

## LGPC Bulletin 275 – March 2026

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

- [Access and Protections consultation – elected members](#)
- [Bereaved partner’s paternity leave](#)
- [Prudential AVCs payroll submission](#)
- [MHPD consumer testing phase two](#)
- [Scam alert and calls for industry vigilance](#)

If you have any comments or articles for future bulletins, please contact [query.lgps@local.gov.uk](mailto:query.lgps@local.gov.uk).

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## LGPS England & Wales

### Access and Fairness consultation – phase one enacted

On 6 March 2026, the [LGPS \(Miscellaneous Amendments\) \(Member Benefits\) Regulations 2026](#) [SI2026/226] were laid. The regulations amend multiple LGPS Regulations to bring about the changes proposed in [MHCLG's 2025 Access and Fairness consultation](#).

We will publish [bulletin 276](#) shortly, covering the changes in detail.

### Access and Fairness Statutory guidance

Following the phase one enactment of the Access and Fairness consultation, see previous article, on 1 April 2026, the Ministry of Housing, Communities and Local Government (MHCLG) published [statutory guidance](#) covering survivor benefits and death grants.

The statutory guidance sets out MHCLG's recommendations on how administering authorities should revisit cases where the member died before 1 April 2026.

More information will be available in [bulletin 276](#) covering the changes in detail.

### Access and Protections consultation – elected members

On 25 March 2026, the [LGPS \(Amendment\) \(Elected Member Pensions\) Regulations 2026](#) [SI2026/346] were laid. They come into force on 11 May 2026. They amend the LGPS Regulations 2013 and the LGPS (Transitional Provisions, Savings and Amendment) Regulations 2014, as well as numerous combined authority and combined county authority establishment orders and the Local Authorities (Members' Allowances) (England) Regulations 2003.

The regulations extend membership of the LGPS, from 11 May 2026 to elected members of local authorities in England, including councillors and mayors of county councils, district councils, London borough councils, combined authorities, combined county authorities and the Greater London Authority. This includes unitary councils which, depending on their structure, are either district or county councils.

We will publish a special bulletin in April 2026, setting out the key differences between elected and non-elected member participation in the LGPS. The bulletin will also outline the actions administering authorities will need to take. We will also update the member website, produce a brief guide, create a template opt-in form and an introductory leaflet.

### **Action for administering authorities**

Let your local authority employers know about the change and the tools we are producing.

### **Annual allowance guidance updated**

MHCLG has published updated guidance on Annual Allowance charges: Calculation of Scheme pays offset. The main changes include:

- changes to the dates used in the examples so that the current factors apply
- the removal of references to the withdrawn Lifetime Allowance guidance. The factors previously used to calculate a Lifetime Allowance debit (Tables 0-609 and 0-610 in the [consolidated factor workbook](#)) are still used to calculate certain Annual Allowance debits. These factors are used if an active member had reached Normal Pension Age on the relevant date or if the debit is being calculated when the member's retirement figures are already being processed.

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## **LGPS Scotland**

### **SPPA Circular 2026/02**

On 27 February 2026, the Scottish Public Pensions Agency (SPPA) published Circular 2026/02. The circular includes version 20 of the Tiered Contribution Guidance and the average employee contribution rates for 2026/27.

You can access the circular on the [SPPA circulars and guidance](#) page of [www.scotlgpsregs.org](http://www.scotlgpsregs.org) or the [circulars page of SPPA's website](#).

### **Action for administering authorities**

Share the circular with your employers.

### **SPPA Circular 2026/03**

On 27 February 2026, the SPPA published Circular 2026/03. SPPA confirms in the circular:

- deferred pensions and pensions in payment will increase by 3.8 per cent from 6 April 2026
- the in-service revaluation for the CARE scheme in respect of 2025/26 will be 3.8 per cent.

You can access the circular on the [SPPA circulars and guidance](#) page of [www.scotlgpsregs.org](http://www.scotlgpsregs.org) or the [circulars page of SPPA's website](#).

### **Flexible retirement GAD guidance**

Craig Finlay, Policy Officer at the SPPA, sent administering authorities an updated version of the GAD guidance on flexible retirement on 25 March 2026. This version replaces the previous guidance dated on 23 April 2020 and takes effect immediately.

The updated guidance explains the extra calculations needed for members who have underpin protection. It has also been amended to ensure that total death benefits are provided in line with the regulations in all situations. Several other minor adjustments and clarifications have also been made.

The new version is available on the [actuarial guidance](#) page of [www.scotlgpsregs.org](http://www.scotlgpsregs.org).

### **Action for administering authorities**

Review the new version and ensure that your processes are in line with it.

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## **Other news and updates**

### **Annual update bulletin 2026**

On 19 March 2026, Steven Moseley emailed stakeholders confirming we had published our Annual Update Bulletin 2026 – bulletin 274.

The bulletin sets out the rates and bands that apply from April 2026 for various purposes. It is published on the:

- [Bulletins page \(England and Wales\)](#) of [www.lgpsregs.org](http://www.lgpsregs.org), and
- [Bulletins page \(Scotland\)](#) of [www.scotlgpsregs.org](http://www.scotlgpsregs.org).

### **Bereaved partner's paternity leave**

[The Bereaved Partner's Paternity Leave Regulations 2026](#) were made on 10 March 2026. They introduce a new statutory entitlement for an employee to be absent from work to care for a child during the first year following the child's birth, placement for adoption or, for overseas adoptions, when the child enters Great Britain if the child's primary carer dies on or after 6 April 2026.

## England and Wales

The definition of paternity leave in Schedule 1 of the LGPS Regulations 2013 has been amended by the [LGPS \(Miscellaneous Amendments\) \(Member Benefits\) Regulations 2026](#). The amendment replaces the reference to “regulation 4 or 8 of the Paternity and Adoption Leave Regulations 2002” with “section 80A or 80B of the Employment Rights Act 1996”.

This means that any bereaved partner’s paternity leave will be pensionable meaning assumed pensionable pay (APP) will apply throughout any period of leave of this type, whether the period is paid or unpaid.

For more information see bulletin 276, covering all the changes made by the LGPS (Miscellaneous Amendments) (Member Benefits) Regulations 2026.

### Action for administering authorities

Update all local communications to reflect the new form of authorised absence. Ensure your employers are aware of how this type of leave is treated for LGPS purposes.

## Scotland

Proposed changes to the definition of ‘paternity leave’ in Schedule 1 of the LGPS (Scotland) Regulations 2018 were included in the draft LGPS (Scotland) (Amendment) Regulations 2026 (draft regulation 35(g)). These were set to have effect from 1 April 2026.

The draft regulations were open for consultation from 2 September to 25 November 2025. The Scottish Public Pensions Agency confirmed on 4 February 2026 that the proposals have been paused, as outlined in [bulletin 273](#).

If the proposed change to the definition of ‘paternity leave’ goes ahead as consulted on, APP would apply throughout any period of bereaved partner’s paternity leave, whether paid or unpaid.

## GAD launches new hub for PSPS administrators

On 16 March 2026, the [Government Actuary’s Department \(GAD\) launched a new factors guidance hub](#) for public service pension scheme (PSPS) administrators.

The new hub aims to make it easy for administrators to locate actuarial factors, within consolidated factors workbooks, and guidance in one area in a standardised and consistent way. For more information, see [the press release](#).

## Member website calculators updated

### England and Wales

On 1 April 2026, we updated the member calculators on [www.lgpsmember.org](http://www.lgpsmember.org). The following updates were made:

- [extra pension calculator](#) – updated with additional pension limit for 2026/27
- [lost pension calculator](#) – updated terms and conditions and the overview with details of when this calculator should be used following changes introduced with the [LGPS \(Miscellaneous Amendments\) \(Member Benefits\) Regulations 2026](#). Also updated with additional pension limit for 2026/27
- [contributions calculator](#) – updated with contribution brackets for 2026/27
- [annual allowance quick check tool](#) – updated for 2026/27.

With the introduction of qualifying additional pension arrangements (QAPAs), the [lost pension calculator](#) should only be used when the member wants to buy back pension lost due to a period of absence because of:

- a trade dispute (strike),
- unpaid authorised leave which began before 1 April 2026, or
- unpaid authorised leave which began after 31 March 2026, but the member did not elect within the deadline to buy back the pension lost with a QAPA.

### Action for administering authorities

Let your employers know about the changes and ensure they are aware of when to use the lost pension calculator.

### Scotland

We have also updated the member calculators on [www.scotlgpsmember.org/](http://www.scotlgpsmember.org/). The following updates were made:

- [extra pension calculator](#) – updated with new additional pension limit
- [lost pension calculator](#) – updated with new additional pension limit
- [contribution calculator](#) – updated with contribution and tax brackets for 2026/27
- [annual allowance quick check tool](#) – updated for 2026/27.

### Action for administering authorities

Let your employers know about the changes.

## National LGPS Frameworks – Spring 2026 Bulletin

On 26 March 2026, the National LGPS Frameworks published their [Spring 2026 Bulletin](#).

The bulletin contains a round-up of key updates, including the launch of the new Actuarial, Benefits and Governance Consultancy Services Framework and progress on several ongoing and upcoming procurements. There is also information on Framework extensions and opportunities to contribute to future developments.

### Prudential AVCs payroll submission

Prudential has introduced a simplified process for submitting Additional Voluntary Contribution (AVC) payroll information. This update follows a series of training sessions and one-to-one support provided to employers and payroll administrators throughout 2025.

[All payroll files must now be submitted in the required format](#). Where a submission contains queries that prevent it from being processed, and those issues are not resolved within 30 days, the contributions will be returned to the source.

If administering authorities or employers have any questions about payroll files or BACS payments, they can contact Prudential at: [avc.cashschedules@prudential.co.uk](mailto:avc.cashschedules@prudential.co.uk).

### Action for administering authorities

Share this information with your employers.

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## Pensions dashboards

### MHPD consumer testing phase two

On 3 March 2026, Jayne Wiberg emailed administering authorities to highlight that the Money and Pensions Service (MaPS) has begun recruiting volunteers for the second phase of consumer testing of the MoneyHelper Pensions Dashboard (MHPD). This phase launched in March 2026 and will help MaPS further refine the service ahead of its public release. You can read more in the Pensions Dashboards Programme (PDP) [blog on phase two testing](#).

The PDP is encouraging the pensions industry to promote this opportunity to their members. Anyone aged 18 or over who has not yet begun taking their pensions can take part. MaPS is particularly keen to involve people with access needs or confidence barriers, including those relating to literacy, numeracy, digital skills or technology.

Further details on consumer testing and dashboard development are available at [www.pensionsdashboardsprogramme.org.uk](http://www.pensionsdashboardsprogramme.org.uk).

### **Toolkit for administering authorities**

Jayne's email included a toolkit to support communications with members. The toolkit contains:

- guidance for all organisations on consumer testing
- a template invitation email to help recruit consumers
- a Q&A to support industry engagement
- short copy for notifications and pop-ups
- MoneyHelper digital and print logos with usage guidance.

Also included were the MaPS webinar briefing slides from February 2026, setting out the scope of the user research and explaining how administering authorities can support the development of the MHPD.

### **Next steps**

- If authorities have questions about the materials, they can contact [PDP support](#).
- PDP has asked authorities to let them know when they plan to issue invitations to members and how many members they have contacted.
- Authorities that did not receive the toolkit can [register](#) to receive it directly from PDP or request a copy via [Query.Lgps@local.gov.uk](mailto:Query.Lgps@local.gov.uk).

### **Action for administering authorities**

Invite your members to take part in the second phase of consumer testing of the MHPD.

### **PASA key questions from schemes**

In February 2026, the Pensions Administration Standards Association (PASA) hosted a webinar on data-matching guidance for pensions dashboards. Following the session, [PASA published a summary of the main questions](#) raised by schemes, along with practical answers to help administrators move confidently from the planning stage into the testing phase.

## **PDP extends closing date to consultation on reporting standards**

In [bulletin 272](#), we confirmed the Pensions Dashboards Programme (PDP) had opened a consultation on changes to the reporting standards, draft version 2.1. The consultation was due to close on 25 March 2026.

On 13 March 2026, [PDP confirmed that the consultation will now run to 30 April 2026](#). On 23 March 2026, PDP published draft version 2.2 of the reporting standards. This latest version includes the technical requirements of routine reporting of data via Application Programming Interfaces (APIs) to MaPS.

## **PDP pension status categories**

On 5 March 2026, the PDP published a blog [about understanding the three pension status categories](#) on the MHPD.

To date, the terminology around matching has reflected the terms used in the Pension Dashboard Regulations 2022 – namely, positive match, match made, possible match and no match. The blog sets out what industry can expect to see displayed on the MHPD following user research:

1. **Confirmed pensions** - these are those where a successful match has been made and the administering authority is able to supply all the view data immediately.
2. **Pending pensions** - a pension shows as pending when it is been matched to the user, but the administering authority has not yet supplied all the required information. The user does not need to do anything, once the data arrives the pension automatically becomes confirmed. Authorities will usually send the missing information within 10 working days.
3. **Pensions that need action** - pensions appear in “needs action” when either a possible match needs extra information, or the administering authority requires the user to contact them before sharing pension details. This is the only category where the user may need to act. They can try adding their national insurance number, and if that does not help, they must contact the authority using the details shown. A scam warning reminds users that they should make the first contact. Authorities must resolve these cases promptly and may see increased enquiries.

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## Training

### 2026 training programme

Our [2026 training programme](#) is live, bringing you a full calendar of engaging, practical, tutor-led courses.

Bookings are processed on a **first-come, first-served basis**. To ensure fairness, each topic is limited to five delegates per organisation.

If you are unable to secure a place on a course or you require more than five places, please email [training.lgps@local.gov.uk](mailto:training.lgps@local.gov.uk) with details of the course(s) you wish to attend, including the number of places required and preferred format (online or in person). We will maintain a waiting list and may consider running additional sessions if demand is sufficiently high.

More information on all of our courses and their content is available on the [Training and Development](#) pages of [www.lgpsregs.org](http://www.lgpsregs.org).

### Aggregation – England and Wales

- [Aggregation training – Online 19 November 2026](#)
- [Aggregation training – London 2 December 2026](#)

### Additional contributions – England and Wales

- [Additional contributions – Online 10 September 2026](#) (1 place remaining)
- [Additional contributions – Online 5 November 2026](#)

### Understanding tax allowances in the LGPS

- [Understanding tax allowances in the LGPS course – London 24 September 2026](#)

### Survivor benefits – England and Wales

- [Survivor benefits course – London 9 October 2026](#)
- [Survivor benefits course – Online 10 and 11 November 2026](#)
- [Survivor benefits course – Online 7 December 2026](#)

### Intermediate retirements – England and Wales

- [Intermediate Retirements course – Online 5 May 2026](#)
- [Intermediate Retirements course – Online 2 June 2026](#)
- [Intermediate Retirements course – London 10 June 2026](#)

## **Advanced retirements – England and Wales**

- [Advanced Retirements course – Online 13 May 2026](#)
- [Advanced Retirements course – Online 24 June 2026](#)
- [Advanced Retirements course – London 1 July 2026](#)

## **Insight – England and Wales**

- [Insight course – Online 6 - 10 July 2026](#)
- [Insight course – Online 19 - 23 October 2026](#)

## **Employer role – England and Wales**

- [Employer Role training – London 7 May 2026](#)
- [Employer Role training – Online 21 July 2026](#)
- [Employer Role training – Online 19 August 2026](#)
- [Employer Role training – Online 24 September 2026](#)
- [Employer Role training – Online 27 October 2026](#)
- [Employer Role training – Online 26 November 2026](#)

For any further enquiries, please contact us at [training.lgps@local.gov.uk](mailto:training.lgps@local.gov.uk)

### **Action for administering authorities**

Please share details of the employer role training with your Scheme employers.

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## **LGPS England & Wales Scheme Advisory Board (SAB)**

### **Scheme valuation report 2025**

The SAB Secretariat is planning the Scheme valuation report 2025, which aggregates data from individual valuation reports. Administering authorities should send their valuation reports to the Board's Research and Data Analyst, Sarah Tingey, and copy in the SAB Secretariat as soon as possible after the final version is available.

### **Action for administering authorities**

Please send your valuation report to [sarah.tingey@local.gov.uk](mailto:sarah.tingey@local.gov.uk), copying in [sabsecretariat@local.gov.uk](mailto:sabsecretariat@local.gov.uk).

## **Update from MHCLG on local fund valuations**

There has been lots of interest in fund valuations at report stage of the Pensions Schemes Bill, and in the potential early use of interim valuations under regulation 64A of the LGPS Regulations 2013.

Lord Katz spoke for the Government against amendments proposed by Conservative peers in the House of Lords on Monday 16 March, and Michelle Warbis, Deputy Director for Local Tax and Pensions at MHCLG also covered valuations in her remarks to pension committee chairs at the event organised by the Scheme Advisory Board on Tuesday 17 March.

The Government has committed to reviewing regulation 64A this year as initially [announced in a letter last year](#) and is looking to consult by the summer. In speaking to the pension committee chairs, Michelle noted it is important that actuarial valuations strike the balance between the needs of the employer and Fund – being especially mindful of potential conflicts of interest between the roles of administering authority and scheme employer.

The Department's view is that administering authorities should engage with requests from employers to review their employer contribution rate. The process should be communicated clearly and transparently. Any review must be in line with the policies set out in the Funding Strategy Statement.

### **Pension committee chairs' event**

Cllr Roger Phillips OBE held a meeting with pension committee chairs to discuss topical issues in the LGPS on 17 March 2026. 44 attendees representing 39 funds and five pools attended and received an update from Michelle Warbis (Deputy Director, Local Tax and Pensions at MHCLG). The SAB Secretariat also led sessions on valuation outcomes and updates from the Board.

During the meeting, a question was raised about whether MHCLG had responded to the letter from the Board concerning the international law arguments that the Palestine Solidarity Campaign (PSC) was raising with administering authorities. MHCLG said that they had in response sent a letter to PSC and officials have since confirmed that a letter responding to the points raised by the Board would be sent shortly.

### **Pension board chairs' event**

Following the successful events held with pension committee chairs, the SAB Secretariat is organising its first pension board chairs meeting on 12 May 2026. This virtual event will bring together pension board chairs from across the LGPS to better understand the priorities of local pension boards and how they would like to engage

with the Board. The agenda is being developed, and invitations will be sent directly to the chair contacts listed in the '[Your LGPS contacts](#)' database. The Minister for Local Government has been invited.

### **Guidance on responsible investment (RI) policy setting**

The [Responsible Investment Advisory Group \(RIAG\)](#), which reports to the Board's Investment Committee, has agreed to develop guidance to support funds in setting their responsible investment (RI) policy. The guidance will complement the revised statutory Investment Strategy Statement (ISS) guidance drafted by MHCLG, which will set high-level requirements for administering authorities in relation to their RI policy. The Board's guidance aims to provide some practical assistance in this sensitive area as administering authorities revisit their ISS. This builds on work which the Board has already done to commission [further legal advice in this area](#) and its [statement](#) on how to deal with the extra lobbying which most funds are now experiencing.

To progress this piece of work, the SAB Secretariat will be holding an initial meeting to discuss the key topics and areas where a common understanding would be useful for administering authorities. This meeting is open to fund officers, local pension committee members and anyone else with an interest or expertise in this area. If you would be interested in attending this meeting, please send an email to [sabsecretariat@local.gov.uk](mailto:sabsecretariat@local.gov.uk) before close of play on Friday 10 April 2026.

An [initial topic list](#) for this guidance was agreed by the Board's Responsible Investment Advisory Group and Investment Committee and will be used as a starting point for the discussion.

### **Board report on employer exits survey**

The Board conducted a survey from 30 January 2026 to 2 March 2026 to better understand the scale and drivers of employer exits from the LGPS amid concerns that high funding levels and exit credit regulations may be influencing employer behaviour. The aim was to gather evidence on the volume of exits, the reasons behind them and how funds are applying the exit credit framework.

The [survey results](#) were presented to the Cost Management, Benefit Design and Administration (CMBDA) Committee on 9 March 2026 and showed a complex picture with most funds seeing stable exits levels whilst others reported increases. The results will be published on the [Board's Surveys webpage](#) in early April.

The Board would like to thank everyone who took the time to respond to the survey.

## **Board and committee membership**

The SAB has appointed Kirsty McLean to be the new Board legal advisor and Tiffany Tsang to be the new pensions policy advisor.

The SAB Secretariat is also reviewing the expressions of interest in the practitioner representative vacancy on the Compliance and Reporting Committee, first advertised in [bulletin 271](#).

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## **HMRC**

### **Finance Act 2026**

The [Finance Act 2026](#) received Royal Assent on 18 March 2026. The Act makes two changes that will be of interest to LGPS administering authorities:

#### **Abolition of the LTA**

The Act amends paragraph 134 of schedule 9 to the Finance Act 2024.

Paragraph 134 gives HM Treasury regulation-making powers to introduce additional provisions consequential to the abolition of the Lifetime Allowance (LTA). Under the original wording, this power was due to lapse at the end of 5 April 2026, and any regulations made under it could only take effect within the tax year in which they were made.

The Finance Act 2026 extends the expiry date of this power to 30 June 2026. It also allows regulations made under this provision to have retrospective effect back to the 2024/25 tax year. This extension appears intended to facilitate the technical updates referred to by HMRC in [newsletter 173](#) (which we summarised in [bulletin 268](#)).

HMRC has issued [a tax information and impact note](#) providing further detail on these changes.

#### **Inheritance Tax (IHT)**

The Finance Act 2026 also amends the Inheritance Tax Act 1984 so that, for deaths occurring after 5 April 2027, most unused pension benefits will fall within the deceased person's estate.

Several technical amendments were introduced at report stage. These do not alter the underlying policy intent but ensure that the legislation operates effectively. HMRC will issue further process clarifications later this spring.

- non-UK pensions held by non-long-term UK residents are confirmed as outside UK IHT rules
- death in service benefits remain exempt from IHT. There is no requirement for the deceased to have been an active member immediately before death
- IHT liability does not apply to:
  - excluded benefits such as death in service
  - payments to IHT-exempt beneficiaries such as spouses/civil partners
- withholding rules, up to 50 per cent for 15 months, have been tidied to ensure smooth operation. The direct payment of tax by administrators is facilitated ensuring tax cannot be taken from IHT exempt benefits
- existing IHT exemptions are extended to cover notional pension property
- future information-sharing regulations, after the member's death, will be made under Finance Act 2004 powers
- no income tax will be charged on death benefits equal to the IHT due on that pension:
  - applies now in additional rare scenarios.
  - any refunded IHT is treated as pension income if tax relief was claimed earlier.

The amendments can be found here: [Finance \(No. 2\) Bill publications – UK Parliament](#).

### HMRC Newsletter 178

On 27 February 2026, HMRC published [pension schemes newsletter 178](#). Articles of particular interest to administering authorities include:

- **Inheritance tax on pensions** – further information will be shared in due course to support scheme administrators and industry stakeholders in understanding the new requirements.
- **Normal Minimum Pension Age** – reminder of the rules and guidance on members transferring with a protected pension age, along with an update on transitional regulations.
- **Protection look up service** – HMRC has launched new functionality on the Managing pension schemes service so schemes can look up a member's protections and enhancements. The previous unauthenticated service is no longer available.
- **Transfers to qualifying recognised overseas pension schemes** – a reminder to use the Managing pension schemes service to report such transfers. HMRC will no longer accept APSS262 forms received after 5 April 2026. Enhancements to the new functionality on the Managing pension

schemes service have been released, allowing schemes to search and print previously submitted reports.

## HMRC Newsletter 179

On 26 March 2026, HM Revenue & Customs (HMRC) published [pension schemes newsletter 179](#). The newsletter contains updates on:

- **UK-Luxembourg double taxation agreement** – under the new agreement, UK pension payments to some Luxembourg residents may become taxed in the UK instead of Luxembourg. There are transitional rules letting affected members elect to be taxed under the previous arrangement. The deadline to do so is 23 November 2026. Guidance for affected members explaining what the change means and what they need to do will be available on GOV.UK in the future.
- **Managing pension schemes service**: the service will be down from 2 April 2026 7pm to 7 April 2026 9am.
- **Lifetime allowance protection and enhancements** – a new protection look up service was launched in February 2026 as part of the Managing pension schemes service. The old unauthenticated online route has now been switched off.

### Action for administering authorities

Notify any affected members of the change to the UK-Luxembourg double taxation agreement.

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## TPO

### Technical forum

On 10 March 2026, LGA colleagues attended the Pensions Ombudsman (TPO) online technical forum. Key topics included:

- transfer due diligence – highlighting the [Mr D v Open Trustees Ltd](#) case, where TPO found that trustees had no obligation to carry out further due diligence after issuing the 2014 Scorpion Leaflet and overpayments.
- overpayments - with discussions focusing on entitlement, affordability, clear communication, and pragmatism. TPO also referenced its [overpayments information for members](#).

TPO provided an update on its [Operating Model Review \(OMR\)](#), including plans to introduce a 'Lead Case' approach for recurring issues, review and potentially

increase 'distress and inconvenience' awards, and bring in new case management rules, such as deadlines and submission limits, to speed up complaint handling.

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## TPR

### **Fighting pension fraud webinar – updated PSAG leaflet**

On 18 March 2026, LGA colleagues attended a webinar hosted by the Pension Scams Action Group (PSAG). Topics covered included the [Government's new Fraud Strategy](#), awareness of an increase in artificial intelligence generated identity thefts and [reporting suspicions to Report Fraud](#).

It was confirmed that the [PSAG leaflet – Steps to stay scam safe](#), was updated in March 2026. This leaflet accompanies a member's statement of entitlement, following a request to transfer their benefits out of the Scheme.

#### **Action for administering authorities**

Make sure to use the latest version of the PSAG leaflet in your transfer correspondence.

### **Scam alert and calls for industry vigilance**

On 11 March 2026, [TPR issued a press release](#) calling on the pensions industry to take immediate action to protect millions of people's retirement savings, after a rise in impersonation fraud.

A [scam alert](#) was issued to more than 35,000 pension industry professionals in collaboration with City of London Police. The alert warns that fraudsters are posing as pension savers to gain access to their retirement pots, and urges administrators to:

- review their identity and verification check procedures to ensure they remain robust
- review data security for letters and documents posted to overseas addresses
- encourage members to improve online security through two-step verification and stronger passwords
- immediately inform [Report Fraud](#) (formerly Action Fraud) of any suspected fraud.

#### **Action for administering authorities**

Undertake the reviews set out in the scam alert.

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## Legislation

### Statutory Instruments

[LGPS \(Miscellaneous Amendments\) \(Member Benefits\) Regulations 2026](#)

[SI2026/226]

[LGPS \(Amendment\) \(Elected Member Pensions\) Regulations 2026](#) [SI2026/346]

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## 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.

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## LGPS pensions section

### Raising a query

If you have a technical query, please email [query.lgps@local.gov.uk](mailto: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

**Clair Alcock (Head of Pensions)**

Telephone: 07464 532613

Email: [clair.alcock@local.gov.uk](mailto:clair.alcock@local.gov.uk)

**Lorraine Bennett (Principal Pensions Adviser – LGPC Secretariat)**

Telephone: 07766 252847

Email: [lorraine.bennett@local.gov.uk](mailto:lorraine.bennett@local.gov.uk)

**Jayne Wiberg (Lead Pensions Adviser – LGPC Secretariat)**

Telephone: 07979 715825

Email: [jayne.wiberg@local.gov.uk](mailto:jayne.wiberg@local.gov.uk)

**Rachel Abbey (Lead Pensions Adviser – LGPC Secretariat)**

Telephone: 07827 307003

Email: [rachel.abbey@local.gov.uk](mailto:rachel.abbey@local.gov.uk)

**Steven Moseley (Lead Pensions Adviser – LGPC Secretariat)**

Telephone: 07780 227059

Email: [steven.moseley@local.gov.uk](mailto:steven.moseley@local.gov.uk)

**William Girvan (Lead Pensions Adviser – LGPC Secretariat)**

Telephone: 07860 686146

Email: [william.girvan@local.gov.uk](mailto:william.girvan@local.gov.uk)

**Lisa Clarkson (Senior Training and Development Adviser – LGPC Secretariat)**

Telephone: 07464 532596

Email: [lisa.clarkson@local.gov.uk](mailto:lisa.clarkson@local.gov.uk)

**Toni Durrant (Training and Development Adviser – LGPC Secretariat)**

Telephone: 07385 224553

Email: [toni.durrant@local.gov.uk](mailto:toni.durrant@local.gov.uk)

**Jennifer Rice (Training and Development Adviser – LGPC Secretariat)**

Telephone: 07884 312232

Email: [jennifer.rice@local.gov.uk](mailto:jennifer.rice@local.gov.uk)

**Gareth Wookey (Training and Development Adviser – LGPC Secretariat)**

Telephone: 07751 715218

Email: [gareth.wookey@local.gov.uk](mailto:gareth.wookey@local.gov.uk)

**Holly De-Buriette (Programme Support Officer – LGPC Secretariat)**

Telephone: 0207 664 3056

Email: [holly.de-buriette@local.gov.uk](mailto:holly.de-buriette@local.gov.uk)

**Jeremy Hughes (Senior Pensions Secretary – LGPS Scheme Advisory Board  
England & Wales)**

Telephone: 07960 513946

Email: [jeremy.hughes@local.gov.uk](mailto:jeremy.hughes@local.gov.uk)

**Ona Ehimuan (Pensions Secretary (Governance and Digital) – LGPS Scheme Advisory Board England & Wales)**

Telephone: 07501 088144

Email: [ona.ehimuan@local.gov.uk](mailto:ona.ehimuan@local.gov.uk)

**Becky Clough (Board Support and Policy Officer – LGPS Scheme Advisory Board England & Wales)**

Telephone: 07795 410793

Email: [becky.clough@local.gov.uk](mailto:becky.clough@local.gov.uk)

**Sarah Tingey (Research and Data Analyst – LGPS Scheme Advisory Board England & Wales)**

Telephone: 07548 952802

Email: [sarah.tingey@local.gov.uk](mailto:sarah.tingey@local.gov.uk)

**Sophia Chivandire (Pensions Policy and Support Officer – LGPS Scheme Advisory Board England & Wales)**

Telephone: 0207 664 3085

Email: [Sophia.chivandire@local.gov.uk](mailto:Sophia.chivandire@local.gov.uk)

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