

Derbyshire Employer Newsletter

Issue 227 December 2025

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Message from the Pension Fund

As 2025 draws to a close, we would like to take this opportunity to thank you for your work throughout the year which has helped us to continue providing a quality service to your Local Government Pension Scheme (LGPS) members. As we look back through the past 12 months and towards 2026, we can consider what changes and developments we're likely to be working on together.

MHCLG consultations

This year the Ministry of Housing, Communities and Local Government (MHCLG) launched a number of consultations that are likely to impact the LGPS regulations in the years to come, including:

- LGPS: Fit for the future (Government response)
- LGPS: Fit for the future (Technical consultation) (in progress)
- Access and fairness (awaiting Government response)
- Access and protections (awaiting Government response)

We're expecting to receive an update from MHCLG on each consultation, and how they are progressed, during 2026.

We would like to thank all employers that took the time to review the prospective changes and respond. Your input helps to shape the future of the LGPS.

Member events

We hosted our latest member engagement forum in July 2025. Members in attendance provided helpful and insightful feedback on a range of topics. This included the Fund's main communications through Annual Benefit Statements for <u>Active</u> and <u>Deferred</u> members and the development of the My Pension Online platform.

The feedback provided will be taken into consideration by the Fund when preparing next year's Annual Benefit Statements.

In September 2025, we also hosted two online events during Pensions Awareness Week. Over 400 people attended the events, and the recordings are available on <u>our website</u> along with copies of the questions and answers from each session. The events covered a general overview of the LGPS, and retirement planning.

Thank you for sharing this, and our other messages with your LGPS members. This promotes a higher turnout at these events which is valuable in providing members with information about the scheme in a format that suits them. We appreciate your continued assistance in sharing future communications from the Fund.

We wish you and your families a peaceful Christmas and a very Happy New Year from all of us at Derbyshire Pension Fund.



2025/2026 Christmas and New Year opening hours

Please keep sending us your data, forms, and enquiries over the festive period using the email addresses listed in this newsletter.

If you need to speak to our team, our pension helpline will remain open. You can find the dates and times we're available on our 2025 to 2026 Christmas and New Year opening hours news item. Please share the news item with your employees in case they need to reach us too.

Prudential employer online portal

Effective from January 2026, we'll no longer send copies of Prudential's Additional Voluntary Contributions schedules directly to employers. All our employers should now be able to access the Prudential Employer portal to download monthly schedules.

If you have trouble registering or logging into the online portal, please call the Prudential: 0345 601 0150

Valuation and Funding Strategy Statement reminder

Thank you to everyone who attended the employer valuation webinar which was held on 11 December 2025. It was good to have had representation from a large number of employers.

If you were unable to attend, the session was recorded and can be found on our <u>actuarial</u> valuations webpage.

If you have not yet received your draft valuation results schedule which includes your contribution rate from 1 April 2026, it will be with you soon.

The consultation on our draft revised Funding Strategy Statement (FSS) is now open. The draft FSS and a consultation response form are available on our Funding Strategy Statement: 2025 consultation news item. We welcome your views and thoughts on the draft FSS.

The consultation closes on 1 February 2026.

My Pension Online is getting an upgrade

In mid-January 2026 we are expecting an upgrade to our member self-service platform, My Pension Online.



The upgrade will boast a fresh look for the site, whilst introducing new security features:

- **SMS Multi-Factor Authentication** Users will be prompted to enter their mobile number to receive one-time passcodes to use the site.
- **Electronic ID verification (EIDV)** For new registrations, members can use EIDV to verify their identity to register for the service.

After the upgrade has gone live, we'll share some more promotional materials for you to use on notice boards and employee intranet sites. My Pension Online will continue to be developed with new functionality which we're excited to share with you in due course.

Annual Report 2025

We have published a draft version of our latest Annual Report. This relates to the year ended 31 March 2025 and includes:

• the management and financial performance of the Fund

- investment policy and performance
- the administration arrangements during the year
- · a statement by the actuary on the level of funding
- a governance compliance statement
- our compliance with the pension administration strategy
- a funding strategy statement
- an investment strategy statement
- a <u>communications policy</u> relating to members and employers
- other appropriate material

The draft Annual Report 2025 can be found on the <u>annual report page</u> of our website along with annual reports relating to previous years.

Employee details changes

It's important that you let us know as soon as possible when an employee's details change, for example, title, name, address. This helps us to minimise the risk of data breaches occurring.

If you're not using i-Connect yet, please notify us using the C1 form when any of your LGPS members change their personal and contact details. Member notification forms are on the <u>forms</u> <u>for employers</u> section of our website.

Email addresses

Our email addresses and what they are used for:

<u>dpf.employers@derbyshire.gov.uk</u> - For submitting <u>member notification forms</u>
<u>pensions.tech@derbyshire.gov.uk</u> - For submitting <u>contribution returns</u> (CR1s) and payment queries

pensions.regs@derbyshire.gov.uk - For queries relating to i-Connect onboarding, regulations, training and events

For queries and requests from members of the LGPS, please direct them to the **enquiry form** on our website.

If you have any queries about the information provided in this Newsletter, or about the LGPS in general, please contact us at:

Derbyshire Pension Fund, County Hall, Matlock, DE4 3AH
Tel: 01629 538900

Email: pensions.regs@derbyshire.gov.uk
Website: www.derbyshirepensionfund.org.uk

