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# Pensioners' News

News from the Environment Agency Pension Fund



# Welcome

Welcome to your annual newsletter, packed with the latest pension news. If there's anything else you'd like to see included, please email [engage@eapf.org.uk](mailto:engage@eapf.org.uk)

## News from the EAPF

### EAPF Joins LPPI

From 1 April 2026, the Environment Agency Pension Fund (EAPF) joined a new investment pool: LPPI (formerly known as Local Pensions Partnership Investments).

In 2015, the government directed LGPS funds to pool their investments, creating 8 pools including Brunel Pensions Partnership where EAPF was a founding member.

In 2025, each pool had to submit a business plan to meet new pooling requirements. Brunel's plan was not accepted, so its 10 partner funds, including the EAPF, needed to find a new pool. After review, the EAPF chose to transition to LPPI.

Our new pool will bring together LPPI's existing funds, Lancashire County Pension Fund, the London Pensions Fund Authority and the Royal County of Berkshire Pension Fund, with 6 funds previously in the Brunel pool: Devon, Avon, Dorset, Somerset, and Cornwall. Once these funds are fully integrated, LPPI will manage more than £54 billion in assets.

**We want to reassure members that your pension benefits will not be affected by this change** and our commitment to investing sustainably remains.

### The EAPF is an award winning pension fund

2025 was another award winning year for EAPF.

In September, we won the Natural Capital award at the IPE Real Assets Infrastructure & Natural Capital Global Conference & Awards 2025 in Rotterdam.

In October, we received the Sustainability Strategy (Climate) award at the Local Authority Pension Fund Awards for our "forward-thinking, innovative work".

The third award of 2025 was for Impact Integration which we received at the Pensions for Purpose Awards in November for our work to fully integrate climate, nature, and social considerations into our investment strategy.

## Pension news

### Access and Fairness

The Government has made changes to the Local Government Pension Scheme (LGPS) which came into effect on 1 April 2026. The aim to improve access and fairness within the scheme by correcting historic discriminatory regulations and improving complex admin procedures.

For pensioners, these changes address key issues, such as:

- Equalisation of survivor benefits
- Removing age restrictions on paying death grant lump sums
- Removing the gender pension gap

The LGPS Access and Fairness consultation ended in August 2025, and Government guidance on next steps was circulated on 1 April 2026.

We'll be updating our policies and guidance in the coming months. Once we've made the relevant updates to our documents, we'll post an update in the News section of our website at [www.eapf.org.uk/news](http://www.eapf.org.uk/news)

Read the LGPS update at [www.lgpsmember.org/2026/04/08/improving-access-and-fairness-in-the-lgps](http://www.lgpsmember.org/2026/04/08/improving-access-and-fairness-in-the-lgps)

### Payslip details and your latest P60

You'll receive a payslip in April and May each year showing any pension increases applied to your pension. You won't receive a payslip at any other time unless your net monthly pension has changed by more than £5.

You can also view or download and print your payslips and P60s by logging on to EAPF Online at [portal.eapf.org.uk](http://portal.eapf.org.uk)

If you haven't received your latest P60 and payslip details, please call us on **0800 121 6593** or email us at [info@eapf.org.uk](mailto:info@eapf.org.uk)

## McCloud update

The McCloud remedy was written into LGPS regulations on 1 October 2023.

'McCloud' refers to a 2018 court judgment, which ruled that the protection given to older members of public service pension schemes, when they reformed to become Career Average Revalued Earnings (CARE) pension schemes, was discriminatory against younger members of these schemes.

Depending on your circumstances, you may qualify for an underpin which means some members may be entitled to an increase. However, not all members will qualify, and most of those who do qualify won't get an increase. This is because, for most members, the pension they had in the CARE scheme is higher than they would've had, if the final salary scheme had continued beyond 2014.

For anyone who does qualify for an increase because of the McCloud remedy, you won't need to do anything. **We plan to write to all pensioners who are due an uplift by the end of May 2026.** The uplift and any associated backdated payments will then be paid by the end of July 2026.

If you know you've qualified for an underpin but you don't hear anything, this means that after reviewing your record and applying the underpin, your benefits in the CARE scheme are higher and therefore an uplift is not payable.

For more details about the 'underpin' or McCloud in general, please visit [www.eapf.org.uk/member/mccloud-judgment](http://www.eapf.org.uk/member/mccloud-judgment)

## Inheritance Tax on lump sum Death Grants

The Finance (No. 2) Bill was introduced in December 2025 which includes changes to how some pension benefits are treated for inheritance tax purposes.

The Bill includes changes that mean most unused pension funds and certain death benefits will be included in the value of an individual's estate for inheritance tax purposes from **6 April 2027**.

For members of the EAPF, this means that lump sum death grants (excluding death-in-service benefits) will be included for inheritance tax purposes from this date.

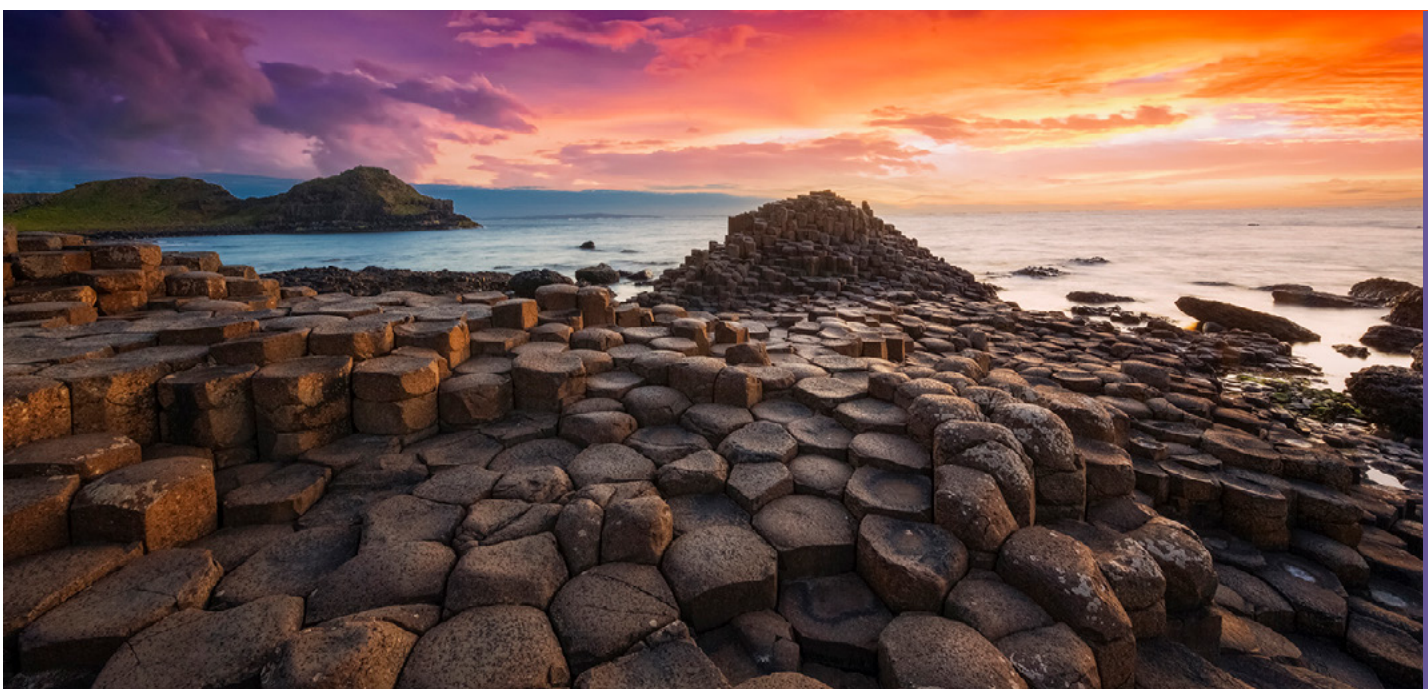
Any inheritance tax due will be the responsibility of the deceased member's Personal Representatives to report and pay, though they may require a pension scheme to pay where certain criteria are met.

## Annual pension adjustment 2026

Each year, your pension is adjusted in line with Pension Increase Orders, which is linked to the Consumer Prices Index (CPI). The increase is calculated based on the CPI in the 12 months from October 2024 to September 2025.

This means that there's an increase of 3.8% applied to your pension, from Monday 6 April 2026. This is pro-rata if you stopped contributing to the Scheme after 21 April 2025.

Pension news continued on page 4.



## Pensioner pay dates

We'll pay your monthly pension for 2026/2027 into your bank account on the below dates:

| Month            | Pay dates      |
|------------------|----------------|
| <b>April</b>     | Thursday 30th  |
| <b>May</b>       | Friday 29th    |
| <b>June</b>      | Tuesday 30th   |
| <b>July</b>      | Friday 31st    |
| <b>August</b>    | Friday 28th    |
| <b>September</b> | Wednesday 30th |
| <b>October</b>   | Friday 30th    |
| <b>November</b>  | Monday 30th    |
| <b>December</b>  | Wednesday 23rd |
| <b>January</b>   | Friday 29th    |
| <b>February</b>  | Friday 26th    |
| <b>March</b>     | Wednesday 31st |

Your payments are made on the last working day of each month except your December payment, which is paid earlier due to Christmas.

## Changing your bank details

If you need to change the bank account your pension is paid into, you can do this by writing to us with proof of your bank account to Environment Agency Pension Pay Team, 555 Stead House, Darlington, DL1 9YT or by emailing us at [payteam@capita.co.uk](mailto:payteam@capita.co.uk)

### 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](http://www.eapf.org.uk)



Emailing [info@eapf.org.uk](mailto:info@eapf.org.uk)



Calling **0800 121 6593**  
**+44 333 241 2693 (overseas)**



Sending your query to  
**Capita, 11b Lingfield Point,  
Darlington, DL1 1AX**

# Communications

## Our annual pensioner member webinar

Watch out for our annual Pensioner member webinar on Thursday 4 June at 10am.

We'll cover a number of interesting topics and other items related to your pension benefits. There's also a chance for you to ask questions and raise any areas of concern.

This webinar is only available online, so you'll need access to a computer with an internet connection to be able to join these sessions.

**Make sure you've given us your current email address** because we'll be contacting members by email closer to June with more details and how to book a ticket online. Our 'Keeping us up to date' story shows how to easily update your details.

## Keeping your death grant nomination updated

Many pensioners don't realise that a lump sum death grant may still be payable after retirement. To check your eligibility and understand if a death grant could be payable to your loved ones in the event of your death, visit [www.eapf.org.uk/member/death-grant-nomination](http://www.eapf.org.uk/member/death-grant-nomination)

It's also important to keep us informed of who you'd like any lump sum death grant to be paid to. This is known as your expression of wish, and it helps us understand your most current wishes. This can often speed up the payment process, as any money due can then be paid to your loved ones quicker.

You can add or update your nomination at any time by logging on to EAPF Online at [portal.eapf.org.uk](http://portal.eapf.org.uk)

## Keeping us up to date

It's really important to keep us up to date with your current personal email address, so we can keep you up to date when important Government changes happen that may affect your EAPF pension.

You can update your details by:

- Logging into your **EAPF Online** account at [portal.eapf.org.uk](http://portal.eapf.org.uk)
- Submitting a contact form at [www.eapf.org.uk/ask-us-a-question](http://www.eapf.org.uk/ask-us-a-question)
- Calling **0800 121 6593**  
or **+44 333 241 2693** (if overseas)