

WEST MIDLANDS



PENSION FUND



OUTSOURCING A LOCAL AUTHORITY SERVICE



WEST MIDLANDS PENSION FUND
...a can do, will do organisation



INVESTOR IN PEOPLE CUSTOMER SERVICE EXCELLENCE

Outsourcing a Local Authority Service

When a Scheme Employer outsources a previous local authority service to an outside provider, involving a Transfer of Undertakings - Protection of Employment (TUPE) transfer of staff, the provider has two options regarding pension provision for the employees who are transferring.

Broadly Comparable Scheme

The company can offer the employees a broadly comparable scheme. The local authority can accept a Government Actuary's Department Certificate. This shows that the pension scheme provided by the company is broadly comparable to the Local Government Pension Scheme (LGPS), but not a mirror image.

The benefits may differ and the employees would not have continuous LGPS membership.

Pension benefits built up in the LGPS can be preserved within the Scheme or transferred to the new employer's pension scheme. Employees should seek independent financial advice to ensure it is more beneficial to transfer.



Admitted Body Status

The company can apply for admitted body status. The acceptance of an application is at the discretion of the administering authority. Stringent checks will be carried out by the authority's legal and financial advisors.

If the application is accepted the company would become a Scheme Employer from the effective date of the admission agreement. This is a legal contract between the company, the local authority and the administering authority.

This allows the employees who are transferring to remain in the LGPS. The employees also have an option to elect to combine their previous membership with their current membership with the new employer.

To have continuous membership the admission agreement would need to be in force at the date of transfer. If this is not the case, Scheme Employers, on behalf of their employees, have the discretion to purchase a period of membership. This period can be the duration between leaving the previous employer and when the admission agreement is signed.

Retained Employment Model (REM)

Where a Scheme Employer outsources a previous local authority service to an outside provider, but continues to directly employ the staff involved through a REM or other arrangement, those Scheme members continue to enjoy membership of the LGPS.



large sight text

Information produced by the Fund can be made available in several formats including large sight text, Braille and several community languages. If you have any special requirements or would like to speak face to face with a member of staff, please contact us to arrange how we may best meet your needs.

Please remember that special requirements may take a little longer than normal to organise, but you have our assurance that we will do our best to ensure you receive the information in the most appropriate and efficient manner possible.

Help and Information

Further Information

We will ensure that all of our members are provided with relevant further information on request.

Comments and Complaints

We welcome and value your comments on the standards of service we provide. If you have any comments you wish to make please contact us at the address shown at the bottom of the page.

We would also like to hear from you if you are not satisfied with the way you have been treated. If you wish, you can speak to Mike Woodall, the Chief Pensions Officer, on his personal number (01902) 554610 on any weekday between 9.00 and 9.30am or via e-mail: mike.woodall@wolverhampton.gov.uk

If you wish to make a formal complaint you can write to:
Complaints and Compliments
Office of the Chief Executive
Civic Centre
St. Peter's Square
Wolverhampton
WV1 1NX

Data Protection

To protect any personal information held on computer, Wolverhampton City Council is registered under the Data Protection Act 1998. This allows members to check that their details held are accurate. The Fund may, if it chooses, pass certain details to a third party, if the third party is carrying out an administrative function of the Fund, for example, the Fund's AVC provider. Members who wish to apply to access their data on Data Protection Act grounds should contact the City Council's Data Protection Officer on (01902) 554498, via e-mail at dataprotection@wolverhampton.gov.uk

This authority is under a duty to protect the public funds it administers, and to this end may use information for the prevention and detection of fraud. It may also share this information with other bodies administering public funds solely for these purposes.

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Calls may be monitored for training purposes.