



Local Government  
Pension Scheme

# Councillors & Mayors: Join the LGPS

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



**Inflation  
Protected**



**Protection for  
your family**



**Peace of mind**

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



**Joining is not automatic – You must opt in**

# 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 available on the [pensions website](#).
2. Complete and sign the form.
3. Send the completed form to your council / authority.
4. Contributions will be deducted from your allowance, starting from the beginning of the next payroll period.