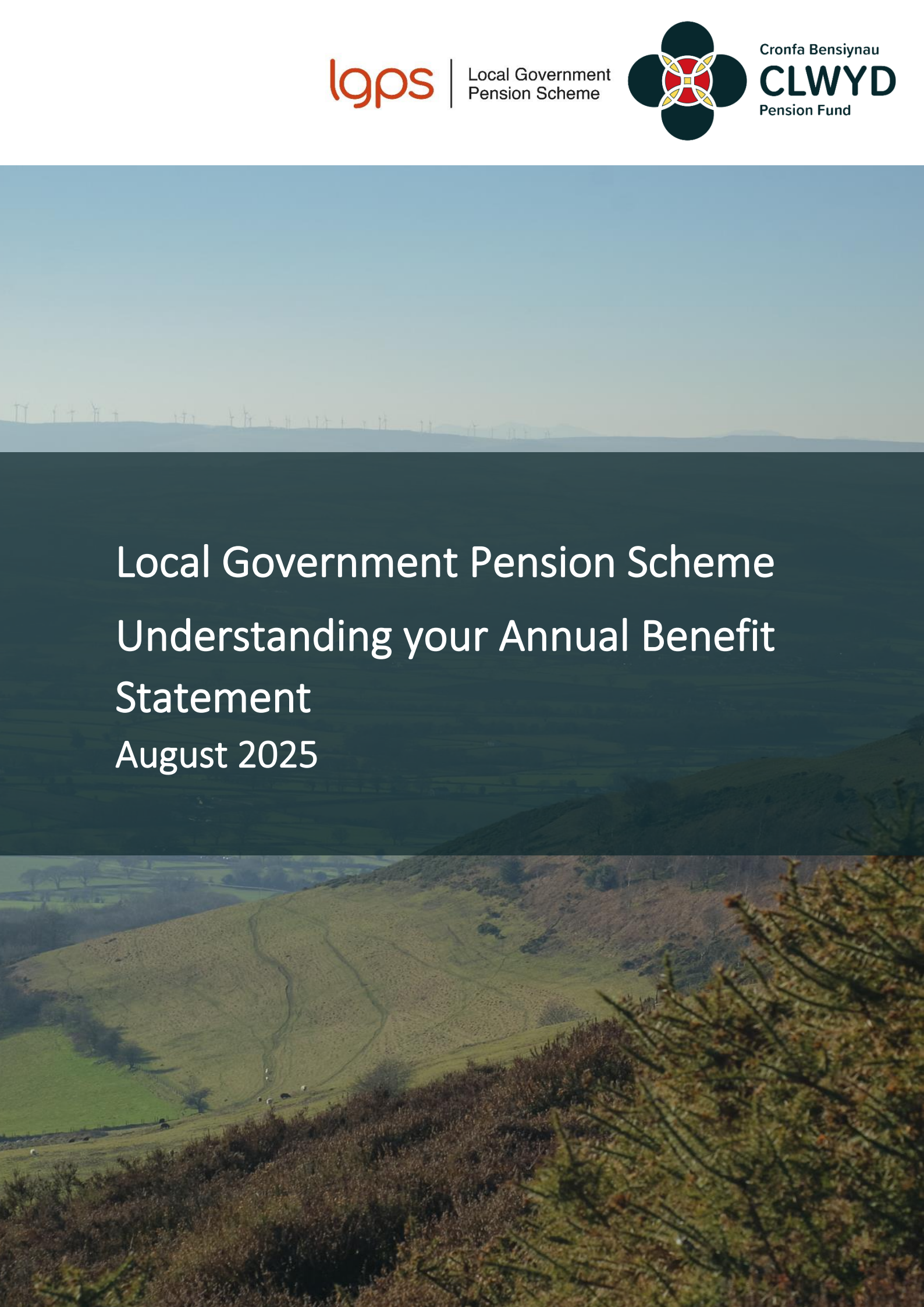


The background of the slide is a scenic landscape. The top half shows a clear blue sky above a distant horizon line where several wind turbines are visible. The bottom half shows rolling green hills with a dirt path, some trees, and a few cows in the distance. In the foreground, there are some dark, out-of-focus branches of a tree.

Local Government Pension Scheme

Understanding your Annual Benefit Statement

August 2025

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Why have I received an Annual Benefit Statement?

You have received a statement because you are paying pension contributions from your salary into the Local Government Pension Scheme (LGPS). By paying these contributions, you are building up pension benefits in the LGPS. The Clwyd Pension Fund is your pensions administrator and is responsible for looking after your pension record(s). Your Annual Benefit Statement allows you to keep up to date with your pension benefits.

If you pay LGPS contributions for more than one job, you will receive a separate statement for each job.

Point to note

The UK Government has announced that the earliest age you can take your pension will increase from age 55 to 57 with effect from 6th April 2028. This does not apply if you have to take your pension early due to ill health.

You could be protected from this increase if you joined the LGPS in England and Wales before 4th November 2021. You could also be protected if you transferred a previous pension into the LGPS if certain conditions are met. However, you will only be able to use this protection when you take your LGPS pension, if the LGPS rules allow you to take your pension before age 57.

The UK Government makes the LGPS rules. It has not yet confirmed if it will allow members who qualify for protection to take their LGPS pension before age 57, from 6th April 2028.

Stay safe from pension scams

Pension scams are tricks that can steal all the money you saved for retirement. Be careful if someone calls, emails, or offers you something that sounds too good to be true. Always check that any financial adviser or pension provider is registered with the Financial Conduct Authority (FCA). For more tips on protecting your pension, please visit

<https://www.fca.org.uk/scamsmart> and also download the scam awareness leaflet from Pension Scams Action Group [here](#). If you would like a paper copy of the leaflet, please get in touch and we can send you a copy.

Reviewing your Annual Benefit Statement

Personal Details

Please read this section of your statement carefully. This section contains your name, date of birth and marital status. It is important that you check all details are correct, as any errors will affect the pension figures shown on your statement. For example, if your date of birth is incorrect, your normal retirement age will be wrong. If your marital status is incorrect, the value of your surviving partner's pension may be wrong. It is important that we have accurate information to make sure that you receive the full benefits that are due to you

when you retire. If any of the details we hold for you are incorrect, please get in touch to let us know and we can update them for you. We will need to see proof for certain changes, such as a relevant certificate for a change of name or date of birth.

You should check that the following pieces of information that we hold for you are correct:

- Home address
- Current surname
- Date of birth
- Marital status

Employment Details

The table below explains the information held in the employment details section. These details have been given to us by your employer and have been used to work out your pension benefits shown on your statement. The information on your statement is based on your circumstances at 31st March 2025. If you think any of the information is wrong, please contact your employer directly.

Heading on Annual Benefit Statement	Members who are currently paying LGPS contributions
Your reference number	Your reference number is usually the payroll number which has been given to you by your employer for this job.
Date joined fund	The date you started paying pension contributions into the LGPS for this job.
Employer	Who your employer was at 31st March 2025.
Scheme section	The LGPS has a main section and a 50:50 section. In the main section you pay full rate pension contributions and build up pension at full rate (49ths). In the 50:50 section you pay half rate pension contributions and build up pension at half rate (98ths). This part of your statement shows you what section of the scheme you are in at 31st March 2025.
Final salary pay	The pay shown in this section is only relevant for members who were paying pension contributions before 1st April 2014. Page 6 of these notes shows how final salary in the LGPS works. If you have built up some final salary pension benefits before the LGPS changed in April 2014, the final salary pay has been used to work out some of the pension figures on your statement. If you have ever worked part-time or term-time, we always use your full-time equivalent pay to work out your pension benefits.
CARE pay in main section	This section shows you the gross salary you have earned from 1st April 2024 to 31st March 2025 and had full contributions taken from it. If you have not paid full contributions, this box will be blank. If you changed from main section to 50:50 section mid-way through the year, you will have a salary figure in this section and in the CARE pay 50:50 section too.

Heading on Annual Benefit Statement	Members who are currently paying LGPS contributions
CARE pay in 50:50 section	This section shows you the gross salary you have earned from 1st April 2024 to 31st March 2025 and had half contributions taken from it. If you have not paid half contributions, this box will be blank. If you changed from 50:50 section to main section mid-way through the year, you will have a salary figure in this section and in the CARE pay main section too.

Your Membership as at 31st March 2014

There will only be information in this section of your statement if you started paying LGPS contributions before 1st April 2014. If you paid contributions before then, this means you have built up some final salary pension benefits. We use your membership at 31st March 2014 as part of the final salary pension calculation. We can work out your membership because your employer tells us what hours you have worked in your job with them and what breaks you have had from work, for example strike breaks or child related absence. If you think any of the information is wrong, please get in touch with your employer directly.

The chart on [page 6](#) of these notes explains how this membership is used in the final salary schemes.

Summary of Benefits and Projection to Normal Retirement Age

For you to understand the pension figures on your statement, it's important to first understand how LGPS works.

How your pension is worked out

The LGPS is a defined benefit pension scheme. This means that the value of your pension is not based on the pension contributions you pay. Instead, we work out your pension based on:

- How long you pay contributions for;
- Your pensionable salary during your job;
- The hours you've worked, for pension you built up before 1st April 2014 only; and
- Any absences you have.

Depending on when you joined LGPS, your pension may be made up of 1, 2 or 3 parts because of changing LGPS rules over time. To understand what your pension is made up of, please read across the chart shown on the next page.

Paying LGPS contributions up to and including 31st March 2008	Accrual rate of 80ths (also known as a build-up rate)	Your annual pension is worked out using the following sum: Years and days membership in scheme $\div$ 80 x salary you have paid contributions on (Salary pro-rated to full-time if you worked part-time or term-time)	Your automatic lump sum is usually tax free and is worked out using this sum: Three x your annual pension value in this 80ths scheme You also have the option to have a bigger lump sum at retirement by turning some of your annual pension into lump sum	Normal retirement age between 60 and 65 (depends on case-by-case basis)
Paying LGPS contributions between 1st April 2008 and 31st March 2014	Accrual rate of 60ths (also known as a build-up rate)	Your annual pension is worked out using the following sum: Years and days membership in scheme $\div$ 60 x salary you have paid contributions on (Salary pro-rated to full-time if you worked part-time or term-time)	There is no automatic lump sum. There is an option to create one at retirement by turning some of your annual pension into lump sum. This is usually tax-free.	Normal retirement age of 65
Paying LGPS contributions since 1st April 2014	Accrual rate of 49ths if you pay full contributions (also known as a build-up rate) Accrual rate of 98ths if you pay half contributions (also known as a build-up rate)	Using 1st April to 31st March as a pension scheme year, an example of how your annual pension is worked out is shown below: Scheme year 1: gross actual salary you have paid contributions on $\div$ 49* Scheme year 2: gross actual salary you have paid contributions on $\div$ 49* Scheme Year 3: gross actual salary you have paid contributions on $\div$ 49* When you stop paying pension contributions, all of the scheme years are added together to confirm how much pension you have built up in total *If you pay half contributions, your gross actual salary that you have paid contributions on will be divided by 98 instead	There is no automatic lump sum. There is an option to create one at retirement by turning some of your annual pension into lump sum. This is usually tax-free.	Normal retirement age is your State Pension age (or age 65), whichever is later

Summary of benefits built up to 31st March 2025

The figures in this section do not take into account early retirement reductions. Instead, the figures show how much your pension benefits are worth if you had stopped paying LGPS contributions on 31st March 2025, but then wait to take your pension until your normal retirement age.

Projection to normal retirement age

The figures in this section show what your future pension value could be if you continue to pay LGPS contributions and your job does not change from now until your normal retirement age. The estimate is based on:

- You staying in the same job
- You earning the same salary
- You working the same hours

If you have already passed your normal retirement age, this section will show as £0.00. If you would like a pension estimate for any retirement age up to 75, please get in touch. Our contact details can be found at the end these guidance notes.

Lump sum allowance

When you retire, you will also be able to turn some of your annual pension into a lump sum if you wish.

The lump sum will be paid tax-free to most members, but there is a limit on how much tax-free cash you can take from UK pension schemes. HM Revenue & Customs limits the amount of tax-free lump sum you can take when your pension is paid to you. This limit is called a lump sum allowance (LSA). Currently, the maximum lump sum is the lowest of:

- 25% of the capital value of your benefits
- £268,275*
- £268,275* less the total lump sums you have already taken

*If you hold a valid Lifetime Allowance protection, you may be able to take a lump sum that is larger than £268,275.

The lump sum will usually be tax-free, but if you go over the lump sum allowance, you will have to pay tax on the excess at your marginal rate.

Additional contributions

If you have paid extra pension contributions for added years, additional pension contributions (APCs) or additional regular contributions (ARCs), they have been included in your statement.

If you have paid additional voluntary contributions (AVCs) with the Clwyd Pension Fund, they have not been included. You will receive a separate statement from the AVC provider. Your AVC will be held with either the Prudential or Utmost Life.

Transfers in

If you have transferred in previous pensions to your LGPS benefits with the Clwyd Pension Fund, this will also be included in the figures on your statement so long as the transfer was completed by 31st March 2025. If your transfer in was completed after this date, the figures will be included in next year's statement.

Pension debits

You may have a debit on your pension because:

- A pension sharing order has been applied due to divorce or dissolution of a civil partnership, so you have given a share of your pension to your ex-partner
- You have received an annual allowance tax charge because your pension has significantly grown year on year and you have gone over HM Revenue & Customs limits. If you have chosen for us to pay the tax bill through scheme pays on your behalf, you will have a pension debit with us. This tax payment is then taken off the value of your LGPS benefits.

Please read the explanations in the table below. They will help you understand the figures in the "Summary of Benefits built up to 31st March 2025" and "Projection to Normal Retirement Age" sections of your statement.

Heading on Annual Benefit Statement	Summary of Benefits built up to 31st March 2025	Projection to Normal Retirement Age
Payable from (normal retirement age):	These sections show you the date and age when you will reach your normal retirement age in the LGPS. This will be either your State Pension age or age 65 (whichever is later). It's important that you check that we have the correct date of birth for you on the personal details section of your statement, as this will affect the normal retirement age shown on your statement.	
Normal retirement date:		
Normal retirement age (years/days):		
Annual pension:	This shows the value of your annual pension based on your membership from your start date of paying pension contributions to 31st March 2025. It takes into account 80ths final salary, 60ths final salary and the career average pension scheme as explained earlier. The figure in this section does not take into account any early retirement reductions. For the first time this year, we are showing you how the McCloud remedy affects your annual pension value. If you qualify for the McCloud remedy, your estimated final guaranteed amount (FGA) is included in the annual pension figure in this section of your statement. Your covering letter, which is included with your statement, explains if you qualify or not for the McCloud remedy. Some members may receive a letter to confirm that we are currently working out if you qualify for McCloud.	This shows the possible value of your annual pension based on your estimated membership from your start date of paying pension contributions to your normal retirement age. It takes into account 80ths final salary, 60ths final salary and the career average pension scheme as explained earlier. For the first time this year, we are showing you how the McCloud remedy affects your annual pension value. If you qualify for the McCloud remedy, your estimated final guaranteed amount (FGA) is included in the annual pension figure in this section of your statement. Your covering letter, which is included with your statement, explains if you qualify or not for the McCloud remedy. Some members may receive a letter to confirm that we are currently working out if you qualify for McCloud.

Heading on Annual Benefit Statement	Summary of Benefits built up to 31st March 2025	Projection to Normal Retirement Age
Final guaranteed amount (FGA):	A final guaranteed amount is an extra amount of pension due to you at retirement if: • you qualify for the McCloud remedy, and • your pension would be higher if we calculate it under the old final salary scheme (only for pension built up between 1st April 2014 and 31st March 2022) If you do qualify for the McCloud remedy, you will see an FGA section on your statement. This final guaranteed amount is not an extra amount of annual pension. It is just a breakdown of what is already included in the annual pension section of your statement. The Clwyd Pension Fund will work out your FGA when you take your pension. The final amount depends on a number of factors, including your age when you retire. The FGA may be higher, lower or may not apply when you retire. If you don't qualify or we are currently working out if you qualify, you will not see this FGA section on your 2025 pension statement.	
Annual pension less pension debit:	Most members will not see this section on their Annual Benefit Statement. Types of debits are explained earlier in this guide. If you are a pension debit member, the value of the annual pension in this section will be the amount left after the debit has been taken off your annual pension value.	Most members will not see this section on their Annual Benefit Statement. Types of debits are explained earlier in this guide. If you are a pension debit member, the value in this section will be the annual pension you could build up from your start date of paying pension contributions to your normal retirement age, but after the debit has been taken off your annual pension value.

Heading on Annual Benefit Statement	Summary of Benefits built up to 31st March 2025	Projection to Normal Retirement Age
Automatic lump sum (if in scheme before 1st April 2008):	This shows the value of your automatic lump sum at 31st March 2025. The automatic lump sum is based on final salary 80ths membership only. The figure in this section does not take into account any early retirement reductions. Lump sums are usually tax free.	This shows the possible value of your automatic lump sum if you were to take it at your normal retirement age. The automatic lump sum is based on final salary 80ths membership only. Lump sums are usually tax free.
Automatic lump sum less pension debit:	Most members will not see this section on their Annual Benefit Statement. Types of debts are explained earlier in this guide. If you are a pension debit member, the value of the automatic lump sum in this section will be the amount left after the debit has been taken off your lump sum value.	
Annual surviving partner's pension:	This shows what the surviving partner's pension value is so far at 31st March 2025. Surviving partner's pensions are payable to a husband, wife, civil partner or eligible cohabiting partner.	This section shows what the surviving partner's pension value could be if: • You continue to pay LGPS contributions from now until your normal retirement age, and • If you were to die at your normal retirement age while still working for your employer Surviving partner's pensions are payable to a husband, wife, civil partner or eligible cohabiting partner.
Annual pension after maximum conversion: & Total lump sum after maximum conversion:	When you retire, you will need to decide if you want to turn some of your annual pension into a one-off lump sum. For every £1 of annual pension you choose to give up, you will get a lump sum of £12. The lump sum will usually be tax-free. The figures in this section show you the smallest amount of annual pension and the largest amount of lump sum you could have if: • You decide to turn annual pension into a lump sum, and • You stopped paying LGPS contributions on 31st March 2025, and • You wait to take your pension benefits until normal retirement age	When you retire, you will need to decide if you want to turn some of your annual pension into a one-off lump sum. For every £1 of annual pension you choose to give up, you will get a lump sum of £12. The lump sum will usually be tax-free. The figures in this section show you the smallest amount of annual pension and the largest amount of lump sum you could have if: • You decide to turn annual pension into a lump sum, and • You don't stop paying LGPS contributions until your normal retirement age

Annual allowance

Your annual allowance is the amount the value of your pension benefits can grow in a tax year without you having to pay a tax charge. If the value of your pension savings from 6th April to 5th April is more than your annual allowance, the excess will be taxed as income. This annual allowance check includes pension savings outside of the LGPS. Most members are not affected by annual allowance.

The current standard annual allowance limit is £60,000. The information on your 2025 statement is based on how much you have used of the £60,000 annual allowance limit during the 2024/2025 tax year.

If you have more than one job and you are paying LGPS contributions into the Clwyd Pension Fund for those jobs, the annual allowance on your statements will be a running total of your annual allowance across all jobs.

If the amount in this section of your statement is under £60,000, then you will not have a tax charge on your LGPS pension for the 2024/2025 tax year.

If the amount in this section is close to or over £60,000, then you will receive a Pensions Saving Statement (PSS) from us in October 2025. The PSS will show you information only about your annual allowance and will explain what to do next if you do have a tax charge to pay.

If you think you may be affected and want more in-depth information, you can read our **Pensions Taxation: Annual Allowance** factsheet available on the **forms and resources** section of our website.

Death in service benefits

As a member of the LGPS, when you die, there are possible payments due: a death grant lump sum and a surviving partner's pension. The table below explains the figures on your Annual Benefit Statement.

Death in service lump sum	The figure shown on your statement is based on what the death grant would have been if you had died in service on 31st March 2025. It uses three x the CARE pay figure which is shown on the employment details section of your Annual Benefit Statement. This is because the death grant value is three x your assumed pensionable pay.
Annual surviving partner's pension	This section states how much the surviving partner's pension would have been if you had died (while still employed) on 31st March 2025. Surviving partner's pensions are payable to a husband, wife, civil partner or eligible cohabiting partner.

Any death grant must take into account if you have any other pensions in other LGPS Funds. We will check with the other LGPS Funds in England and Wales to see if you have:

- Any deferred pension accounts with them: that is, you were no longer paying LGPS contributions but not receiving pension payments yet
- Any pensioner accounts with them: that is, you were receiving pension payments from LGPS

The grant payable will then be the **higher** of:

- The death in service amount of three times your assumed pensionable salary plus the value of any AVCs; or
- The total death benefits from your deferred or pensioner accounts in this or other LGPS funds

Death grant expression of wish details

Your death grant beneficiaries can be one or more family members, friends, or charities. Without a valid expression of wish form, the death grant will be paid to your personal representative, for example, your Estate.

This section of your statement shows who you have currently nominated to receive any death grant payable and the percentage you have said should be paid to each of them. If this section is blank, or the names of your beneficiaries are no longer up to date, it is important that you update your expression of wish. You can do this by logging into your **Member Self Service (MSS)** account and clicking on the **Death Grant Nomination(s)** section, or by completing an expression of wish form which can be found under the **forms and resources** section of our website. If you need a paper copy, please contact us.

How do I contact the Clwyd Pension Fund?

If you have any questions, please get in touch using one of the below options, stating your name and National Insurance number. This will help us find your pension record and answer your query.

Tel: 01352 702880 / 01352 702940 / 01352 702950
Email: pensions@flintshire.gov.uk
Address: Clwyd Pension Fund, Tŷ Dewi Sant, St. Davids Park, Ewloe, Flintshire, CH5 3FF
Website: clwydpensionfund.org.uk



clwydpensionfund.org.uk

Clwyd Pension Fund, Tŷ Dewi Sant, St. Davids Park, Ewloe, Flintshire, CH5 3FF

Please note that Flintshire County Council is the administrative authority of the Clwyd Pension Fund and we use your personal data in accordance with Data Protection legislation to provide you with a pension administration service. For more information about how we use your data, who we share it with and what rights you have in relation to your data, please visit the Privacy Notice on our website.