

The Local Government Pension Scheme (Scotland) Regulations no longer require you to complete a cohabiting partner's nomination form.

Benefits payable on the death of a member of the Local Government Pension Scheme (LGPS) include pensions for children, for a surviving spouse or registered civil partner and, provided the deceased paid into the LGPS on or after 1 April 2009, for a cohabiting partner.

In order for a partner's pension to be paid, all of the following conditions must have applied to both you and your partner for a continuous period of at least 2 years immediately prior to your partner's death:

- both you and your partner were free to marry each other or enter into a civil partnership with each other, and
- you and your partner had been living together as if you were husband and wife, or civil partners, and
- neither you or your partner were living with someone else as if you or they were husband and wife or civil partners, and
- either you were financially dependent on your partner or you were financially interdependent on each other

Your partner was financially dependent on you if you have the highest income. Financially interdependent means that you relied on your joint finances to support your standard of living. It does not mean that you needed to have been contributing equally. For example, if your partner's income is a lot more than yours, he or she may have paid the mortgage and most of the bills, and you may have paid for the weekly shopping.

A cohabiting partner's pension may not be paid if all of the above conditions were not met for a continuous period of at least 2 years immediately prior to your partner's death.

Please note that, in order to support the claim that you and your partner met the conditions listed above for a continuous period of at least 2 years immediately prior to your partner's death, you will be required to provide evidence of such from the from the list below:

- You lived in a mutually shared household with mutually shared household spending; and/or
- demonstrate that you jointly held a current bank account or mortgage in joint names, and/or made
- joint wills; and/or
- you had taken out life assurance naming each other as beneficiaries; and/or
- you can produce old joint account statements, and/or
- you can produce old utility bills in joint names,
- you can produce council tax bills in joint names
- other factual evidence of cohabitation