

Survivors' pension Evidence required on death



Benefits payable on the death of a member of the Local Government Pension Scheme (LGPS) include pensions for children, for a surviving spouse or registered civil partner and a cohabiting partner.

Surviving spouse or registered civil partner

Your spouse or registered civil partner will receive a survivor's pension in the event of your death but we will need to see a copy of your marriage certificate or civil partner registry.

Co-habiting partners

On your death, a survivor's pension would be paid if your cohabiting partner satisfies us that the following conditions had also been met for a continuous period of at least 2 years immediately prior to your death:

- both you and your co-habiting partner are, and have been, free to marry each other or enter into a civil partnership with each other, and
- you and your co-habiting partner have been living together as if you were husband and wife, or civil partners, and
- neither you or your co-habiting partner have been living with someone else as if you/they were husband and wife or civil partners, and
- either your co-habiting partner is financially dependent on you or you are financially interdependent on each other.

This will need to be verified, we may do this by, for example, asking for the following:

- confirmation that you lived in a shared household with shared household spending, or
- your partner may be asked to demonstrate that you had a bank account, or
- mortgage in joint names.

There would be a right of appeal if we decide not to pay a pension and your partner believes that he/she has entitlement.

Children's pension

An eligible child for LGPS regulations is defined as:

'in relation to a deceased member means –

- a) A natural or adopted child of a member or was born before, on or in the case of a natural child within 12 months of the member's death or
- b) A step child or child accepted by the deceased as a member of the family who was dependent on the member at the date of death.

Who;

- is under 18, or
- is under 23 but in full time education or vocational training, or is unable to engage in gainful employment through physical or mental impairment and is under 23 or the impairment is likely to be permanent and the child was dependent on the deceased because of the impairment.

In the event of your death before any children's pension is paid evidence will need to be supplied to confirm they can be defined as a child for the purpose of LGPS regulations.

¹ A civil partnership is a relationship between two people of the same sex ("civil partners") which is formed when they legally register as civil partners of each other.