

November 2025 - Employer Newsletter

AGM 2025

Our 2025 AGM will be held on 11th December in Old Shire Hall in Warwick. Join us from 9.30am for tea and coffee with the first session at 10am and the AGM ending at 12 midday followed by a light lunch.

The meeting will focus on the 2025 formal valuation from Hymans Robertson, including employer results which will have been issued in draft form in advance of the meeting. There will also be an update from Border to Coast and updates from Fund officers on the progress made by the Pension Fund over the previous 12 months.

To book your place, please RSVP using the form below which also includes the option to request a one-to-one meeting with Hymans Robertson or a Fund Officer.

Warwickshire Pension Fund AGM reply form

Breaches Policy – reminder

The Pension Fund would like to highlight our Breaches Policy to all our employers.

The policy can be found on the policy pages of our website:

https://warwickshirepensionfund.org.uk/scheme/scheme-1/7 or you can open the policy directly through this link:

Breaches Policy

The purpose of the policy is to make clear the procedures that the Warwickshire Pension Fund and its stakeholders must adhere to when reporting breaches of the law to The Pensions Regulator.

Certain people are required to report breaches of the law to The Pension Regulator where they have reasonable cause to believe that:

- a legal duty which is relevant to the administration of the scheme has not been, or is not being, complied with;
- the failure to comply is likely to be of material significance to the Regulator in the exercise of any of its functions.

People who are subject to the reporting requirement ('reporters') for public service pension schemes are:

- scheme managers (meaning, in the case of the Warwickshire Pension Fund, the Staff and Pensions Committee);
- members of the pension board (meaning, in the case of the WPF, the Local Pension Board);
- any person who is otherwise involved in the administration of the Fund (and thus members of the Investment Sub-Committee and all the Fund's officers);
- employers, and any participating employer who becomes aware of a breach should consider their statutory duty to

report, regardless of whether the breach relates to, or affects, members who are its employees or those of other employers;

- professional advisers including auditors, actuaries, legal advisers and fund managers; and
- any person who is otherwise involved in advising the managers of the scheme in relation to the scheme (and thus the Fund's three external advisers).

The policy contains details on reasonable cause, material significance, reaction to the breach, the reporting process and more. All employers within the fund should ensure they are familiar with its contents and their responsibilities within the Breach process.

Please contact the Pension Fund in the usual way with any questions.

Government consultation – Scheme improvement (access and protections)

The Ministry of housing communities and local government (MHCLG) has launched the LGPS: Scheme improvements (access and protections) consultation.

You can view the consultation via the following link:

Government consultation – Scheme improvement (access and protections)

The consultation covers the following areas:

- Normal minimum pension age
- Pension access for councillors and mayors
- Academies in the LGPS

New Fair Deal

A draft set of regulations for the proposals on pension access for councillors and mayors, as well as new Fair Deal, have also been published for comment.

The LGPS Minister, Alison McGovern, issued a written ministerial statement alongside the consultation, which can be viewed at: <u>UK Parliament: written questions, answers and statements</u>

The consultation is open for ten weeks, closing on 22 December 2025. You can respond to the consultation directly by following the links in this message.

The LGPS and McCloud remedy webinar

These free webinars from Affinity Connect give Local Government Pension Scheme (LGPS) members an overview of the age discrimination remedy, known as the McCloud remedy.

These webinars will also help members understand how the LGPS works, what options they have as an LGPS member and give them the chance to ask any questions about the LGPS and the McCloud remedy.

The webinars are delivered by Affinity Connect, part of the Wealth at Work group.

It's likely that you're protected by the remedy if:

- you joined the LGPS or another public service pension scheme, and
- you had pensionable service between 1 April 2014 and 31 March 2022 (the remedy period), and

- you were under age 65 for part or the whole of the remedy period, and
- you have not had a disqualifying gap a gap of more than five years that ended after 31 March 2012 when you were not paying into the LGPS or any other public service pension scheme.

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:

Affinity Connect Booking Form – LGPS and the McCloud Remedy

Affinity Connect Pre-Retirement Staff Training – New 2026 dates

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.

Affinity Connect 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:

Affinity Connect Booking Form – Pre-Retirement Staff Training
The following dates have spaces:

Wednesday 10th December 2025 13:00 - 15:30

Wednesday 7th January 2026 09:30 - 12:00

Friday 13th February 2026 09:30 - 12:00

Monday 09 March 2026 09:30 12:00

Tuesday 14 April 2026 13:00 15:30

Thursday 14 May 2026 09:30 12:00

For some more information, please view the course overview:

Course overview

The 2025 valuation for academies – DfE 'power hour'

On 26 September 2025, the Department for Education (DfE) ran a session on the 2025 valuation for academies. Representatives from administering authorities and actuaries provided a breakdown of the valuation process, shared key insights and answered questions from attendees.

A live recording of the DfE's LGPS Power Hour is available on

YouTube: <u>DfE's LGPS Power Hour</u>

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 - www.warwickshirepensionfund.org.uk