

Pay Policy Statement

2017/2018



Walsall Council

Version Control

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Owner	Human Resources Strategic Services		
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Purpose	The Pay Policy Statement sets out Council policy on pay and conditions for senior managers and employees, assisting the Council to attract and retain skilled employees and ensuring compliance with legislative requirements under the Localism Act 2011.		

This procedure links to:

- Job Evaluation & Grading Procedure
- Relocation and Temporary Accommodation Expenses Procedure
- Redeployment Procedure
- Recruitment and Selection Procedure
- Market Supplements Procedure
- Walsall Council Terms and Conditions Document (Orange Book)

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CONTENTS

Section	Contents	Page
1.	Introduction.....	4
2.	Key principles.....	4
3.	Scope of the statement.....	4
4.	Senior management pay structure.....	5
5.	Others pay structure (including the lowest paid employees).....	6
6.	Non-standard terms and conditions.....	6
7.	Terms and Conditions Review (2016).....	7
8.	Starting pay.....	7
9.	Pay progression.....	8
10.	Performance related pay.....	8
11.	Pay protection.....	8
12.	Market Supplements.....	9
13.	Relocation and temporary accommodation allowances..	9
14.	Honorarium payments.....	9
15.	Allowances / Expenses.....	10
16.	Exit Payments.....	11
17.	Pensions.....	11
18.	Pay multiples (or pay dispersion).....	11

Appendices

- A – Senior management pay and grading structure
- B – Other employees pay and grading structure & business mileage rates
- C – Pension Policy Statements

1. Introduction

- 1.1 The Pay Policy statement sets out Council policy on pay and conditions for senior managers and employees for the year ending 31st March 2018.
- 1.2 The Council aims to attract and retain skilled employees motivated to deliver the priorities of the Council. In determining pay policy for Chief Officers and other employees, the Council is committed to ensuring a fair, equitable and transparent approach to pay. Within this, it is recognised that different approaches may be required between groups of employees reflecting factors such as difficulties in attracting and retaining key skills.

2. Key principles

- 2.1 The Pay Policy Statement outlines the remuneration arrangements within the Council and aims to ensure:
- That employees pay levels are set and reviewed using a clear, rational and transparent process that meets equal pay legislation.
 - That pay rates are both competitive in the market place, reflect the need to retain key skills and appropriately reward employees for their contribution to the Council's achievements.
 - That pay and reward decisions support the provision of valued public services and are affordable.
 - That any decisions relating to pay and salary progression are consistent, fair and non discriminatory.
- 2.2 The Council will not promote employees through the grading system nor use other pay mechanisms in order to assist in securing an employee's improved pension entitlement on retirement.

3. Scope of the statement

- 3.1 This statement relates to all Council employees (including the Chief Executive, Chief Officers, Deputy Chief Officers) and Casual Workers, with the exception of;
- Employees on teachers' pay & conditions and educational support staff (employed directly by the school and subject to the School Staffing (England) Regulations (2009)) who are covered separately by the Schools Model Pay Policy.
 - Unattached Teachers on Teachers Pay and Conditions who are covered separately by the Unattached Teachers Pay Policy.

4. Senior management pay structure

- 4.1 Senior management are defined for this purpose as the Chief Executive and Chief Officers (as defined under the Localism Act 2011 Part One Chapter 8, section 43(2), Government and Housing Act 1989 2(8). Senior management grades are locally agreed salary scales which are reviewed annually having regard to the JNC pay award for Local Authority Chief Executives and Chief Officers and market conditions. The senior management pay structure is attached at Appendix A.
- 4.2 The aim is to ensure that the Council retains key employees by maintaining pay rates which are competitive in the market and reflect the need to retain valuable skills.
- 4.3 The salary levels of the Chief Executive and Chief Officers on appointment are set by elected members at the relevant committee of the Council. The Council's relevant committee (or appointed sub committees) approves remuneration levels for the Chief Executive, Executive Directors and Deputy Chief Officers on appointment, subject to negotiation. The Council's relevant committee has delegated authority from Council in respect of the actual appointment and dismissal of Executive Directors and Deputy Chief Officers in accordance with the Employment Procedure Rules.
- 4.4 Pay levels are reviewed and locally agreed taking into account any cost of living increase negotiated nationally by the JNC for Chief Officers of Local Authorities Conditions of Services. The last national pay award increase for Chief Officers was April 2016 agreeing a 2 year pay award of 1.0% implemented on 1 April 2016 and a further 1.0% 1 April 2017.
- 4.5 The salary details for Chief Officers are published on the Council's website and can be located on the open data pages;
<http://opendata.walsall.org.uk/opendata/opendata-datasets.htm>
- 4.6 The process for recruitment and remuneration of Chief Officers is set out in Part 4.6 of the Council's Constitution.
- 4.7 The Chief Executive's total remuneration package includes fees payable for local election duties. Where appropriate fees for European, National and Regional elections and referenda are set out and paid by central government.
- 4.8 The Council's Section 151 Officer and Monitoring Officer receive an additional allowance of £4,466 for the undertaking of this statutory function.
- 4.9 In relation to the termination of employment of Chief Officers, the Council will consider making appropriate payments where it is in the Council's best interests. Any such payments will be in accordance with contractual entitlements or statutory requirements and take into account the potential risks

and liabilities to the Council, including any legal costs, disruption to services, impact on employee relations and management time. Any such arrangements are reported to a committee of the Council where required by the Council's Constitution. Furthermore external auditors are consulted about severance packages where appropriate.

5. Others pay structure (including the lowest paid employees)

- 5.1 Remuneration for other employees is normally determined by the Council's Job Evaluation (JE) scheme which covers all employees on NJC Local Government Services (Green Book) terms and conditions of service. These employees have their pay based upon the NJC pay and grading structure which is extended locally to incorporate 68 spinal column points (SCP) and is attached at Appendix B.
- 5.2 The Council's pay and grading structure ranges from G1 to G16 and covers SCP 006 – 068. Each grade range contains a number of SCPs and this allows for annual incremental progression up to the top of the grade.
- 5.3 The Council has paid the Living Wage (LW), since April 2015, in the form of an additional allowance to basic hourly rate where this falls below the LW which will also apply to casual posts and non-standard hours such as overtime. This is reviewed annually.
- 5.4 The Council's Job Evaluation scheme is based on the NJC prescribed Job Evaluation scheme for posts graded G1 to G13 and the Hay Group Job Evaluation scheme for posts graded G14 to G16. Both schemes comply with equal pay requirements.
- 5.5 For Apprentices (on training contracts), pay starts at £6,559.57 in line with the national minimum apprenticeship rate of pay.
- 5.6 Pay levels are reviewed and locally agreed taking into account any cost of living increase negotiated nationally by the NJC for Local Government Services. The last negotiated pay award was agreed nationally covering a 2 year pay period awarding 1% on the 1 April in 2016 and a further 1% on the 1 April 2017.

6. Non standard terms and conditions

- 6.1 Employees transferring into the Council under TUPE arrangements have the right to retain their existing terms and conditions and as such retain the pay scales applicable to their employment prior to transfer.
- 6.2 Some specialist employees, mainly in education related services, such as Educational Psychologists, and the Youth Service are paid on the national pay scales relevant to their specialist employment.

7. Terms and Conditions Review (2016)

- 7.1 Following a review of the Council terms and conditions the Council agreed to reduce the pay spine by 1% for those on NJC and JNC to be implemented from 1 April 2017. The Council's terms and conditions review (2016) supersedes the national pay award for NJC for Local Government Services terms and conditions of service and JNC for Chief Officers of local Government Services.
- 7.2 The 2017/2018 pay award has been determined for, (Soulbury and youth worker(s)) and a deduction of 1% will be made in line with the pay award. This will be deducted at the point when the increase is due, on 1st September 2017.
- 7.3 Where no pay award is due (i.e. for some TUPE employees on a "frozen" TUPE arrangement,) the 1% deduction will not be made.
- 7.4 The new pay spine will then remain at "the reduced" level and will not revert to the previous national pay spine levels.
- 7.5 The terms and conditions review 2016 includes changes to car user allowances and mileage rates and standby and call out payments. See section 15 allowances and expenses.

8. Starting pay

- 8.1 Employees are usually paid on an incremental scale and will normally be appointed at the minimum point of the pay grade for that post. However, in certain circumstances it may be appropriate to appoint external candidates to a higher point within the pay grade to support the appointment of high calibre candidates, for example, where existing salary payments exceed or are equivalent to those being offered by the Council. Such practice must be objectively justified and within current budgetary constraints.
- 8.2 Internal appointments are made at the minimum point of the pay grade where being appointed into a promotional post or at the minimum point of advantage where grade boundaries overlap with the new higher grade. If appointments are made to equivalent graded posts then the employee will move across on their existing SCP with no further increase until the normal incremental progression is due.
- 8.3 Internal appointments moving into an additional/second post of equivalent grade and nature will be appointed on the same SCP as their existing post with no further increase until the normal incremental progression is due.
- 8.4 Where employees are appointed into posts where there is a grade reduction, they will be appointed at the top of the grade unless their current SCP is already below this level in which case they will transfer across on their existing SCP with no further increase until the normal incremental progression is due.

- 8.5 Casual workers will be appointed on the minimum point within the pay grade and will not receive incremental progression. Existing casuals (pre 2017/2018 pay policy) will be frozen on their current scp and will not receive any further incremental pay progression.

9. Pay progression

- 9.1 Where employees are on annual incremental scales progression within grade boundaries is automatic (with the exception of casual workers).
- 9.2 Annual incremental pay progression takes place until the maximum SCP within the grade for the post is achieved. Thereafter the employee is only eligible to receive the annual cost of living award as negotiated by the appropriate bodies and implemented by the Council.
- 9.3 Increments are due on the 1st April each year, or 6 months after appointment where the employee has been in the post for less than 6 months by 1st April, i.e. if the employee is appointed between 1st October and 31st March the increment will be paid after 6 months in post and then annually on the 1st April thereafter up to the maximum SCP within the grade.
- 9.4 Employees are able to request re-evaluations of the grade of their post where they believe that work duties have substantially altered. All re-evaluation requests will be graded using the Council's JE scheme in line with the Job Evaluation & Grading Procedure that provides the right of appeal against any grade outcomes.

10. Performance related pay (PRP)

- 10.1 The Council does not operate a corporate performance related pay scheme or any type of bonus pay scheme.

11. Pay protection

- 11.1 Pay protection will be granted for a maximum period of 12 months and will apply where Council is enforcing a reduction in an employee's pay due to one of the following situations:
- i. redeployment as a result of a restructure and/or compulsory redundancy in accordance with the Councils' redeployment procedure
 - ii. redeployment as a result of a dismissal on health grounds in accordance with the Councils' redeployment procedure
 - iii. as a result of a re-grade in accordance with the council's job evaluation and grading procedure

- 11.2 Pay protection will only apply where the post/re-grade is no more than 2 grades below the employee's substantive post.
- 11.3 Pay protection will apply to the grade of the substantive post and not the amount of hours worked, therefore pay protection will be pro-rata if the employee accepts a post at fewer hours. However, where an employee accepts a post with increased hours, pay protection will only apply to their previous substantive hours.
- 11.4 Where pay protection applies any loss in annual leave (affected by a grade reduction) will also be protected for a maximum period of 12 months on a pro-rata basis.
- 11.5 All other terms of the employee's substantive post will not be protected (e.g. unsocial hours payments, allowances etc...).
- 11.6 Pay protection does not apply to the terms and conditions review (2016).

12. Market supplements

- 12.1 The Council recognises that at times it may be difficult to recruit new employees or retain existing employees in certain key posts. To ensure that the Council attracts and maintains a skilled and experienced workforce, supplements may be paid in addition to the grade of the post in accordance with the Council's Market Supplements Procedure.

13. Relocation and temporary accommodation allowances

- 13.1 Relocation and temporary accommodation expenses may be paid to employees to cover costs associated with relocating in order to take up new employment with the Council. These expenses are paid in accordance with the Council's Relocation and Temporary Accommodation Expenses Procedure.

14. Honorarium payments

- 14.1 Honorarium payments are additional monies that may be paid to remunerate employee's where;
 - a) employees are 'acting up' into a higher graded post and undertaking the full range of duties of the post on either a full time or part time basis. Such payments are temporary in nature and are paid in accordance with the Recruitment & Selection Procedure
 - OR
 - b) employees are undertaking additional work duties that are outside the scope of the employees normal role AND such duties are graded at a higher level

than the employees substantive post. Such payments are temporary in nature, normally for a maximum period of 12 months and are paid in accordance with the Council's job evaluation scheme to ensure principles of fairness and equality are maintained. Any extensions to such payments in excess of 12 months will be subject to Executive Director approval.

15. Allowances / Expenses

- 15.1 Overtime – Any overtime worked over 37 hours regardless of when the hours are worked will be paid at time plus 1/2. This is usually only applicable to those on grades G6 or below, however in exceptional circumstances and where pre-approved by the Executive Director, can be extended to those above G6. Overtime is not normally paid to those on senior management grades. All overtime must be agreed by the relevant manager and closely monitored.
- 15.2 The council also pays an additional payment in certain circumstances which fall under the overtime and holiday pay ruling (Bear Scotland Ltd March 2015).
- 15.3 Unsocial hours payment – Where employees work unsocial hours (Monday – Saturday between the hours of 22.00 – 06.00 and all day on Sunday) they will receive additional unsocial hours payments based on the percentage of their standard contractual 37 hour working week worked in unsocial hours and this will equate to either a 5%, 10% or 15% enhancement to their basic pay.
- 15.4 Standby payment – from the 1st April 2017 in accordance with the terms and conditions review (2016), where employees are required to be on standby they will receive a standardised payment, currently £20 per session and £180 weekly rate. This is usually only applicable to those on grades G12 or below, however in exceptional circumstances and where pre-approved by the Executive Director, can be extended to those above G12.
- 15.5 Callout payment – from the 1st April 2017 in accordance with the terms and conditions review (2016), where employees are called out to required locations they will receive the appropriate additional hours or overtime rate subject to a minimum payment of two hours for any single call out period. This is usually only applicable to those on grades G12 or below, however in exceptional circumstances and where pre-approved by the Executive Director, can be extended to those above G12. Where an employee provides telephone advice and the response time is in excess of one hour, a call out payment will be made.
- 15.6 Professional subscriptions / registration fees – These may be paid by the Council, at the discretion of the Executive Director (or delegated deputy chief officer), where it is an essential requirement of the job. Essential would normally relate to a statutory reason.

- 15.7 Car allowances – from the 1st April 2017 in accordance with the terms and conditions review (2016), the Council will cease to pay casual and essential car allowances including any lump sum payment. Employees using a private vehicle on official business will be entitled to claim business mileage at the HMRC rate as detailed in appendix B.
- 15.8 There are separate travel allowance arrangements in place for Executive Directors and they receive a lump sum payment equivalent to 2.3% of their annual salary.

16.0 Exit Payments

- 16.1 Exit payments will be paid in accordance with legislative requirements. At the time of writing draft regulations are out to consultation.
- 16.2 Exit payments will be subject to recovery in accordance with legislative requirements. At the time of writing draft regulations are out to consultation.

17. Pensions

- 17.1 Employees of the Council are eligible to join the Local Government Pension Scheme. The benefits and contributions payable under the scheme are set out in the Local Government Pension Scheme Regulations 2013.
- 17.2 Under the Local Government Pension Scheme Regulations, each scheme employer must publish and keep under review a Statement of Policy to explain how it will apply certain discretions allowed under the Pension Regulations
- 17.3 The Council's current published LGPS discretionary policy is contained in Appendix C of this document and was effective from 1st April 2014. There have been no changes to the discretionary policy at the time of writing this policy and therefore this remains in place. This document also incorporates discretionary provisions that are still in force under the former LGPS regulations that the employer is required to publish within its current policy.

18. Pay multiples (or pay dispersion)

- 18.1 There is no formal mechanism for direct comparison between pay levels of the wider workforce with senior manager pay and there are no Council policies on reaching or maintaining a specific pay multiple.
- 18.2 The pay multiple recommended for adoption by the Hutton Review of Fair Pay in the Public Sector is the ratio between the salary of the highest paid employee and the median full time equivalent (fte) salary of the organisation.

- 18.3 The Council's current (October 2016) pay multiple from the highest pay (£196,124 per annum) to the median pay (£22,434 per annum) is 1:9. This pay multiple is the same ratio as the previous year.
- 18.4 The Council's current (October 2016) pay multiple from Chief Officers within the Corporate Management team (£118,358 per annum) to the median pay (£22,434 per annum) is 1:5. This pay multiple is the same ratio as the previous year.
- 18.5 The Council will monitor these ratios on an annual basis to ensure that there is not undue wage inflation in senior management pay rates.

JNC for Chief Executive of Local Authorities
JNC for Chief Officers of Local Authorities

	Pay Point	1 st April 17
		*Annual
Chief Executive		
	1	£196,214
Executive Director		
	1	£118,358
Assistant Director		
	1	£78,476
	2	£81,491
	3	£84,510
	4	£87,527
	5	£90,550

*Salary scales reflect the 1% reduction following the terms and conditions review

Spinal Column Point Salaries effective from 1st April 2017 Appendix B

* Salary scales reflect the 1% reduction following the terms and conditions review

** note Hourly rates are shown rounded down to whole penny

Grade	SCP		*Annual Salary	Monthly Rate	Weekly Rate	**Hourly Rate
NJC grades			£	£	£	£
G1		006	14864	1238.67	284.90	7.70
		007	14964	1247.00	286.75	7.75
	G2	008	15094	1257.83	289.34	7.82
G1		009	15221	1268.42	291.56	7.88
		010	15457	1288.08	296.37	8.01
		011	15649	1304.08	300.07	8.11
G3		012	15962	1330.17	305.99	8.27
	G2	013	16326	1360.50	313.02	8.46
		014	16613	1384.42	318.57	8.61
		015	16901	1408.42	324.12	8.76
	G4	016	17245	1437.08	330.41	8.93
G3		017	17594	1466.17	337.07	9.11
		018	17891	1490.92	342.99	9.27
		019	18560	1546.67	355.94	9.62
G5		020	19238	1603.17	368.89	9.97
	G4	021	19939	1661.58	382.21	10.33
		022	20456	1704.67	392.20	10.60
		023	21057	1754.75	403.67	10.91
	G6	024	21745	1812.08	416.99	11.27
G5		025	22434	1869.50	429.94	11.62
		026	23166	1930.50	444.00	12.00
		027	23935	1994.58	458.80	12.40
G7		028	24717	2059.75	473.97	12.81
	G6	029	25694	2141.17	492.47	13.31
		030	26556	2213.00	509.12	13.76
		031	27394	2282.83	525.03	14.19
	G8	032	28203	2350.25	540.57	14.61
G7		033	29033	2419.42	556.48	15.04
		034	29854	2487.83	572.39	15.47
		035	30480	2540.00	584.23	15.79
G9		036	31288	2607.33	599.77	16.21
	G8	037	32164	2680.33	616.79	16.67
		038	33106	2758.83	634.55	17.15
		039	34196	2849.67	655.64	17.72
	G10	040	35093	2924.42	672.66	18.18
G9		041	36019	3001.58	690.42	18.66
		042	36937	3078.08	708.18	19.14
		043	37858	3154.83	725.94	19.62
G11		044	38789	3232.42	743.70	20.10
	G10	045	39660	3305.00	760.35	20.55
		046	40619	3384.92	778.85	21.05
		047	41551	3462.58	796.61	21.53
	G12	048	42474	3539.50	814.37	22.01
G11		049	43387	3615.58	831.76	22.48
		050	44356	3696.33	850.63	22.99
		051	45316	3776.33	868.76	23.48
G13		052	46408	3867.33	889.85	24.05
	G12	053	47527	3960.58	911.31	24.63
		054	48645	4053.75	932.77	25.21
		055	49778	4148.17	954.60	25.80
G13		056	50905	4242.08	976.06	26.38
G14		061	56730	4727.50	1087.80	29.40
		062	57914	4826.17	1110.37	30.01
	G15	063	59783	4981.92	1146.26	30.98
G14		064	62774	5231.17	1203.61	32.53
		065	65761	5480.08	1260.96	34.08
G16		066	68878	5739.83	1320.90	35.70
	G15	067	71870	5989.17	1378.25	37.25
G16		068	74857	6238.08	1435.60	38.80

Midpoint (Average Cost) of Salary Grades

Grade	SCP	Midpoint £
Grade 1	pts 6-9	15036
Grade 2	pts 8-13	15618
Grade 3	pts 12-17	16774
Grade 4	pts 16-21	18411
Grade 5	pts 20-25	20812
Grade 6	pts 24-29	23615
Grade 7	pts 28-33	26933
Grade 8	pts 32-37	30170
Grade 9	pts 36-41	33644
Grade 10	pts 40-45	37393
Grade 11	pts 44-49	41080
Grade 12	pts 48-53	44911
Grade 13	pts 52-56	48653
Grade 14	pts 61-64	59300
Grade 15	pts 63-67	65813
Grade 16	pts 66-68	71868

Business Mileage Effective from 1 April 2017

Business Mileage	HMRC Approved mileage rates
	Cars (per mile)
First 10,000 business miles in the tax year	45p
Each business mile over 10,000 in the tax year	25p



Walsall Council



Local Government Pension Scheme Policy Statement: 1 April 2014

Policy Statement for all eligible employees

Under the Local Government Pension Scheme Regulations, each scheme employer must publish and keep under review a Statement of Policy to explain how it will apply certain discretions allowed under the Pension Regulations.

This statement is applicable to all employees of Walsall Council who are eligible to be members of the LGPS. Before the exercise of any discretion it will be necessary in each case to consider the full financial cost implications to the Council and the Pension Fund.

Existing policy discretions for employers which are in place under the 2008 and 1995 schemes will remain in force for employees who left the scheme prior to 1st April 2014.

All other past policies and discretions will be revoked following the approval of this policy. The discretions detailed in this policy will apply from 1st April 2014.

Part 1 – Discretions to be applied under the LGPS Regulations 2013 and LGPS (Transitional Provisions and Savings) Regulations 2014 (denoted as ‘TP’ within the policy).

<u>Regulation 16(2)e & Reg 16(4)d:</u> Where an active Scheme member wishes to purchase extra annual pension of up to £6,500* (figure at 1 April 2014) by making Additional Pension Contributions (APCs), the employer can choose to contribute towards the cost of purchasing that extra pension via a Shared Cost Additional Pension Contribution (SCAPC).	<u>Council Policy</u> The Council has <u>NOT</u> adopted this discretion.
<u>Regulation 30(6) and TP11(2):</u> Whether to permit flexible retirement for staff aged 55 or over who, with the agreement of the employer, reduce their working hours or grade in order to release some or all of their retirement benefits.	<u>Council Policy</u> The Council will consider employee requests to take flexible retirement on a case by case basis after taking into factors such as service delivery and any costs that may apply.

<p><u>Regulation 30(8):</u> Whether to waive any actuarial reductions that would otherwise apply under Regulation 30(5) and Regulation 30(6) for active members, deferred members and suspended tier 3 ill health pensioners who elect to receive early payment of benefits prior to normal pension age.</p>	<p><u>Council Policy</u> Waiving of actuarial reductions and the application of 85 year rule protections will be considered only where there is a clear financial or operational advantage in doing so. A request for early unreduced payment of benefits on compassionate grounds would be considered only where the former member is prevented from full-time working due to the need to provide long-term care for a dependant.</p>
<p><u>TP Regulation 1(1)(c) of Schedule 2:</u> Whether, to apply the 85 year rule protections to members who choose to voluntarily draw their benefits on or after age 55 and before age 60, [under paragraph 1(1)(c) of Schedule 2 to the LGPS (Transitional Provisions, Savings and Amendment) Regulations 2014].</p>	<p><u>Council Policy</u> Waiving of actuarial reductions and the application of 85 year rule protections will be considered only where there is a clear financial or operational advantage to the Council in doing so.</p>
<p><u>Regulation 31:</u> Whether to grant extra annual pension of up to £6,500 to an active Scheme member or within 6 months of leaving to a member whose employment was terminated on the grounds of redundancy or business efficiency.</p>	<p><u>Council Policy</u> The Council has <u>NOT</u> adopted this discretion.</p>
<p><u>Regulation 22(8 & 9):</u> Whether to extend the 12-month period in which a member can elect to retain separate benefits for previous pensionable service.</p>	<p><u>Council Policy</u> The Council will consider applications under this Regulation but only when it can be demonstrated that the delay is because of an administration issue and not as a result of the scheme member's failure to make an election within the 12 month timescale.</p>
<p><u>Regulation 9(3):</u> Determining the rate of employees' contributions</p>	<p><u>Council Policy</u> The Council will review the contribution rate bands at six monthly intervals. Account will be taken when determining the rate of any impending pay award.</p>
<p><u>Regulation 100(6):</u> Whether to extend the 12-month period from joining the scheme in which to allow a transfer-in of previous non-local government pension rights.</p>	<p><u>Council Policy</u> The Council will consider applications under this Regulation but only when it can be demonstrated that the delay is because of an administration issue and not as a result of the scheme member's failure to make an election within the 12 month timescale.</p>

Part 2 – Discretions to be applied under the LGPS (Benefits, Membership and Contributions) Regulations 2007 (as amended)

<p><u>Regulation B12:</u> Power of employing authority to increase total membership of members leaving prior to 1st April 2014 on redundancy or business efficiency grounds by up to 10 years.</p> <p>This resolution must be made within 6 months of leaving and will therefore be obsolete after 30th September 2014.</p>	<p><u>Council Policy</u> The Council has <u>NOT</u> adopted this discretion.</p>
<p><u>Regulation B30(2) and 30(5):</u> Whether to grant application for early payment of deferred benefits on or after age 55 and before age 60; and whether to waive on compassionate grounds the actuarial reduction applied to such benefits paid under regulation B30.</p>	<p><u>Council Policy</u> The Council has adopted this regulation to be used in exceptional circumstances only.</p> <p>The criteria for exceptional circumstances are defined in the detailed guidelines.</p> <p>The Council will consider each specific case which will be judged equally and fairly on its own merits having fully considered the reasons for early payment and any associated financial costs.</p>
<p><u>Regulation B30A(3) and 30A(5):</u> Whether to grant application for early payment of suspended tier 3 ill health pension on or after age 55 and before age 60; and whether to waive on compassionate grounds the actuarial reduction applied to such benefits paid under regulation B30A.</p>	<p><u>Council Policy</u> The Council has adopted this regulation to be used in exceptional circumstances only.</p> <p>The criteria for exceptional circumstances are defined in the detailed guidelines.</p> <p>The Council will consider each specific case which will be judged equally and fairly on its own merits having fully considered the reasons for early payment and any associated financial costs.</p>

Part 3 – Discretions to be applied under the LGPS Regulations 1997

<p><u>Regulation 31(2) and 31(5):</u> Whether to grant application for a leaver between 31 March 1998 and 31 March 2008, or from a Councillor for early payment of benefits on or after age 50/55 and before age 60; and whether to waive on compassionate grounds the actuarial reduction applied to such benefits paid under regulation 31.</p>	<p><u>Council Policy</u> The Council has adopted this regulation to be used in exceptional circumstances only. The criteria for exceptional circumstances are defined in the detailed guidelines.</p> <p>The Council will consider each specific case which will be judged equally and fairly on its own merits having fully considered the reasons for early payment and any associated financial</p>
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	costs.
<u>Regulation 31(7A):</u> Whether to grant employer consent for a scheme member to access their retirement benefits from their Normal Retirement Date without reduction, while continuing to be employed by a Scheme employer listed in Schedule 2.	<p><u>Council Policy</u></p> <p>The Council has adopted this regulation to be used in exceptional circumstances only.</p> <p>The criteria for exceptional circumstances are defined in the detailed guidelines.</p> <p>The Council will consider each specific case which will be judged equally and fairly on its own merits having fully considered the reasons for early payment and any associated financial costs.</p>

Part 4 – Discretions to be applied under the Local Government (Early Termination of Employment) (Discretionary Compensation) Regulations 2006

<u>Regulation 5:</u> The Council may decide to calculate a redundancy payment entitlement as if there had been no limit on the amount of the week's pay used in the calculation.	<p><u>Council Policy</u></p> <p>The Council has decided to adopt this discretion and base redundancy payment calculations on an unrestricted week's pay.</p>
<u>Regulation 6:</u> A one-off lump sum compensation payment may be awarded to an employee up to a maximum value of 104 weeks pay (2 years) inclusive of any redundancy payment made.	<p><u>Council Policy</u></p> <p>The council has decided to adopt this discretion in part and will award an additional lump sum compensation payment equal to the value of the statutory redundancy payment – maximum payment 30 weeks – but only in cases of some compulsory redundancies Each award will be subject to a cap to be paid to an employee who is paid less than the full time equivalent of scale point 29.</p> <p>Each specific case will be judged equally and fairly on its own merits having fully considered service delivery and financial costs.</p>

Part 5 – Discretions to be applied under the Local Government (Discretionary Payments) (Injury Allowances) Regulations 2011

<p><u>Explanation</u></p> <p>The Council operates The Walsall Council Injury Allowance Scheme under the permissive powers of The Discretionary Payment Regulations 2011.</p> <p>The scheme is unique to Walsall Council employees and is operated within the regulatory guidelines.</p>	<p><u>Council Policy</u></p> <p>The Council has decided that all claims are to be submitted to and agreed by an Injury Allowance Panel. The panel will consist of The Head of Legal Services, The Head of Finance and the Head of Human Resources or their nominees.</p> <p>Both temporary and permanent allowances are available within the terms of reference of the scheme. Each award will be judged on the</p>
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	<p>relevant evidence presented to the panel. Payment will be made from the service budget. There is no separate internal appeals process as designated by the Injury allowance panel.</p>
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Part 6 – Appeals Process – Local Government Pension Scheme (Administration) Regulations 2008

<p><u>Regulation 57: Internal Dispute Resolution Procedure (IDRP)</u> Responsibility for determination of LGPS disputes under the first stage of the procedure now lies with the “Adjudicator” at the employing authority.</p> <p>The Executive Director (Resources) is the Adjudicator for the purposes of the Internal Dispute Resolution Process. If this presents a conflict of interest when the complaint relates to a member of the Resources directorate, the Chief Executive will act as the Adjudicator.</p>	<p><u>Council Policy</u> Any disputes about decisions made under the LGPS should be sent in writing to:</p> <p>The Executive Director (Resources) The Council House Walsall Council WS1 1TW or</p> <p>The Chief Executive if the complaint relates to member of the Resources Directorate.</p>
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April 2014