

## WHAT HAPPENS IF I AM MADE REDUNDANT AND AM OVER 55?

If you are made redundant and have more than two years membership in the LGPS, or have transferred in previous pension rights, your pension benefits will be paid unreduced to you straight away.

The benefits that would be payable to you will be based on your membership up to the date you leave employment. The term 'unreduced' does not mean the benefits you would have received had you contributed to the Local Government Pension Scheme until your Normal Pension Age (NPA), it just means that there will be no reduction applied for early payment.

### How to get a quotation of potential pension benefits

The easiest and most straight forward way to get an estimate of your pension benefits is through 'My Pension'; Dorset County Pension Fund (DCPF)'s online Member Self Serve portal. You can process a redundancy quotation and see projected figures instantly, without having to wait for your employer to request a formal quotation on your behalf. Please note that My Pension uses financial information provided from your employer up until the end of the previous financial year. Therefore the figures are subject to change. You can find information on how to register for My Pension below.

Alternatively, following a request from your employer, you will be able to complete a signed consent form which will allow DCPF to release projected calculations to you, via your employer, your home address, or your my Pension account. As an employee, you cannot request DCPF calculate a redundancy quote - this request **must** come from your employer.

**Please note that estimated projections of your pension benefits cannot be relied upon, and are subject to change when final calculations are made.**

### If you have paid additional contributions

Any additional pension paid for by Additional Pension Contributions (APCs) or Additional Regular Contributions (ARCs) will be reduced to take account of the additional pension being paid for longer.

### Your redundancy payment

DCPF does not calculate any redundancy payment that may be due to you. You should contact your employer with any questions you have regarding this.

### How to register for Member Self Serve - My Pension online account

1. Go to <https://mypension.dorsetcouncil.gov.uk/>
2. Click 'Register to view your pensions ' at the centre of the homepage
3. Agree to the terms and conditions and essential cookies
4. Enter your Surname, NI number, Date of Birth and Email Address and method of contact
5. Create your Security Answer and Password
6. You will now be sent a one time passcode to your registered email address
7. Enter the one time passcode in the screen that appears
8. Then you are registered and ready to log in

# FREQUENTLY ASKED QUESTIONS

## **When can I expect to receive payment of my pension / lump sum?**

The Dorset County Pension Fund (DCPF) can only make payment of your pension / lump sum upon receipt of all fully completed documents we require. This includes all documents which are included within your pre-retirement pack, **and** a completed document from your employer which contains vital information surrounding your pay and service details. No exception will be made if these documents are not received from either party. If you pay into an AVC fund, additional calculations and documents will also be required which could affect timescales. Please note your employer will be unable to provide the necessary information regarding pay and service until the payroll for your month of leaving has closed. This may result in a delay in providing your pension and lump sum. Your lump sum will be made via BACs payment, and as such will be processed and paid shortly after all required documents are received. Your annual pension will be paid monthly, on the last working day of each month. Please note that your first pension payment may be affected by your leaving date due to payroll processes, and is not guaranteed to be the same month that you retire.

## **What if I am re-employed within Local Government?**

If you are in receipt of your LGPS pension and take up work in a new Local Government position, your pension will not usually be affected. However, if you have retired previously on ill health grounds, it's possible that a reduction would need to be made to your pension, to take account of the additional earnings you would be in receipt of. If this applies to you, please contact DCPF as well as any other previous LGPS funds you may have been a part of, and you will be provided with further information.

## **Once in receipt of my pension, do I need to keep DCPF informed of future changes to my circumstances?**

If you are to move address or change your marital status as a pensioner, it is very important that you let DCPF know at your earliest convenience. If you were to move address and not inform DCPF then your pension may be suspended. Holding an incorrect marital status may affect benefits payable should you pass away. It is also important to make sure you have nominated a beneficiary in the event of your death, as there may be a death grant payable if you should pass away within ten years of claiming your pension. You can obtain an Expression of Wish form by contacting DCPF, or you can amend this yourself via My Pension - DCPF's Member Self Serve facility.

## **Will I be affected by the proposed Public Sector Exit Payment Cap?**

The Government are proposing to introduce an Exit Payment Cap which will apply to all public sector employers to limit the exit payments that are associated with certain retirements.

The proposed exit payment cap is £95,000 and redundancy payments (including statutory redundancy payments) severance payments, pension strain costs – which arise when a Local Government Pension Scheme (LGPS) pension is paid unreduced before a member's normal pension age – and other payments made as a consequence of termination of employment are included in the cap. Other payments such as pay in lieu of holiday is not included.

The impact of the regulations on a LGPS member if the cap is exceeded is currently unclear. It is understood that the policy intent is for the member's pension benefits to be reduced to the extent that the exit payment cap is not breached, with the member having the option of paying extra to buy-out some or all of the reduction. However, this is not yet confirmed. Amendments to LGPS regulations would be required to facilitate this change, plus guidance from the Government Actuaries Department on calculating the pension reduction and operating the buy-out process. More detail can be found at [www.gov.uk](http://www.gov.uk) or by following the link below. Further information will be made available when details become clear.

<https://www.gov.uk/government/consultations/restricting-exit-payments-in-the-public-sector>

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