

Local Government Pension Scheme – Redditch Member Induction Pack

The government has confirmed that, from 11 May 2026, councillors in England will be eligible to join the Local Government Pension Scheme (LGPS). This is on an opt-in basis and membership will not be automatic. Eligible Councillors will need to actively choose to opt in through the authority they serve on or after 11 May 2026. Further details about the opt-in process will be shared once guidance is issued.

Councillors in England have not been eligible for LGPS membership since 1 April 2014. From May 2026, councillors in England will once again be aligned with the rest of the UK and able to join the LGPS 2014 Career Average Revalued Earnings (CARE) scheme.

Members' allowances schemes will provide, from 11 May 2026, that:

- a. members shall be entitled to a pension in accordance with a scheme made under section 1 of the Public Service Pensions Act 2013, and
- b. the basic allowance or special responsibility allowance (or both, as the case may be) shall be treated as an amount in respect of which such a pension is payable.

Councillors will be asked to agree an amendment to the current Members Scheme of Allowances at the Annual Council meeting to take into account Members eligibility to now join the LGPS. The change can be applied retrospectively to enable those Members who wish to join the LGPS to do so from 11th May 2026.

Further information has been made available by the Government which can be accessed from the following URL address:

<https://www.gov.uk/government/consultations/local-government-pension-scheme-in-england-and-wales-scheme-improvements-access-and-protections/outcome/local-government-pension-scheme-in-england-and-wales-access-for-elected-members-government-response>

In response, Worcestershire Pension Fund have:

- Created a councillor section on the website - <https://www.worcestershirepensionfund.org.uk/councillors>
- Created an opt in form which will be circulated and uploaded to the website
- Creating an FAQ and factsheet
- Creating various other forms such as joining the 50/50 section and opt out forms

If you would like to discuss opting in to the Worcestershire Pension Fund, please contact the Payroll team by emailing payroll@bromsgroveandredditch.gov.uk