



Employer Newsletter—December 2022

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LGPC bulletin 231

The LGPC have published [bulletin 231](#) (2022) on the bulletins page of www.lgpsregs.org.

Items of particular interest to employer may be:

- 2021/22 annual reports
- Further education reclassification
- Autumn Statement 2022
- LGA Training programme 2023

Annual Employers Meeting 2022 slides and feedback

The Annual Employers meeting on 18 November 2022 was well attended by employers. The presentations given at the meeting can be viewed on the DCPF website at <https://dcpfemployers.org/annual-employers-meeting/>.

If you attended we would be grateful if you would complete an online feedback form for the meeting, which is available here <https://www.surveymonkey.co.uk/r/9GJ6ZWZ> . The results of this feedback will help guide the format of the next LGPS Valuation meeting.

Reattribution of LGPS pension bands

Recently there have been a few employer queries regarding when a reattribution of LGPS pension bands should occur throughout the year. Employers are required by the regulations to reassess the appropriate band and rate each April. Employers may also review the appropriate rate 'where there is a change in employment, or a material change which affects the member's pensionable pay in the course of a financial year'.

The pension fund recommends employers have a written policy on when an employee would change pension bands throughout the year and it is part of the template LGPS employer discretions policy <https://dcpfemployers.org/employer-policies/>.

Employers need to think about their approach to mid year reattribution and consider whether to include the following points in their discretions policy.

- Mid year pay awards including backdated pay awards
- Overtime payments
- Material changes such a hour changes and job movements
- Casual / zero hours contracts
- Acting up payments / regular honorium

Cost of living crisis: Opting out and the 50/50 Section

LGPS members may be thinking about opting out of the pension scheme as a result of the cost of living crisis. This means they will lose valuable benefits and life cover provided by the LGPS. As well as reducing their income in later life.

An alternative option for some members would be to move into the 50/50 section of the scheme. This means that they continue to make some pensions saving and keep the life cover which is built into scheme membership.

A useful factsheet to provide to your members of staff thinking about opting out can be found here <https://dcpfemployers.org/employers-information-and-forms/>

This factsheet explains the impact of opting out and the option of moving into the 50/50 section of the scheme. It will be sent to all members who ask the pension fund for an opt out form.

LGPS Pensions Training for employers

Please see below dates of the training sessions which are currently scheduled for 2023. More sessions will be available later in the year. If you would like to attend any of these events please email lgpsemployers@dorsetcouncil.gov.uk

General LGPS Employer training

Friday 3 February 9:30am —13:00pm

Friday 21 July 9:30am—13:00pm

Employer portal training

Friday 20 January 10:00am—12pm

Pensionable Pay

Thursday 23 February 10:00am —12:30pm

Wednesday 21 June 10:00am—12:30pm

End of Year training

Friday 10 March 10:00am—12:00pm

Tuesday 28 March 10:00am—12:00pm

Pre-retirement courses for members

Please would you circulate the LGPS pre retirement courses to your members. The sessions are a free two and a half online course. These sessions are mainly for members who are thinking about retiring and taking their pension benefits within 3 years, or are wanting to understand some of the key financial considerations about retirement.

Further details can be found <https://www.dorsetpensionfund.org/news/on-line-pre-retirement-courses/>

Important dates for your diaries 2023

Training events and meetings

Pensions Liaison Officer Group Meeting for 2023

- Wednesday 1 March 2023 at 10:00
- Thursday 15 June 2023 at 10:00
- Friday 13 October 2023 at 10:00

All other training events as advertised above.

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