benefits exceeding the lifetime allowance as a LTAELS, subject to contracting out limits (as set out in actuarial guidance).

Because this was the rule, the Department’s view is that, until the new LGPS rules on access to PCELSs are in place, where a member has used up all of their LSA (or their lump sum and death benefit allowance), administering authorities must offer members the ability to take the benefits that would have been in excess of the LTA as a PCELS, to be taxed at their marginal rate. This will be subject to any overall conditions that apply to PCELSs, including that a member must become entitled to a relevant pension at the same time a PCELS is paid (so if the member has no LSA remaining, they can’t commute all of their pension to take a PCELS – at least £1 of annual pension has to be paid).

We have updated the ‘Abolition of the LTA’ technical guide to include examples. See the [later article about version 2.2 of the guide](#).

Action for administering authorities

Review and apply the transitional arrangements set out in DLUHC’s email.

LGPS Scotland

Exit credits consultation

The Scottish Public Pensions Agency ran a short technical consultation on the draft Local Government Pension Scheme (Scotland) (Amendment) (No. 2) Regulations 2024. The consultation ran from 9 May 2024 to 30 May 2024.

The draft regulations propose:

- introducing a discretionary power for administering authorities to determine the amount of exit credit payable to an employer leaving the LGPS (aligning with the approach in LGPS England and Wales)
- implementing a six-month deadline from the exit date to pay exit credits (or such longer time as the authority and employer may agree).

The regulations are intended to also cover employers who left between 1 June 2018 and the date the regulations come into force (proposed to be 29 June 2024) where the exit credit has yet to be paid.

We responded to the consultation on 23 May 2024.

A working group of the Scottish Scheme Advisory Board is considering whether any guidance is needed for administering authorities on the factors to consider when exercising the discretion, to ensure a degree of consistency.

The consultation documents, including our response, are available on the [Scheme consultations](#) page of www.scotlgpsregs.org.

SAB bulletin – May 2024

The Scottish Scheme Advisory Board (SAB) recently published its [May bulletin](#).

The bulletin follows its latest meeting held on 15 May 2024 and covers:

- the gender pensions gap
- the 2023 fund valuations
- the exit credit consultation (see [earlier article](#))
- LGPS specific cost control mechanism for Scotland
- Economic Activity of Public Bodies (Overseas Matters) Bill
- fund annual reports
- agreed measures to develop the SAB's work.

Updated GAD guidance

The Scottish Public Pensions Agency emailed administering authorities with new LGPS actuarial guidance on 14 May 2024, which took effect immediately. The guidance does not contain any new factors, but does provide additional information about how the McCloud remedy will affect certain calculations. The guidance listed below is available on the [Actuarial Guidance page](#) of www.scotlgpsregs.org:

- Early payment of pension guidance
- Late Retirement guidance.

Updates to guides and factsheets

On 23 May 2024, Rachel Abbey emailed administering authorities confirming we have published updated versions of the following guides:

- Employee brief guide - version 2.4
- Retirement planning guide – version 1.4
- Councillors brief guide - version 2.3
- Annual allowance factsheet for members - version 1.11.

The updates include:

- the latest on the McCloud position
- the removal of the lifetime allowance and the introduction of the lump sum allowance
- 2024/25 contribution tables
- new APC limits

- other minor changes.

The new versions, plus versions showing tracked changes, can be found on the [Administrator guides and documents page](#) of www.scotlgpsregs.org.

The guides are published in Word so administering authorities can add contact information and any other specific details.

Additional steps may be needed if the documents are converted to PDF for publication, to ensure they comply with [the Public Sector Bodies \(Websites and Mobile Applications\) \(No. 2\) Accessibility Regulations 2018](#) - for more information see [Bulletin 190](#). For example, any tables will need tagging correctly.

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- how to [create accessible PDFs](#)
- [creating accessible PDFs in Adobe Acrobat](#).

Action for administering authorities

Update any local versions of the guides, factsheets and leaflets.

McCloud

McCloud protection

We have received a number of queries about which pension accounts qualify for McCloud protection. These queries are connected with the section of the McCloud administrator guide that covers disqualifying gaps.

A disqualifying gap is a period of more than five years when a member was not in pensionable service in a McCloud remedy scheme. A McCloud remedy scheme is a public service pension scheme in England, Wales, Scotland or Northern Ireland that covers:

- civil servants
- teachers
- the judiciary
- local government workers
- NHS staff
- firefighters
- police officers
- armed forces personnel.

A gap that ended before 31 March 2012 is not disqualifying.

You will need to assess whether there was a disqualifying gap if an individual:

- was a member of the LGPS or another McCloud remedy scheme on or before 31 March 2012, and
- joined the LGPS after 31 March 2012.

If the individual was a member of a McCloud remedy scheme on 31 March 2012, a disqualifying break could only start after that membership ended. If the individual was not a member of a McCloud remedy scheme on 31 March 2012, the earliest a disqualifying gap could start is the day after their last period of membership ended before 31 March 2012.

Examples

In these examples we have used LGPS membership, but membership of a different scheme could be substituted.

Example 1:

- Period 1: 1 April 2006 to 6 September 2009
- Period 2: 17 August 2014 to 30 November 2016.

The pension built up from 17 August 2014 to 30 November 2016 (1 April 2015 to 30 November 2016 in LGPS Scotland) is protected by the underpin. The gap between leaving on 6 September 2009 and re-joining on 17 August 2014 is less than five years and is therefore not a disqualifying gap.

- Period 3: 1 February 2022 to 31 May 2024

If the same member re-joined the LGPS in 2022, the benefits built up from 1 February 2022 to 31 March 2022 would not be protected by the underpin. The gap between leaving on 30 November 2016 and re-joining on 1 February 2022 is more than five years and is therefore disqualifying.

The benefits built up in period 2 would continue to be protected if the member elects for separate benefits. The benefits built up in period 2 would not be protected if they were aggregated with the new pension account.

Example 2:

- Period 1: 1 January 2012 to 31 May 2016
- Period 2: 4 February 2019 to 31 August 2024

The benefits built up in the remedy period are protected by the underpin:

1 April 2014 to 31 May 2016 (1 April 2015 to 31 May 2016 in LGPS Scotland)
4 February 2019 to 31 March 2022.

The gap between leaving on 31 May 2016 and re-joining on 4 February 2019 is less than five years. It is therefore not a disqualifying break.

Non-club spreadsheet 2024/25

On 8 May 2024, Rachel Abbey emailed administering authorities in England, Scotland and Wales to tell them about the publication of the 2024/25 version of the spreadsheet for calculating the McCloud element of a non-Club transfer value.

The new version is available on the Administrator guides and documents page of www.lgpsregs.org (for LGPS England and Wales) or www.scotlgpsregs.org (for LGPS Scotland). It can be used for relevant dates between 8 April 2024 and 31 March 2025. Please read the 'Notes' tab before using it. Let us know if you find any errors or if you have any other feedback.

The new version follows the publication of the 2023/24 version earlier this year. We covered this in [Bulletin 247](#) (England and Wales) and [Bulletin 249](#) (Scotland). For administering authorities still needing the 2023/24 version, it is available on the Administrator guides and documents page of www.lgpsregs.org (England and Wales) or www.scotlgpsregs.org (Scotland). Use the filter to find 'Old' status documents.

HMRC

Newsletter 160

HMRC published [newsletter 160](#) on 30 May 2024.

The newsletter includes articles on:

- **transitional tax-free amount certificates:** a link to a new online member tool to check if they can apply and a reminder on what must be included on certificates
- **payroll reporting for 2024/25:** information on reporting certain authorised lump sums, such as death grants
- **managing pension schemes service:** information on submitting pension scheme returns, a reminder to migrate and a request for volunteers to assist HMRC with their plans to move the lifetime allowance protection look-up service onto the Managing pension schemes service

- **contacting HMRC pension schemes services:** a reminder of the correct routes for pension administrators to raise queries.

Pensions dashboards

Data standards version 1.2

On 30 April 2024, the Pensions Dashboards Programme (PDP) published version 1.2. On 13 May 2024, it published [a blog on the new version of the data standards](#).

The data standards cover the data requirements for 'finding' and 'viewing' pensions information and are mandatory for providers and schemes connecting to the ecosystem. They are there to build a common set of message handling tools to receive and reply with data.

We understand most administering authorities will connect to the ecosystem by an already-connected third party - an integrated service provider (ISP). The ISP will use their processes to meet the data standards. However, as the standards apply to administering authorities, they remain responsible for compliance, even if implementation is delegated to an ISP.

Further guidance on connection and the technical, reporting and design standards will be published once tested and validated by the volunteer participants.

Action for administering authorities

Discuss the data standards with your ISP to ensure your administering authority is compliant.

Deferred connection guidance updated

The Department for Work and Pensions updated the [guidance on deferring connection](#) on 30 April 2024.

Updates are made to section 3.4, giving further advice on how to apply to defer connection.

PASA dashboards working group – Spring 2024 update

On 14 May 2024, the Pensions Administration Standards Association (PASA) published an [update from its dashboards working group](#).

The update outlines the ongoing development of guidance and resources related to:

- additional voluntary contributions

- test case matrix
- matching
- administration readiness.

TPO

Operating model review blog

Robert Loughlin, Chief Operating Officer at the Pensions Ombudsman (TPO), published [a blog on TPO's operating model review](#) on 21 May 2024.

In this blog, Robert primarily discusses the operating model review, which aims to improve TPO's efficiency and reduce waiting times.

Three areas of focus for improvement are mentioned:

- resolution team changes
- expedited determinations
- thresholds for accepting complaints.

TPO plans to deliver the full programme of changes over the next three years. Additionally, they have set a target of achieving an improved position over the next 12 to 18 months.

TPO will host a stakeholder forum on 27 June 2024 to discuss their plans in more detail and answer any questions. You can [register online](#).

TPR

Corporate plan for 2024 to 2027

The Pensions Regulator (TPR) published its [new Corporate Plan 2024 to 2027](#) on 3 May 2024.

The plan sets out TPR's direction for the next three years, explaining how it will protect savers' money, help to enhance the pensions system and support innovation in the interests of savers.

Speech at Professional Pensions Live

On 22 May 2024, Nausicaa Delfas, Chief Executive at TPR, delivered a keynote speech at Professional Pensions Live. Nausicaa covered the following topics:

- TPR's corporate plan
- driving value for money

- securing the future for defined benefit schemes
- raising standards across all scheme types
- data quality
- TPR's future approach to regulation.

For more details, see the [full transcript of the speech](#) on TPR's website, along with [the accompanying press release](#).

Other news and updates

Abolition of the LTA guide – version 2.2

On 15 May 2024, we published version 2.2 of the guide.

The new version covers the email from the DLUHC setting out its view on the transitional arrangements for PCELS in the LGPS (England and Wales), along with examples. See [earlier article 'PCELS update'](#).

The new version of the guide also reflects that in [newsletter 159](#), HMRC confirmed that a PCELS cannot be paid where an uncrystallised funds pension lump sum (UFPLS) could be paid under tax legislation (section 166 of the Finance Act 2004), **even if the scheme rules do not permit the payment of an UFPLS**. For the LGPS, this will prevent AVCs being paid as PCELSs.

Clean and tracked versions of the guide are available on the administrator guides and documents pages of www.lgpsregs.org and www.scotlgpsregs.org.

Consultation on PSIG

The Pensions Scams Industry Group (PSIG) is [consulting on its future strategy](#).

PSIG is a voluntary body created by the pensions industry to combat pension scams. PSIG is primarily focused on sharing good practice on how to stop these scams.

The consultation aims to understand the value provided by PSIG, possible future direction and how this could be achieved, including potential funding options.

The consultation runs for three months and closes on 31 July 2024.

Action for administering authorities

Consider responding to the consultation.

Digital engagement guide

Rachel Abbey emailed administering authorities letting them know that we have recently published version 1.1 of the Digital engagement technical guide.

We have updated the guide to include a summary of the responses to the digital engagement survey we ran earlier this year. We would like to extend our sincere thanks to all administering authorities that completed the survey, and to the Communications Working Group for their invaluable input into the production of the guide.

The new version, plus a version showing tracked changes, can be found on the Administrator guides and documents pages of www.lgpsregs.org and www.scotlgpsregs.org.

FBU seeks permission to appeal against cost control judgment

The Fire Brigades Union (FBU) recently announced in [a press release](#) that it is seeking permission to appeal to the Supreme Court regarding its judicial review of HM Treasury's cost control process.

The British Medical Association and the FBU judicially reviewed the Public Service Pensions (Valuations and Employer Cost Cap) (Amendment) Directions 2021. These directions set out that McCloud costs are included as member costs in HM Treasury's cost control process.

Previously, both the High Court and the Court of Appeal have dismissed the judicial review, which we covered in [Bulletin 236](#) and [Bulletin 250](#), respectively.

National LGPS Frameworks – ISP and Member Data Services go live

Further to the article in [Bulletin 247](#) we can confirm the National LGPS Framework for Integrated Service Provider (ISP) and Member Data Services is live.

The [National LGPS Frameworks press release](#) provides more information.

To contact the National LGPS Frameworks please email nationalLGPSFrameworks@norfolk.gov.uk, call 01603 306846, or visit the [National LGPS Frameworks website](#).

Previous pension benefits declaration form version 1.1

On 8 May 2024, Lorraine Bennett emailed administering authorities in England, Scotland and Wales to tell them about the publication of the updated version of the previous pension benefits declaration form (version 1.1).

Question 3 on page 1 of the form has been updated to direct users to section 5 if they answer 'no' (rather than to section 7). This is the only change.

Additionally, a final version (1.0) of the accompanying notes has been published. The notes are for members to use when completing the form.

The updated form and the accompanying notes are available on the Administrator guides and documents pages of www.lgpsregs.org and www.scotlgpsregs.org.

Action for administering authorities

Review and consider using the updated form and the accompanying notes.

Training

Training programme 2024

All 2024 training events are available to book via the [LGA events website](#). The link for each course contains the course programme, pricing and booking link.

Bookings are on a first come, first served basis. Each topic is capped at five delegates per organisation over the course of the training programme.

If you are unable to book a place on a course, or would like more than five places, email training.lgps@local.gov.uk with details of the course you would like to attend. Please include how many places you require and the format - online or in person. We will keep a waiting list and consider running additional training if the demand is high enough.

We also accept requests for commissioned training. If you would like us to run training for your authority, or a group of authorities, please email training.lgps@local.gov.uk.

Aggregation training (England and Wales)

- [1 August 2024 - online](#)

Survivor benefits training (England and Wales)

- [13 November 2024 – online](#)

Employer role training (England and Wales)

- [13 August 2024 – London](#)
- [29 August 2024 – online](#)
- [1 October 2024 – online](#)
- [7 November 2024 – online](#)

- [6 December 2024 – online](#)

Transfer training (England and Wales)

All courses are currently at capacity.

Insight training (England and Wales)

All courses are currently at capacity.

Action for administering authorities

Share information about the employer role training with your Scheme employers.

Discuss potential for commissioned training at Pension Officer Group meetings.

Wider landscape

‘Check your State Pension forecast’ service

On 29 April 2024, the UK Government launched [the 'Check your State Pension Forecast' digital service](#). This is designed to make it easier for individuals to check for and fill any gaps in their National Insurance record to help increase their State Pension.

HM Treasury 2020 cost control reports

The Government Actuary's Department has recently published [a webpage which contains links to the 2020 cost control valuation reports](#) for all relevant UK public service pension schemes.

We covered the LGPS 2020 cost control results in [Bulletin 250](#).

Useful links

[LGPS member website \(England and Wales\)](#)

[LGPS member website \(Scotland\)](#)

[LGPS Advisory Board website \(England and Wales\)](#)

[LGPS Advisory Board website \(Scotland\)](#)

[LGPS Regulations and Guidance website \(England and Wales\)](#)

[LGPS Regulations and Guidance website \(Scotland\)](#)

[Current LGPS job vacancies](#)

[Public Sector Transfer Club](#)

[Recognised Overseas Pension Schemes](#) that have told HMRC that they meet the conditions to be a ROPS and have asked to be included on the list.

LGPS pensions section

Raising a query

If you have a technical query, please email query.lgps@local.gov.uk and one of the team's LGPS pension advisers will get back to you. To avoid delays in receiving a response, please do not email advisers directly.

Team contacts

Joanne Donnelly (Head of Pensions)

Telephone: 07464 532613

Email: joanne.donnelly@local.gov.uk

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