

The Local Government Pension Scheme Nomination of Cohabiting Partner for Survivor's Pension



Benefits payable on the death of a member of the Local Government Pension Scheme (LGPS) include pensions for children, for a surviving spouse or civil partner¹ and, provided the scheme member paid into the LGPS on or after 1 April 2008, for a nominated cohabiting partner.

You can nominate a cohabiting partner, of either opposite or same sex, with whom you have not entered into marriage or formed a civil partnership, provided you both sign a joint declaration that the conditions stated below have been met.

The conditions are, that for a continuous period of at least two years on the date the joint declaration is signed:

- both you and your nominated cohabiting partner are, and have been, able to marry each other or form a civil partnership with each other, and
- you and your nominated cohabiting partner have been living together as if you were husband and wife, or civil partners, and
- neither you or your nominated cohabiting partner have been living with someone else as if you/they were husband and wife or civil partners, and
- either your nominated cohabiting partner is financially dependent on you or you are financially interdependent on each other.²

On your death, partner's benefits would be paid to your nominated cohabiting partner if:

- the nomination has effect³ at the date of your death, and
- your nominated cohabiting partner satisfies us that the above conditions had been met for a continuous period of at least 2 years immediately prior to your death.

You and your nominated cohabiting partner should be aware that on your death we may have to verify that the conditions for nomination have been satisfied. We may do this by, for example, asking for 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.

If you wish to nominate your cohabiting partner for a survivor's pension, please complete the form overleaf and send it to the address shown. The declaration should be signed by both you and your partner. The declaration is important as we cannot pay a pension to a cohabiting partner if we do not have a valid nomination form.

Remember to let us know of a change in your circumstances which could affect the nomination, or if you wish to cancel it.

Footnotes:

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

² Your partner is financially dependent on you if you have the highest income. Financially interdependent means that you rely on your joint finances to support your standard of living. It doesn't mean that you need to be contributing equally. For example, if your partner's income is a lot more than yours, he or she may pay the mortgage and most of the bills, and you may pay for the weekly shopping.

³ A nomination ceases to have effect if:

- (a) either you or your nominated partner gives us written notice to cancel the nomination, or
- (b) you make a subsequent nomination under this regulation, or
- (c) either you or your nominated partner marries, forms a civil partnership or lives with a third person as if they were husband and wife or as if they were civil partners, or
- (d) your nominated partner dies before you.



Cohabiting Partner Nomination Form (for Survivor's Pension)

Please complete using BLOCK CAPITALS, sign, date and return to the Pensions Team.

Your Details

Surname:	Title (<i>Mr, Mrs, Miss, Ms, Other</i>):
Forename(s):	
Date of Birth (<i>DD/MM/YYYY</i>):	National Insurance No:
Home Address:	
Postcode:	
Email Address:	
Employer/Department:	
Employee Payroll No:	

Nominated Partner's Details

Surname:	Title (<i>Mr, Mrs, Miss, Ms, Other</i>):
Forename(s):	
Date of Birth (<i>DD/MM/YYYY</i>):	National Insurance No:
Home Address:	
Postcode:	

DECLARATION

We confirm that for a continuous period of at least two years prior to the date of this declaration:

- we have been able to marry or form a civil partnership;
- we have lived together as if we 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 nominated partner has been financially dependent upon the Scheme member).

Scheme Member's Signature:	Date:
Nominated Partner's Signature:	Date:

Please note that in the event of your death, we will need to be satisfied that your relationship met the qualifying conditions for payment of a cohabiting partner's pension.

If you have any queries please do not hesitate to contact the Pensions Team.

Once completed this form should be returned to:

Pensions Team
Buckinghamshire County Council
County Hall
Aylesbury
Buckinghamshire HP20 1UD

Visit our website at www.buckscc.gov.uk/pensions and also the national LGPS website at www.lgps.org.uk for more information.