



## Local Government Pension Scheme

# Absence Owing To A Strike

### How will my benefits be affected?

If you are involved in a strike and you are absent from work without your employer's consent and without pay for one or more whole days, the period of your absence will not count as a period of Scheme membership and, consequently, will not be included in the calculation of your benefits.

**NOTE: Only whole days will count. If you strike for half a day, this will have no effect on your Scheme membership.**

### What can I do to reinstate the period of Scheme membership?

Subject to certain conditions, you can reinstate a lost period of Scheme membership if you make a payment of 16% of the pensionable pay that you



would otherwise have received during the period of your unauthorised absence.

If you wish to make this payment, **you must give written notice to your employer within 30 days of returning to work.** Your employer has discretion to extend this period.



### Will it matter if I choose not to reinstate a lost period of Scheme membership?

Every day of membership will count in the calculation of your benefits. It may be your view that a few lost days will have little effect on the final amount of your benefits at retirement, particularly if by that time, your total period of membership will be as much as 30 or 40 years. This could be the case, but you should bear the following point in mind.

If you leave the Scheme with less than three months' membership, you will not be entitled to 'deferred benefits' (i.e. an index-linked pension and cash lump-sum\*), payable to you when you reach retirement age. Unless you choose to transfer your

pension rights to a new employer's scheme or their pension arrangement, you will only be entitled to a refund of your own contributions.

### Further information

The authority administering the Local Government Pension Scheme within the West Midlands is Wolverhampton City Council. If you need more information about the Scheme, you should contact the Pension Administration Service at the following address:

#### West Midlands Pension Fund

PO Box 3948

WOLVERHAMPTON

WV1 1XP

Telephone: 0300 111 1665 (Helpdesk)

Website: [wmpfonline.com](http://wmpfonline.com)

Email: [PensionFundEnquiries@wolverhampton.gov.uk](mailto:PensionFundEnquiries@wolverhampton.gov.uk)



\* Automatic lump-sum ceased for service accrued on or after 1 April 2008