

In Touch

2016



The newsletter of the Strathclyde Pension Fund

FOR YOUR FUTURE



IN THIS ISSUE: 02 – For your future 02 – Keeping in Touch 03 – Freedom and choice 03 – Beware of fraudsters 03 – The new state pension 04 – Rejoining 04 – Your data 05 – Are you protecting your loved ones? 06 – Membership 06 – Funding position 07 – Investments 08 – Fund accounts 08 – Contacting us

FOR YOUR FUTURE

Your deferred benefits can usually be paid from your 60th birthday onwards.

Our current process is to write to our deferred members as they approach 60 to arrange payment of their benefits.

You'll be able to take tax-free cash at retirement.

You will also receive an index-linked pension for life that usually continues to spouses and eligible cohabiting partners after your death.



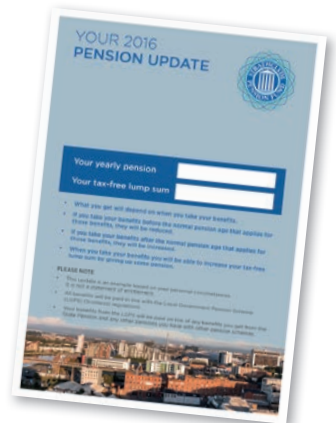
Keeping pace with inflation



There was no April 2016 inflation increase to your deferred benefits, as the September 2015 Consumer Prices Index (CPI) figure was -0.1%.

Despite deflation, your benefits earned up to 31 March 2015 were not reduced, as they are protected if inflation is negative.

Your pension update shows your yearly pension when you became a deferred member.



KEEPING IN TOUCH

The next time you are in contact with an ex-colleague from local government, why not ask them if they have received anything from us lately?

We have lost touch with thousands of members due to them changing address over the years since they worked for a local government employer.

By putting them back in touch with us, you might well be giving their future a boost.

FREEDOM AND CHOICE

Reforms offering greater flexibility in the way that individuals aged 55 and over can access their defined contribution (DC) pensions became effective on 6 April 2015.

The reforms do not mean that Local Government Pension Scheme (LGPS) members can release funds directly from the LGPS.

Before retiring, members do have the right to transfer their pension rights out of the LGPS to a DC arrangement offering 'flexible benefits'.

If you are contacted by a legitimate pensions company about taking more of your benefits as a lump sum, don't give up your benefits lightly.

A transfer out of the LGPS is a major financial decision requiring careful consideration and can only be done after taking advice.

We suggest that any members contemplating this course of action first read our **Freedom and Choice Q&A for LGPS members** from the FAQs area on the homepage of our website.



BEWARE OF FRAUDSTERS

Don't let your benefits become prey to fraudsters.

Fraudsters are singling out people like you and claiming that they can:

- help you cash in your pension early
- provide you with a pensions review

What they don't say is that you could face a significant tax bill.

If you are cold-called or text messaged with a deal to unlock or review your pension, don't touch it.

For more information about the dangers of pension scams visit: <http://www.thepensionsregulator.gov.uk/individuals/dangers-of-pension-scams.aspx>

Scammed out of his retirement.
Don't be next.



Visit www.pension-scams.com

4p Pensionwise
It's always the best choice

ActionFraud

The PENSIONS
Advisory Service



Department
for Work &
Pensions

THE NEW STATE PENSION

The new state pension started on 6 April 2016.

It replaces the basic state pension and its earnings related additions. For each year that you were a member of the LGPS, a deduction will be made from the new state pension as the LGPS is providing you with more pension.

As the new state pension is more than the basic state pension, these deductions are not designed to leave you worse off at state pension age if you have a 30 year NI record.

The DWP has prepared a leaflet about this: <https://www.gov.uk/government/publications/new-state-pension-if-youve-been-contracted-out-of-additional-state-pension>

REJOINING

If you have the option to join the LGPS again, we suggest that you consider getting back in to build up further benefits for your future right away.

Rejoining could also enable your deferred benefits to be linked to the final pay in your new job.

It is important that you contact us and the fund that you become an active member of if you rejoin the LGPS.

There are LGPS rules that we have to apply to your deferred benefits if you do not provide us with any instructions and applying these rules may not be to your advantage.



50
50

You may like to consider the 50/50 option.

It offers half pension for half contributions with full death and ill-health protection for your loved ones.

LGPS NATIONAL INSURANCE DATABASE

We are participating in a data sharing project with all other LGPS Funds in the UK.

We are doing this as we need to see if our members have LGPS benefits with another LGPS Fund in order for us to pay death in service benefits.

This also allows us to participate in the Tell Us Once DWP initiative.

You cannot opt out of us sharing your data, as it is being undertaken to comply with a legal

requirement.

The data being shared is NI number, membership status, the last calendar year that membership status changed and the LGPS fund. More information about the database and its security, retention and location is available from our website's privacy policy.

NATIONAL FRAUD INITIATIVE (NFI)

We also share your data with other public bodies, as we have a statutory obligation to participate in the NFI.

NFI in Scotland is a counter-fraud exercise

led by Audit Scotland and overseen by the Cabinet Office for the UK as a whole. It uses computerised techniques to compare information about individuals held by different public bodies, and on different financial systems that might suggest the existence of fraud or error.

A fair processing notice that provides further information on data matching is on Glasgow City Council's website at: <https://www.glasgow.gov.uk/index.aspx?articleid=17133>

Are you protecting your loved ones?

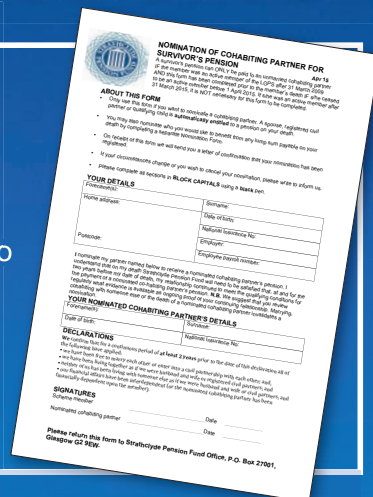
Nominated Cohabiting Partner

If you ceased to be an active (employee) member before 1 April 2009, we do not pay a cohabiting partner's pension.

If you were an active member between 1 April 2009 and 31 March 2015 and are living with someone that you are not married to, we only pay a cohabiting partner's pension if you have filled in a nomination of cohabiting partner for

survivors pension form.

If you were an active member after 31 March 2015, there is no need to nominate a cohabiting partner. We will automatically pay an eligible partner's pension.



AUTOMATIC SPOUSE'S / CHILDREN'S PENSIONS

There is no need to nominate your husband, wife, civil partner or dependent children for a pension payable on your death, but you should make a nomination for the lump sum.

Our **Guide to the LGPS** is available from our website. It details what is payable if you die before receiving your deferred benefits.

LUMP SUM PAID ON DEATH

Your current nomination is shown on your 2016 pension update.

If you left service before 1 April 2009, die before becoming a pensioner and are not an active member on your death, we pay out 3 times your deferred pension.

If you left service after 31 March 2009, die before becoming a pensioner and are not an active member on your death, we pay out 5 times the annual pension you have built up.

If you are back in active membership of the LGPS in Scotland at the date of your death, the death grant payable would be the greater of the amount shown on your 2016 pension update or 3 times your pensionable pay in your new job.

The LGPS regulations do not specify who a lump sum is paid to on death.

By completing a nomination form you can help us to make quick and accurate payment of the lump sum paid on your death.



Our nomination and nomination of cohabiting partner forms are available from the **Publications > Members > Forms** area of our website.



OUR MEMBERSHIP

Total Members



Employee Members



Deferred Members

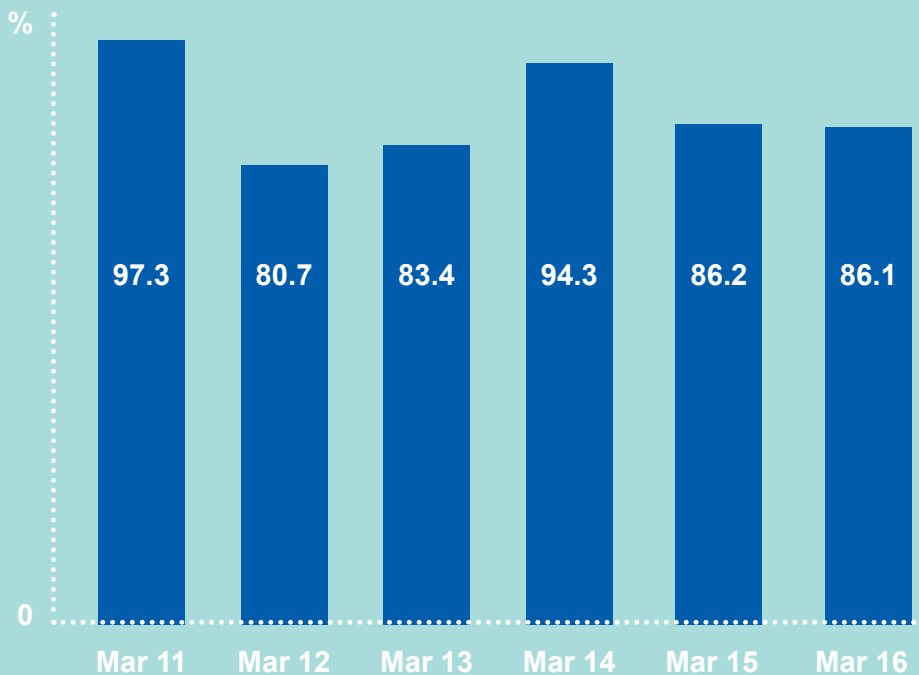


Pensioners



FUNDING POSITION

Our 2014 valuation report is available from the [Publications > Reports > Actuarial Valuation Reports](#) area of our website..



You can find Quarterly Committee meeting stories in the **News** area of our website.

Responsible Investment

Our quarterly responsible investment reports are available from the **Investments > Responsible investment > Voting** area of our website.



A Global Approach to Equities

We invest in over 1,600 companies around the world.

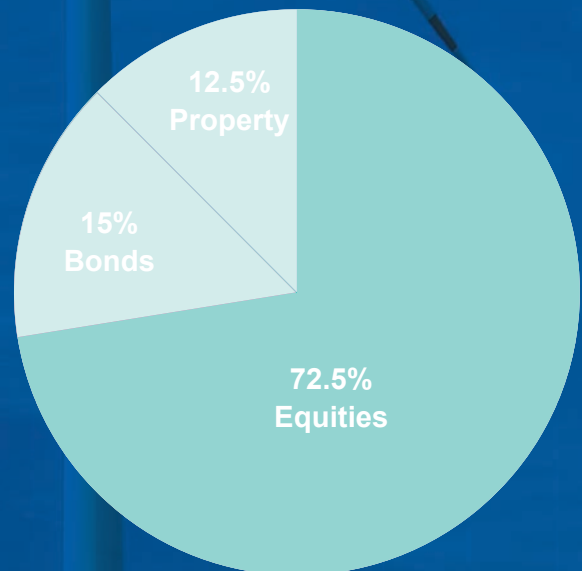
ANNUAL MEETING 2016

A full set of the slides used at the meeting on June 21 is available in the News area of our website.

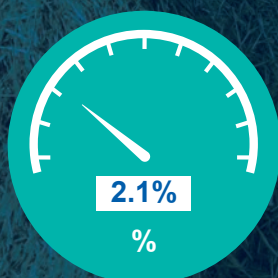
Investments

Comprehensive information about our investments can be found in the **Investments** area of our website.

Investment Strategy



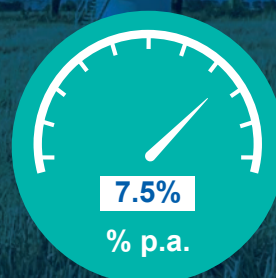
Investment Returns to 31 March 2016



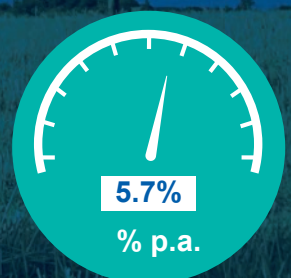
1 YEAR



3 YEARS



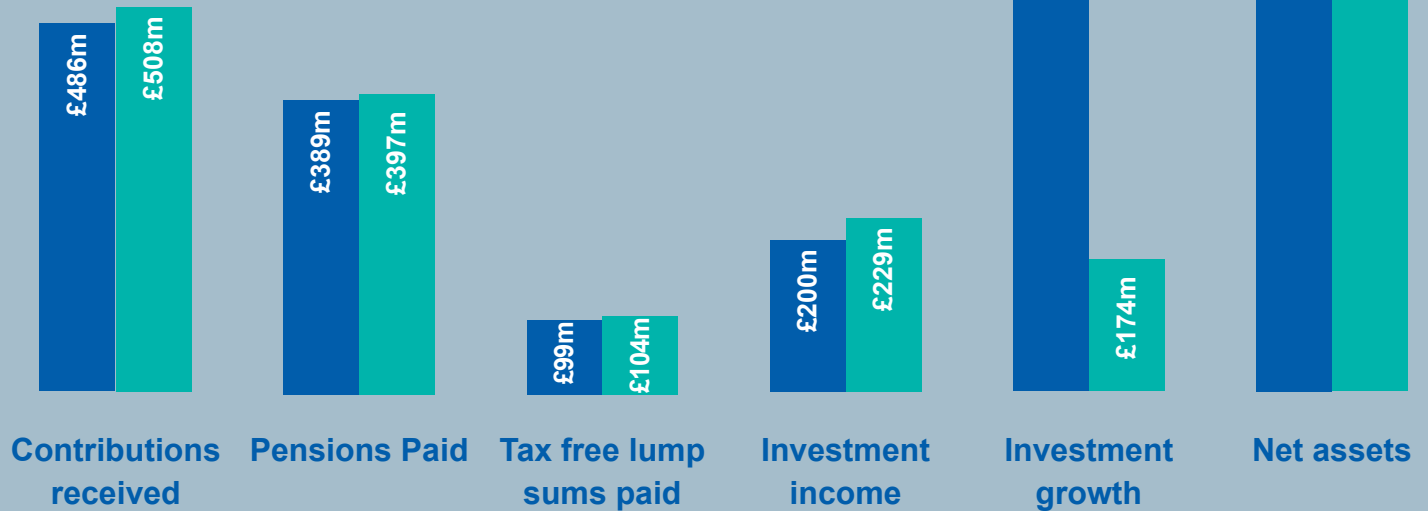
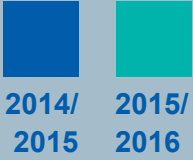
5 YEARS



10 YEARS

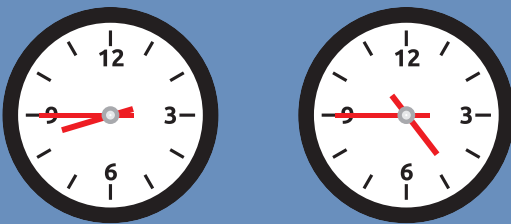
FUND ACCOUNTS

Our annual report provides detailed financial information about our scheme year 2015 / 2016 and is available from the **Publications > Reports > Annual Reports** area of our website.



CONTACTING US

Our normal office hours are weekdays (ex holidays) 08:45 to 16:45 (15:55 on Fridays).



Web: www.spfo.org.uk



Email: spfo@glasgow.gov.uk



Tel: 0345 890 8999



Write to:
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P.O. Box 27001,
Glasgow G2 9EW