

OXFORDSHIRE PENSION FUND
COMMUNICATION POLICY STATEMENT

Introduction

1. This is the Communication Policy Statement of the Oxfordshire Local Government Pension Scheme Pension Fund, established within the 1995 Regulations and transferred to the Local Government Pension Scheme (Administration) Regulations 2008

Purpose

2. This policy sets out the Oxfordshire Pension Fund's strategy for its communications with members, members' representatives and employing authorities.
3. The strategy also covers the promotion of the scheme to prospective members.
4. The policy applies, in the context of LGPS administration, to members as defined in Schedule 1 of the principal regulations and, in turn, by section 124(1) of the Pensions Act 1995 to include:
 - Active members
 - Deferred members, and
 - Pensioner members
5. Employing authorities, as defined within the regulations : -
 - Statutory Scheduled Bodies such as the County and District Councils, Colleges of Further Education and Oxford Brookes University; Academies
 - Resolution Bodies being the Town and Parish Councils
 - Admission Bodies, where the Pension Fund Committee have granted scheme admission

Aim

6. To ensure that all members and scheme employers, as defined above have access to full information about the scheme, their benefits, or prospective benefits due from the scheme and about the changes, both actual and proposed to the scheme regulations.
7. Oxfordshire County Council, as administering authority will make available to all scheme employers any documents relating to consultation of changes to the regulations so that they can undertake the consultation with their employees.

Communication Policy

8. Appendix 1 details the current procedures, the types and frequency of specific communications to members. The table reflects the change in method of communication gradually being adopted across the fund whilst there is no material change to the policy in the matter of what information is available.

Review of This Policy

9. It is probable that a review of the policy will be required within the next year following the results of the recent Department of Work and Pensions review of the disclosure regulations, expected in the Autumn. We will also have to review the regulatory changes under the New Look LGPS 2014. Combining new regulations and considering different delivery models we may have to make material changes to this policy in the near future.