

## WEST MIDLANDS



## PENSION FUND

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Director of Pensions

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Our Reference: **The Reliable Source**

Your Reference:

Contact: **Helpdesk**

Telephone: **0300 111 1665**

Dear Member

As you'll be aware from previous Fund publications, the new Local Government Pension Scheme (LGPS) Regulations came into effect from 1 April 2008. However, the scope of change that these regulations introduced has meant that a significant redesign of the pensions computerised administration system was required during the summer months.

Due to the late delivery of the revised LGPS regulations, final regulations were only made available on the 14 February. This has meant that some aspects of the Fund's computerised pension administration system are still to be updated.

Although these system changes are required in order that we are able to transact the full range of in-depth and complex calculations required by the LGPS, the majority of calculations have been updated and we have been able to deal with day-to-day Fund activity, where necessary, manual calculations are carried out and payments made.

Also the changes from 1/80th Scheme to 1/60th from April 2008 is proving difficult to explain in meaningful projections for some members, due to the part-year nature of the change (projections usually take account of service up to 30 September).

This year, we are not producing individual benefit projections in the usual way. The amended regulations removed the requirement to produce statements for 2008. Please be assured that the Fund intends to revert to the normal annual programme of issuing statements from 2009.

Should you wish to receive an indication of the benefits accruing under the LGPS, the Fund has updated its website to include an online calculation facility which you can use to obtain projections of benefits. This is available at the following address: <http://www.wmpfonline.com/calculator.htm>

Because of the difficulties outlined above, please be aware that it is not possible for the Fund to provide accurate projections over the telephone at this point in time.

We have produced a further version of 'The Reliable Source' which is the Fund's update publication for Scheme members. This way, we can inform members with the relevant details about Scheme changes from 1 April 2008 and how these affect members.

If you have any comments on 'The Reliable Source', we would as always welcome them. Please contact us in the usual manner, using the details provided.

**Brian Bailey**  
Director of Pensions

### West Midlands Pension Fund

Visits can be made to the Fund's offices  
Opening hours: Monday - Thursday 8.30am - 5.00pm  
Friday 8.30am - 4.30pm



The Government Standard