
Your normal LGPS pension age is 65 or your state pension age if it is later. However, you can choose to retire at any age after 55.

Retiring on or after your normal pension age

- Your pension can be paid in full from your normal pension age.
- You can continue to pay into the LGPS until just before you turn 75. Your pension must be paid at age 75 even if you continue to work.
- If your pension is paid after your normal pension age it will be increased to reflect the fact that it is being paid later than it could have been.
- If you have separate LGPS pensions, they may not all be due at the same time.
- Your pension can normally only be paid once you have left your job. You may be able to claim your pension and carry on working by taking flexible retirement – there is a separate guide about flexible retirement.

Retiring between age 55 and normal pension age

- You may choose to receive your pension between 55 and your normal pension age.
- If you left work or opted out of the LGPS before 1 April 2014, you will need your employer's consent if you want to retire before 60.
- Your pension may be reduced if you choose to take it before your normal pension age.
- You do not have to take your pension when you voluntarily leave work – you can take your pension later, but it must be paid by age 75.

Could my pension be reduced?

Your pension is likely to be reduced if you choose to receive it before your normal pension age. The reduction will depend on how early you retire.

No. years early	Pension reduction		Lump sum reduction
	Men	Women	
1	5.6%	5.2%	2.9%
2	10.8%	10.1%	5.7%
3	15.5%	14.6%	8.5%
4	20.0%	18.8%	11.2%
5	24.0%	22.7%	13.7%
6	27.8%	26.4%	16.3%
7	31.4%	29.8%	18.7%
8	34.7%	33.0%	21.1%
9	37.7%	36.1%	23.4%
10	40.6%	38.9%	25.6%
11	44.2%	42.2%	N/A
12	47.6%	45.5%	N/A
13	50.9%	48.6%	N/A

Please note that these percentages are subject to change in the future

Your employer may waive the reductions; on compassionate grounds, for instance if you leave work to care for a relative. They can only do this in line with their policy.

Your pension will not be reduced for early payment if you are:

- made redundant from age 55
- dismissed on efficiency grounds from age 55
- granted ill health retirement

Some pensions are protected from reductions.

Protected pensions

The LGPS has changed in the past. One change is that the age from which members can receive their full pensions has increased. Some of your pension may be protected if you paid into the LGPS when any of the changes happened.

LGPS 2014 protections

Any pension you have earned up to 31 March 2014 will not be reduced if you retire from age 65, even if your normal pension age in the LGPS 2014 is later.

If you were born before 1 April 1957 and were paying into the LGPS on 1 April 2012, your pension may be protected from reductions. Please see our website to find out more.

If you were in the LGPS on 30 September 2006

If you paid into the LGPS on 30 September 2006, your pension may be protected under the 85 year rule. If you stop paying into the LGPS after 31 March 2014, these protections will only apply if your pension is paid after age 60.

If you left the LGPS before October 2006

Other protections may apply to your pension if you left or opted out before 1 October 2006; please see our website to find out more.

What do I need to do?

- Please contact us for an estimate request form if you would like to see how much your pension will be.
 - You will need to give notice to your employer if you decide to retire.
 - Your employer will inform us of your retirement. They will also give you a retirement declaration form to fill in and send to us at Pensions Services.
 - Once we have everything we need, we will take around three weeks to pay your pension. We cannot pay your pension before you retire, and may take longer if you paid AVCs, asked for an estimate or if any information is missing.
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Complaints

Please contact Pensions Services or your employer if you have any problems with your LGPS pension. You may make a formal complaint and also have a right to use the internal disputes resolution procedure.

More retirement factsheets

- Your deferred pension
- Flexible retirement
- Redundancy & efficiency
- Ill health

Any questions?

Website: www.hants.gov.uk/pensions

Email: pensions@hants.gov.uk

Phone number: 01962 845588

Address: Pensions Services, 3rd Floor Ell Court East, The Castle,
Winchester; SO23 8UB

Please let us know if you would like this factsheet in another format.

This factsheet gives an outline of LGPS retirement benefits; it cannot override LGPS regulations. LGPS benefits will only be paid in accordance with the relevant regulations.
