

## Employer Newsletter January 2026



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### LGPC bulletin 271

The LGPC have published [Bulletin 271](#) on the bulletins page of [www.lgpsregs.org](http://www.lgpsregs.org).

Items of particular interest to employers may be:

- ◇ Access and Protections consultation response – LGPC response
- ◇ Police and Crime Commissioners – future changes
- ◇ Automatic enrolment thresholds 2026/27
- ◇ National Insurance Contributions (Employer Pensions Contributions) Bill

### LGPS Access and Fairness Consultation - **Changes with effect 1 April 2026**

The Government's response to the LGPS Access and Fairness consultation has been delayed due to internal procedures. It is understood that the Government plans to phase in the changes proposed in the consultation to ease the administrative impact. Phase one changes will be introduced in April 2026, and phase two later in the year. A statutory instrument implementing the phase one changes will be laid at the start of March and take effect from 1 April 2026.

The change which will have the biggest impact upon employers is:

#### **Gender pensions gap benefits**

- making authorised absences of less than 15 days automatically pensionable
- aligning the cost of buying back lost pension for authorised absences of over 14 days with the standard member contribution rates
- extending the time limit for electing to buy back lost pension from 30 days to 12 months, as long as the member is in the same employment
- allowing an employer to pay their share of contributions relating to an unpaid period of more than three years
- updating the definition of child-related leave to include all periods of additional maternity, adoption and shared parental leave without pay.

As soon as we receive further details on how this will work, we will share the information with all employers. In the meantime, please ensure that your HR and Payroll colleagues are aware of this imminent change.

## LGPS new joiner presentations (poster attached)

Please see attached presentation advertising presentations aimed at your new members of staff.

Please forward it to any relevant people. The information provided in these sessions is especially useful to any member of staff who has joined within the last 12 months.



## LGPS End of Year information 2026

The LGPS employer end of year submission for 2026 will be due on **30th April 2026**. An email will be sent out to all employers within the next month which will contain the required template for the return and also guidance on how to complete it.

However, the spreadsheet template and all information for the end of year submission can already be found on the employer website at <https://dcpfemployers.org/end-of-year-returns/>.

- ★ For employers who completed last year's End of Year, the spreadsheet remains the same.
- ★ If you use an external payroll company, please ensure you forward this information.

## Dorset County Pension Fund Annual Report 2024 –2025

The Dorset County Pension Fund Annual report for 2024—2025 has been published and can be found on our website at:

<https://dorsetpensionfund.org/media/cw4pv54j/draft-pension-fund-report-2024-25-03122025.pdf>

## Important dates for your diaries 2026

Please see dates below for employer training up to September 2026.

If you would like to register to attend any of the above training events, please email [lgpsemployers@dorsetcouncil.gov.uk](mailto:lgpsemployers@dorsetcouncil.gov.uk)

### General LGPS Training

Thursday 14 May 09:30—13:00  
Friday 10 July 09:30—13:00

### Pensionable Pay Training

Thursday 12 February 10 –12:30  
Wednesday 10 June 10 - 12:30

### End of Year Training

Thursday 5 March 10:00—12:30  
Tuesday 17 March 14:00—15:30  
Wednesday 15 April 13:30—15:00

### Employer Portal Training

Friday 23 January 10:00 -11:30  
Thursday 17 September 13:00—14:30

## Pensions Liaison Officer Group (PLOG) Meeting for 2026

Links to the PLOG meetings have been sent to all recipients of the monthly newsletter. If you require the link to be sent to additional or new members of staff please email [lgpsemployers@dorsetcouncil.gov.uk](mailto:lgpsemployers@dorsetcouncil.gov.uk).

- Friday 27 February 10:30—12:00
- Wednesday 17 June 10:30—12:00
- Thursday 15 October 10:30—12:00

Stephanie Clifton, Vince Elliott and Joseph Hollick

### Employer Support:

Dorset County Pension Fund, County Hall, Dorchester Dorset. DT1 1XJ

Telephone: 01305 221547 / 221546

Email: [lgpsemployers@dorsetcouncil.gov.uk](mailto:lgpsemployers@dorsetcouncil.gov.uk) Website: [www.dcpfemployers.org](http://www.dcpfemployers.org)

# Dorset County Pension Fund



## Welcomes you to the Local Government Pension Scheme

People often say...

- ★ I don't understand Pensions
- ★ I will think about my pension when I'm older
- ★ Is it worth being in the LGPS

Does this sound like you?

If so, please join us for a presentation on the benefits you gain from being a member of the LGPS, including life cover and transfers in of previous pensions.

The links below will take you to the Eventbrite booking page for the LGPS presentations in 2026

Thursday 22 January 17:00 – 18:00

[www.eventbrite.co.uk/e/lgps-new-joiner-presentation-22-january-2026-tickets-1784343612779](https://www.eventbrite.co.uk/e/lgps-new-joiner-presentation-22-january-2026-tickets-1784343612779)

Wednesday 22 April 12:30 - 13:30

[www.eventbrite.co.uk/e/lgps-new-joiner-presentation-22-april-2026-tickets-1784540591949](https://www.eventbrite.co.uk/e/lgps-new-joiner-presentation-22-april-2026-tickets-1784540591949)

Wednesday 9 September 17:00 - 18:00

[www.eventbrite.co.uk/e/lgps-new-joiner-presentation-9-september-2026-tickets-1784655465539](https://www.eventbrite.co.uk/e/lgps-new-joiner-presentation-9-september-2026-tickets-1784655465539)