



Councillors & Mayors: Join the LGPS

A defined benefit scheme that provides you with a secure and guaranteed income when you retire.

From 11 May 2026, councillors and mayors in England are eligible to join the LGPS and start saving towards their retirement

What does the LGPS offer?

Defined benefit - A pension that is based on your allowances and how long you've been a member, not investment performance.

Inflation protection - A pension that is adjusted each year to keep up with the cost of living.

Retirement lump sum - The option to take part of your pension as a tax-free lump sum.

Survivor benefits - Life cover from day one and a pension for eligible partners and children.

Which allowances are pensionable?

Most allowances, except for travel and subsistence, paid by your local authority, fire and rescue authority, combined authority or combined county authority are pensionable.

If you wish for an allowance to be pensionable, you must return an opt-in form to the body that pays you that allowance. This means you may need to complete multiple forms.

How to opt-in

1. Download and/or print the LGPS elected member opt-in form. You can use the QR code below to find it.
2. Complete and sign the form.
3. Send the completed form to your council / authority.



Contributions will be deducted from your allowance, starting from the beginning of the next payroll period

Joining is not automatic – You must opt-in