

May 2025 - Employer Newsletter

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Pension Fund Valuation 2025

As you will be aware the Warwickshire Pension Fund is going through the triennial valuation process, over the next few months the fund is preparing all the member data and cashflow data that needs to be submitted to our actuary as part of this process. The Fund may come to our employers with queries on your data or contributions paid as part of this process, please provide a timely response to any data queries.

The valuation is the point in which the funds actuary will assess the funding level of the employers along with setting the individual employer contribution rates for 01/04/2026 – 31/03/2029. The employer contribution rate is comprised of a primary rate, which is based on the contributions needed to fund the future pension provision of its members. A secondary contribution rate allows for adjustments for pension provision already accrued by members, together these make up the final employer contribution rates. The first results for employer contributions rate will be shared with employers in advance of the funds AGM which is held on 11th December. The funds actuary, Hymans Robertson, will be available on the day of the AGM to have 1 to 1 appointment's with individual employers to discuss the results, details of how to book these sessions will be shared closer to the day.

If you have any queries around the process or would like to discuss the valuation or contribution rates with a Fund officer, please contact us.

Engage is live

Engage is Warwickshire Pension Fund's new Member Self-Service online portal (MSS) that helps members manage their pension and includes personalised features such as:

- Interactive retirement planners
- Ability to update personal detail
- View previous year's Annual Benefit Statements
- Manage beneficiaries
- Upload documents
- Request quotations

Members should 'register/create' an Engage account by visiting our Engage web pages and clicking on 'how to access Engage' tab for more information:

https://warwickshirepensionfund.org.uk/scheme/members-self-service-portal

Employer training date – save the date

Warwickshire Pension Fund will be providing an employer training session on Tuesday 10th June and it will be based on the new member Engage portal with time for questions. We will send further information nearer the time.

If you have any pension subjects or issues that you would like to be covered in the employer training session, please let us know.

LGPS Employer Role Training

The Local Government Pension Fund continues to offer its monthly training workshops for employers with some experience of the LGPS. The training is based on the scheme rules for the LGPS in England and Wales.

| Then next training is being held on: | | |
|--------------------------------------|--|--|
| 29 th May | | |
| 20 th June | | |

The workshop topics include:

Joining the LGPS

CARE vs final pay

Absences

16th July

Additional contributions

Types of retirement and early leavers

Employer discretions

Maximising tax-free cash

Internal dispute resolution procedures

The training will be run via teams and can be booked via the <u>LGA'S booking page</u> and search 'pensions'.

Pre-Retirement Staff Training – Spaces still available!

To help LGPS 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 who are members of the LGPS.

<u>Affinity Connect</u> provide financial education, including courses about retirement in the public sector.

Please share the opportunity to your staff who are in the LGPS scheme, and let them know they can book directly with Affinity Connect using this online booking form (https://affinityconnect.event-registration.co.uk/events/warwickshire-pension-fund/retirement/2-hour-30-minute-course-online

The next few courses are fully booked but there is a waiting list available.

The next courses which have spaces are:

Tuesday 15th July 2025 13:00 - 15:30 Tuesday 26th August 2025 09:30 - 12:00 Monday 15th September 2025 09:30 - 12:00

For some more information, please view the course overview.

Opt outs

Please ensure you are letting members know the correct procedures for opting out and when you have actioned the opt out, you are sending the form on to us at Warwickshire Pension Fund: membership.pensions@warwickshire.gov.uk

For detailed information about the opting out process, please see this link to The Pension Regulators site: https://www.thepensionsregulator.gov.uk/en/document-library/automatic-enrolment-detailed-guidance/7-opting-out-how-to-process-opt-outs-from-workers-who-want-to-leave-a-pension-scheme#4ff693321e8846248f2bb0b7cb7a295b

WPF Contact details

Telephone number - 01926 412005.

For email enquiries, please use the below addresses:

General enquiries – pensions@warwickshire.gov.uk

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

Website - https://warwickshirepensionfund.org.uk