

## London Borough of Merton

### Discretionary policies of London Borough of Merton in its role as the administering authority of the Merton Pension Fund section of the Local Government Pension Scheme

Description	Governing regulations	Discretion	Merton's discretionary policy
<p><b>Extension of time to transfer pension rights from another registered pension scheme</b></p>	<p>Regulation 100(6) of the Local Government Pension Scheme Regulations 2013</p>	<p>Whether to permit a member to elect to transfer pension rights from another registered pension scheme into the LGPS, if they had not made such an election to do so within 12 months of first joining the LGPS in that employment.</p> <p>The discretion applies to both the scheme employer and the administering authority.</p>	<p>Merton will only extend the 12-month deadline where one of these circumstances apply:</p> <p>a) the member asked for transfer investigations to be commenced within 12 months of joining the LGPS but a quotation of what the transfer value will purchase in the LGPS had not been provided to the member;</p> <p>b) where the available evidence indicates the member made an election within 12 months of joining the LGPS, but the election was not received by the Pension Fund administering authority;</p> <p>c) where the available evidence indicates the member had not been informed of the 12-month time limit</p> <p>A decision on whether the member meets the above criteria will be taken by the Senior LGPS Officer.</p>
<p><b>Governance Compliance Statement</b></p>	<p>Regulation 55 of the Local Government Pension Scheme Regulations 2013</p>	<p>The Governance Compliance Statement must state whether the administering authority delegates their function or part of their function in relation to maintaining a pension fund to a committee, a sub-committee or an officer of the admin authority and, if they do so delegate, state:-</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• the frequency of any committee or sub-committee meetings,</li> </ul>	<p>Merton's Governance Compliance Statement can be found – Merton Pensionfund- website- <a href="#">Finance : Pension fund reports   Merton Council</a></p>

		<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>the terms, structure and operational procedures appertaining to the delegation, and</li> <li>whether representatives of employing authorities or members are included and, if so, whether they have voting rights.</li> </ul> <p>The policy must also state:-</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>the extent to which a delegation, or the absence of a delegation, complies with Secretary of State guidance and, to the extent it does not so comply, state the reasons for not complying, and</li> <li>the terms, structure and operational procedures appertaining to the local Pensions Board.</li> </ul>	
<b>Funding Strategy</b>	Regulation 58 of the Local Government Pension Scheme Regulations 2013	Decide on funding strategy for inclusion in the Funding Strategy Statement	Merton's Funding Strategy Statement can be found here [- Merton Pensionfund- website- <a href="#">Finance : Pension fund reports   Merton Council</a>
<b>Communication policy</b>	Regulation 61 of the Local Government Pension Scheme Regulations 2013	Communication policy must set out the policy on provision of information and publicity to, and communicating with, members, representatives of members, prospective members and Scheme employers; the format, frequency and method of communications; and the promotion of the Scheme to prospective members and their employers.	Merton's communication policy can be found here – Merton Pensionfund- website- <a href="#">Finance : Pension fund reports   Merton Council</a>
<b>Abatement policy</b>	Regulation 3(13) of the Local Government (Transitional Provisions, Savings and Amendment) Regulations 2014 and Regulation 70(1) and 71(4)(c) of the Local Government Pension Scheme (Administration) Regulations 2008	An administering authority is required to have, and regularly review, a policy on abatement of pensions.	Merton's abatement policy can be found here – Merton Pensionfund- website- <a href="#">Finance : Pension fund reports   Merton Council</a>