

SUTTON & KINGSTON SHARED PENSIONS SERVICE



ELECTION TO OPT-IN TO THE 50/50 SECTION OF THE LOCAL GOVERNMENT PENSION SCHEME (LGPS)

If you wish to join the 50/50 section of the Local Government Pension Scheme (LGPS), please complete this form. It is important to fill in all sections of this form. An incomplete form will not be accepted by your employer and will be returned for you to recomplete.

Section 1: Personal Details

Full Name:			
NI Number:		Date of Birth:	
Email Address:			
Phone Number:			
Home Address:			
		Post Code:	

Section 2: Employment Information

Employer Name:	
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Please list the employment(s) from which you wish to opt into the 50/50 section of the LGPS (any not listed will not be actioned):

Job Title	Payroll Reference / Post Number

Section 3: Declaration

By signing this form, I confirm that:			
<ul style="list-style-type: none">I wish for the employments that I have listed on this form to be enrolled into the 50/50 section of the LGPS and have not been forced or asked by my employer to do so;I understand that my employer will enrol me into the 50/50 section of the LGPS from the next available pay period and a reduced level of contributions will be taken from my pay;I understand that during the period I am in the 50/50 section I will only be building up half of my normal pension and that I will have a lower income when I retire as a result.			
Signature:		Date:	

Please return the completed form to your employer who will assess the validity of the election to join the 50/50 section of the LGPS. They will then enrol you into the 50/50 section from the next available pay period.

GUIDANCE NOTES FOR LGPS MEMBERS WISHING TO JOIN THE 50/50 SECTION OF THE LGPS

WHAT IS THE 50/50 SECTION OF THE LGPS?

There are two sections in the LGPS from 1 April 2014 – the main section and the 50/50 section. In the main section you pay full contributions and your pension builds up as a 1/49th of your pay. In the 50/50 section, you pay half contributions and your pension builds up as a 1/98th of your pay.

However, if you move to the 50/50 section you would still get ill health protection and death in service benefits as if you were a member of the main section. For additional information on the LGPS please visit the LGPS member's website: <https://www.lgpsmember.org/your-pension/the-essentials/>.

You can elect to move from the main section to the 50/50 section at any time. An election to join the 50/50 section must be made in writing to your employer. You will be moved to the 50/50 section from the next available pay period after your employer receives your signed election. If you have more than one job you can elect for the 50/50 section in one, some or all your jobs.

If you are in the LGPS with more than one employer, a separate election form must be completed and returned to each employer where you wish to join the 50/50 section.

If you choose to move to the 50/50 section any extra pension contributions or additional voluntary contributions (AVCs) would continue to be payable in full (not at half rate). The only exception to this is that any additional pension contributions (APCs) you are paying to purchase extra pension would have to cease (unless those APCs are to purchase pension 'lost' during a period of authorised unpaid leave or absence or during a period of unpaid additional maternity, paternity or adoption leave).

CAN MY EMPLOYER ASK ME TO JOIN THE 50/50 SECTION?

No, if you're asked or made to join the 50/50 section against your wishes, tell The Pensions Regulator at: www.thepensionsregulator.gov.uk/contact-us

HOW LONG CAN I REMAIN IN THE 50/50 SECTION OF THE LGPS?

The 50/50 section is supposed to be a **short-term** option if you need to save a bit of extra money. However, your employer will bring you back into the main section of the LGPS every three years under auto enrolment regulations. Your employer will tell you when this is about to happen, but you can re-join the 50/50 section by filling out another form.

If during a month you're off work without pay, because of illness or authorised parental leave, and you're still off with no pay for a second month, your employer will move you back into the main section of the LGPS. This means you'll build up full pension benefits, even though you won't be paying pension contributions. When you return to work, you can move back into the 50/50 section.

You can move back into the main section of the LGPS at any point, if you're under 75 and are still in a job that offers membership of the scheme. You would need to make an election to your employer to move back to the main section. You would be brought back into the main section from the next available pay period after your employer receives the completed election form and you would then start to again build up a full pension. If you are in the 50/50 section in more than one job you can elect to move back into the main section in all or some of the jobs.

Contact us

If you would like further information about the LGPS, you can contact us:

Email us: skpensions@sutton.gov.uk

Call us: 020 8770 5290 (between 1 – 5PM)

Write to us: Sutton Council, Civic Offices, St. Nicholas Way, Sutton SM1 1EA