

How much will I pay into the LGPS?



What contribution rate applies to me?

On 1 April each year, the pay bands increase by the same percentage as pensions increase, which is then rounded down to the nearest £100. From 1 April 2022, the contribution bands have increased by 3.1% for the Local Government Pension Scheme (LGPS).

Your contribution rate depends on how much pensionable pay you're actually paid and ranges between 5.5% and 12.5%.

Here are the pay bands and rates that apply from 1 April 2022 to 31 March 2023:

Band	Main Section contribution rate 1/49 th accrual	50:50 Section contribution rate 1/98 th accrual	Pensionable pay range from 1 April 2022 based on the assessed pensionable pay you receive
Band 1	5.5%	2.75%	Up to £15,000
Band 2	5.8%	2.9%	£15,001 to £23,600
Band 3	6.5%	3.25%	£23,601 to £38,300
Band 4	6.8%	3.4%	£38,301 to £48,500
Band 5	8.5%	4.25%	£48,501 to £67,900
Band 6	9.9%	4.95%	£67,901 to £96,200
Band 7	10.5%	5.25%	£96,201 to £113,400
Band 8	11.4%	5.7%	£113,401 to £170,100
Band 9	12.5%	6.25%	£170,101 or more

Will my contribution rate change?

Most people's contribution rate will stay the same, but anyone close to a band threshold may be in a different band from 1 April 2022. This could be due to:

- A pay award
- A reduction or increase in your working hours
- Your employer reassessing your pensionable pay

If you do change band, your assessed pay and contribution rate will be shown on your April payslip. For more information, check the pension contribution policy, which is available on your intranet.

I'm not currently a contributing member, but I'm thinking of joining – how does it work?

If you join or re-join the EAPF, you'll become a contributing member:

- **If you're a new employee (new joiners - Environment Agency employees only)** – from the date you start your new employment
- **If you're an existing employee (re-joining)** – from the start of your next pay period (though you're free to re-join from a later date).

In addition, you'll pay contributions based on your assessed pensionable pay applicable to your joining or re-joining date.

The 50:50 Section

The 50:50 Section of the LGPS allows you to pay half the contributions and build up half the normal rate of pension. If you choose to join the 50:50 Section, you can later rejoin the Main Section (and go back to paying the full contribution rate to receive full benefits), though you'll be automatically re-enrolled into the Main Section under the following circumstances:

- On reaching your employer's automatic re-enrolment date, you'll be re-enrolled into the Main Section from the start of your next pay period (though you're free to re-join the 50:50 Section immediately afterwards); or
- If your pay is nil as a result of being on sick or child related leave, you'll be re-enrolled into the Main Section from the start of your next pay period (providing you're still on nil pay at the start of that period).

What does your employer pay?

A typical member currently pays less than one third of the cost of their pension and their employer contributes the remainder, currently equivalent to:

- 19% for the Environment Agency;
- 21.9% for Natural Resource Wales; and
- 22.7% for Shared Serviced Connected Limited (SSCL)

If you've chosen to enter the 50:50 Section, the contribution your employer makes does **not** drop.

Points to note

Your assessed pensionable pay includes basic salary plus any permanent pensionable allowances, paid non-contractual overtime and paid additional hours for part time members.

More information can be found on the updated pension contribution policy which is available on your intranet.

If you work part time, your rate will be based on the pensionable pay you're paid.

Remember that your contributions attract tax relief at the time they're deducted from your pay, but you'll only receive tax relief on your pension contributions if you pay tax. However, the Government announced in the 2021 Autumn Budget that it would make changes to the tax rules, so people who don't receive tax relief on their pension contributions can claim a top-up payment.

The first year in which you'll be able to make a claim for a top-up payment will be in 2025/26 for any pension contributions you pay in the tax year 2024/25. We'll update this factsheet with details on how to make a claim, once the Government publishes how this new arrangement will work.

If you're not a member and want to know more or would like to join, check out the pension pages on your intranet and visit our website at www.eapf.org.uk/member/ive-recently-joined

What if I have questions?

If, after checking the contribution policy, you have questions about your assessed pensionable pay figure, please contact your payroll.

If you have questions about pensionable allowances, please contact your Fund employer.

Contact details

If you have any questions regarding your pension entitlement you can contact our pension administrator, Capita, by:

-  Using the **'Ask us a question'** form on our website at **www.eapf.org.uk**
-  Emailing **info@eapf.org.uk**
-  Following on Twitter
@EAPensionFund
-  Calling **0800 121 6593**
+44 114 452 5008 (overseas)
-  Sending your query to
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