

The Local Government Pension Scheme

Notification of cohabiting partner for survivor's pension

Before completing this form, please read the notes overleaf thoroughly.

Please note: If you are married or are in a registered civil partnership you do not need to complete a survivor's pension notification form for your husband, wife or registered civil partner as they are automatically covered for a survivor's benefit in the event of your death.

Members details:

Full name:

Address:

Post code:

Employing authority:

NI number:

I hereby agree to the conditions stated overleaf and wish to notify the Pension Fund of the person detailed below as a 'cohabiting partner'. By signing this declaration, we confirm that for a continuous period of at least 2 years prior to the date of this declaration:

- We have been free to marry each other or to enter into a civil partnership with each other
- We have been living together as if you were husband and wife, or civil partners
- Neither of us have been living with someone else as if we were husband and wife or civil partners
- Our financial affairs have been interdependent (or the cohabiting partner has been financially dependant on the Scheme Member)

We understand that the above conditions will be checked at date of death and satisfactory evidence will need to be provided at that date. We also understand that the relevant regulations must be followed.

Signed (member): _____ Date: _____

Cohabiting partner's details:

Full name:

Address:

Post code:

NI number: Date of birth

Signed (cohabiting partner): _____ Date: _____

Please ensure that you complete all details above as requested and forward directly to the address below.

Notes of guidance for employees notify the fund of a cohabiting partner

What defines an eligible cohabiting partner?

An eligible cohabiting partner is someone of either opposite or same sex, whom you have lived with continuously for at least 2 years prior to the date of your death. You must have been an active member of the scheme on or after 1 April 2008 to qualify for an eligible cohabiting partner's pension.

As well as this, your cohabiting person must also satisfy the following conditions;

- ∇ Either your cohabiting partner is financially dependant on you as the high earner or you are financially interdependent meaning that you rely on your joint finances to support your standard of living. This doesn't mean that you need to be contributing equally
- ∇ You and your co-habiting partner have been living together as if you were husband and wife, or civil partners
- ∇ Both you and your cohabiting partner are and have been, free to marry each other or enter into a civil partnership with each other
- ∇ Neither you or your cohabiting partner have been living with someone else as if you / they were husband / wife / civil partner.

You and your cohabiting partner should be aware that upon your death Dorset County Pension Fund, as administrator of your Pension Scheme, will have to verify that the conditions for paying a survivor's pension have been satisfied. We may do this by, for example, asking for confirmation that you lived in shared accommodation with shared household spending, or by asking your partner for evidence 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 had entitlement. Completing this form does not guarantee a cohabiting partner pension will be paid.

What are the benefits?

Benefits payable on the death of a member of the Local Government Pension Scheme (LGPS) include pensions for; children, a surviving spouse or registered civil partner and, provided the Scheme member paid into the LGPS on or after 1 April 2008, for an eligible cohabiting partner.

In the event of your death, a survivor's pension would be paid to your cohabiting partner if:

- Your cohabiting partner satisfies us that the above conditions have been met

A nomination ceases to have effect if:

- Your partner dies before you.
- Either you or your cohabiting partner marries, forms a civil partnership or lives with another person as if they were husband and wife or as if they were civil partners.

Can I change these details?

If you wish to change these details at any time, please complete a new form and forward it to Dorset County Pension Fund. New forms can be printed from the Dorset County Pension Fund website at the following address:

www.dorsetpensionfund.org

or please contact the Dorset County Pension Fund on **01305 224845** and we will post you a hard copy.

If you wish to cancel these details at any time, instructions should be made to the Dorset County Pension Fund in writing, with a date and signature.