

Pension Update – March 2026

As we approach the end of the 2025/2026 financial year, please review the key requirements and upcoming changes for both the Local Government Pension Scheme (LGPS) and Teachers' Pensions (TPS). Several actions are required before year-end, and further changes will take effect from 1 April 2026.

1. Local Government Pension Scheme (LGPS)

1.1 Employer Contribution Rate (2026–2029)

The new LGPS employer contribution rate for Birmingham City Council is **16.5%**, effective from 1 April 2026 to 31 March 2029.

1.2 Employee Contribution Bands (2026/2027)

Updated employee contribution bands for 2026/27 are now available:

Band	Actual Pensionable Pay for an employment	Main section contribution rate for that employment	50/50 section contribution rate for that employment
1	Up to £18,400	5.50%	2.75%
2	£18,401 to £29,000	5.80%	2.90%
3	£29,001 to £47,300	6.50%	3.25%
4	£47,301 to £59,800	6.80%	3.40%
5	£59,801 to £84,000	8.50%	4.25%
6	£84,001 to £119,100	9.90%	4.95%
7	£119,101 to £140,400	10.50%	5.25%
8	£140,401 to £210,700	11.40%	5.70%
9	£210,701 or more	12.50%	6.25%

The LGPS remittance form has also been updated to reflect these changes. This must be completed for each school and submitted with the monthly data collection (MDC) file without exception: [LGPS 2026 to 2027](#)

1.3 Year-End Requirements (2025/2026)

Monthly Data Submission – March 2026

The March 2026 MDC submission must include:

- **Column AA – FTE Pensionable Pay**, fully completed and accurate
- Termtime employees must be recorded using their **actual termtime FTE pensionable pay**, *not* a full year value

WMPF will reject files where this field is missing, which will delay Annual Statements. Please ensure this is correct before submission.

LGPS Final Statement

You will shortly receive the LGPS final statement template, which must:

- be completed for each school you provide services for
- match payments and remittances submitted for the 2025/2026 financial year
- align with all monthly remittances (please submit any outstanding remittances as soon as possible)

Deadline: 30 April 2026 – submit completed statements to:

externalpensions@birmingham.gov.uk

2. Teachers' Pensions (TPS)

2.1 Monthly Contributions Reconciliation (MCR)

Please note the following:

- **Red Errors** (e.g., incorrect NI numbers, missing TRNs, incorrect DOBs):
Returned to payroll providers for correction through payroll systems.
- **Orange Warnings/Errors:**
Returned via email; corrections must be included as an “Updated” line in the next month’s submission.
- **Failure to correct errors:**
May result in BCC being suspended from uploading future files, potentially leading to Teachers’ Pensions fines.
- **Monthly payment spreadsheet:**
A full breakdown of schools and amounts paid to BCC must be submitted by the 1st of each month to ensure payments and data files reconcile.

2.2 Changes to Member Contribution Rates (from April 2026)

Following CPI increases, member contribution salary bands will change from 1 April 2026. Some employees may move to a different contribution tier.

Annual Salary 2025/26	Annual Salary 2026/27	Member Rate
Up to £34,872.99	Up to £36,198.99	7.4%
£34,873.00–£46,943.99	£36,199.00–£48,727.99	8.9%
£46,944.00–£55,660.99	£48,728.00–£57,776.99	9.9%
£55,661.00–£73,768.99	£57,777.00–£76,572.99	10.5%
£73,769.00–£100,590.99	£76,573.00–£104,413.99	11.6%
£100,591.00+	£104,414.00+	12%

Employer Contribution Rate

The employer contribution rate remains **28.68%**.

2.3 TPS End of Year Certificate (EOYC) – 2025/2026

Please complete the [EOYC 2025 to 2026 spreadsheet](#) and return it to:
externalpensions@birmingham.gov.uk

Deadline: 31 March 2026

For EOYC queries, please contact Vipul Mistry at Vipul.Mistry@birmingham.gov.uk.

3. Prudential AVC (Additional Voluntary Contributions)

3.1 Monthly Requirements

Employees with AVC or SCAVC arrangements must complete the [AVC template](#).

Each month:

1. Submit completed schedules to:
 - externalpensions@birmingham.gov.uk
 - mark.williams@birmingham.gov.uk
 - luke.ramplin@birmingham.gov.uk
2. Ensure matching payments are sent to the BCC bank account by the 1st of each month.

Please do not send schedules or payments directly to Prudential.

3.2 Consequences of Late or Missing Submissions

If BCC cannot submit schedules to Prudential by the 15th of the month:

- Contributions may not be invested
- Prudential may return funds to BCC
- Members may face financial detriment
- Incorrect information may impact tax calculations and benefit statements
- Serious delays may trigger reporting to The Pensions Regulator

3.3 Accuracy Checking

To ensure records are correct, please complete the [AVC template](#) listing employees with AVCs by school.

This will allow checks against Prudential records for potential gaps.

4. Contacts

If you have any queries, please contact:

- Kevin Whitby – Kevin.Whitby@birmingham.gov.uk
- Luke Ramplin – Luke.Ramplin@birmingham.gov.uk
- Vipul Mistry – Vipul.Mistry@birmingham.gov.uk

5. Supporting Documents

- Additional Voluntary Contributions Template – [AVC template](#)
- End of Year Certificate 2025–2026 Spreadsheet – [EOYC 2025 to 2026 spreadsheet](#)
- Local Government Pension Scheme Remittance Form – [LGPS 2026 to 2027](#)