



WARWICKSHIRE PENSION FUND

[February 2025 - Employer Newsletter](#)

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Employer Training

Warwickshire Pension Fund ran an online employer training session in January covering Assumed Pensionable Pay and Notice of Terminations. To watch the recording and view the transcription, please follow this link - [Employer Training 11am - 12noon-20250123 110151-Meeting Recording.mp4](#)

If there are any topics you would like to cover in future training, please forward your ideas to the team: pensions@warwickshire.gov.uk

Pre-Retirement Staff Training

To help members make informed retirement decisions, Warwickshire Pension Fund are collaborating with Affinity Connect to offer an online session about pre-retirement financial planning which is open to all staff.

[Affinity Connect](#) provide financial education, including courses about retirement in the public sector.

There are three courses planned for April:

Monday 17th April 13:00 – 15:30

Wednesday 30th April 09:30 – 12:00

Friday 16th May 13:00 – 15:30

Please share the opportunity to your staff and let them know they can book directly with Affinity Connect using this [online booking form](#).

For some more information, please view the [course overview](#).

Independent Reviewing Medical Practitioners (IRMP)

We have recently received several queries from IRMPs asking for our authority to assess a member. We have directed IRMPs back to the employer as it is their responsibility to decide if the IRMP can carry out an assessment on a member - we do not have the authority to decide.

Employers must register IRMPs they wish to use for assessments. Warwickshire Pension Fund will need to check the IRMP meets the criteria, set out in the 'Employer Guide to Ill Health', which is on the 'Current Employer' page of our website under [forms for employers](#)'.

To register an IRMP, please complete the form provided in Appendix A of the ill health guide.

There is also bitesize training available on the LGPS site here: <https://www.lgpsregs.org/employer-resources/employer-bite-size-training.php>

I-connect references

Going forward, the PAY_REF_1 field will need to be completed at each I-connect submission. This field will allow members of Warwickshire Pension Fund to link with the national Pension Dashboard. The Dashboard enables pensions which may be held with different providers to all be viewed together, online and in a secure place. It is a statutory requirement for us to provide data in

accordance with the governments reporting standards. More information can be found here: <https://www.pensionsdashboardsprogramme.org.uk/publications/news/reporting-standards>

Triennial Valuation

2025 is the year of our Triennial Valuation. We will therefore require March returns to be submitted on time, so we can proceed with the end of year processes and so we have data in place for our triennial valuation.

Incorrect, missing or delayed data may result in:

- Potential increases in employer contributions rates because data is not accurate.
- Members may not receive their Annual Benefit Statements (ABS).
- Warwickshire Pension Fund may fail to meet statutory requirements to produce members ABS, leaving us in breach of our responsibilities.
- Statutory requirements to provide data to the National Dashboard will not be met.

So, to reiterate, please submit all your up-to-date data not later than 19th April.

From MSS to Engage

Coming soon - The Member Self Service portal (MSS) will be updated this spring. The new member portal is called 'Engage' and will offer updated functionality for members, including tools to plan for retirement.

Please note:

- You can still register for the current Member Self Service system.
- Current MSS system logins will continue to work in the new portal.

Please contact us with any queries.

WPF Contact details

Telephone number - 01926 412005.

For email enquiries, please use the below addresses:

General enquiries – pensions@warwickshire.gov.uk

Member Self Service questions including logging in – mss@warwickshire.gov.uk

I-Connect queries - iconnect@warwickshire.gov.uk

Website - <https://warwickshirepensionfund.org.uk>