

SUTTON & KINGSTON SHARED PENSIONS SERVICE



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

If you wish to join the MAIN 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 MAIN 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 main section of the LGPS;I have been made aware of and considered the full implications of my actions;I understand that my employer will enrol me into the main section of the LGPS from the next available pay period and a higher level of contributions will be deducted from my pay.			
Signature:		Date:	

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

GUIDANCE NOTES FOR LGPS MEMBERS WISHING TO JOIN THE MAIN SECTION OF THE LGPS

WHAT IS THE MAIN SECTION OF THE LGPS?

There are two sections in the LGPS from 1 April 2014 – the main section and the 50/50 section.

The main section is where you pay normal contributions and get your normal pension build up. In the 50/50 section you pay half your normal contributions and build up half your normal pension during the time you are in that section. Regardless of which section you're in, you get full life assurance cover, full ill health cover and full survivor benefits in the event of your death.

You can choose to move from the 50/50 section to the main section at any time. A form to re-join the main section must be filled in and sent to your employer. You'll be moved to the main section from the next available pay period after your employer receives your signed form.

If you've more than one job in which you're in the 50/50 section, you can choose to re-join the main section in one, some or all these jobs. For additional information on the LGPS please visit the LGPS member's website: <https://www.lgpsmember.org/your-pension/the-essentials/>

THE SCHEME CURRENTLY PROVIDES THE FOLLOWING BENEFITS

- **A secure pension** – worked out at a 1/49th of your pay every scheme year you are a contributing member. Your benefits also keep up with the cost of living as measured by the Consumer Price Index (CPI).
- **Flexibility to pay more or less** – you can pay half your normal contributions in return for half your normal pension through the 50/50 section of the scheme. You can also boost your pension by paying more in contributions while getting tax relief.
- **Tax-free cash** – when you take your benefits, you can give up some of your annual pension for a tax-free cash lump sum.
- **Peace of mind** – your family enjoys financial security with a death grant of three times your pay and survivor's pensions if you die. If you become seriously ill and you have been in the scheme for two years, you could get an ill-health pension.
- **Freedom to choose when to take your pension** – currently you can choose to retire and draw your pension at any time between 55 and 75. Your normal pension age is when your pension is due without a reduction. However, current regulations allow you to take your pension from 55 with a reduction for early payment. If you take your pension after your normal pension age it will be increased.
- **Redundancy and efficiency retirement** – if you're made redundant or leave because of business efficiency on or after 55, and you've been in the scheme for two years or more, you'll get your benefits paid unreduced.
- **Flexible retirement** – if you reduce your hours or move to a less senior job on or after 55, you can take some or all your pension benefits and carry on working. Your employer must agree, and you must have been in the scheme for two years or more. Your benefits may be reduced for early payment.

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