

ROYAL BOROUGH OF GREENWICH

LOCAL GOVERNMENT PENSION SCHEME - STATEMENT OF POLICY ON DISCRETIONS

Regulation	Discretion	Resolution
16 LGPS Regulations 2013	Employees in the Scheme may choose to buy extra annual pension, up to a maximum as set in Regulation 31, using an Additional Pension Contribution (APC) contract. The employer has the discretion to fund in part or full the cost of the APC.	The Royal Borough of Greenwich resolves not to fund, in part or full, the cost of APC's, as there are no identifiable, significant benefits to the Royal Borough of Greenwich. There is an alternative means of enhancing benefits (see Regulation 31).
30 (6) LGPS Regulations 2013	Under the new LGPS, the previous flexible retirement (from age 55) provisions continue. It should be noted that whereas under the 2008 Scheme a member only required 3 months membership to be entitled to flexible retirement, under the 2014 Scheme the qualifying period of membership is 2 years.	Each flexible retirement request is to be considered on its merits but there has to be a reduction of at least 2/5ths of current working hours or a move to a new job that is at least one full grade lower. All benefits have to be taken and a member who has previously taken flexible retirement will not be able to do so again. It has to be demonstrated that it is in the Council's economic and/or operational interests. All requests to be agreed by the relevant Chief Officer, the Director of Finance and the Head of Corporate Services.
30 (8) LGPS Regulations 2013	For voluntary retirement or where flexible retirement is agreed, the Royal Borough of Greenwich has the further discretion to waive in whole or part any actuarial reduction.	This discretion is to be used only where there is a clear financial or operational advantage to the Council. Such cases will need to be approved by the relevant Chief Officer, the Director of Finance and the Head of Corporate Services.
31 LGPS Regulations 2013	Employers may resolve to award additional LGPS pension of not more than the maximum allowable per year.	It is resolved that an award of additional pension may be made where: a) The cost to the pension fund is met by the redundancy/efficiency payment enhancement that is awarded under the Discretionary Compensation Regulations 2006. or

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		b) in exceptional circumstances subject to the approval of each case by the Chief Executive and Director of Finance
Schedule 2 LGPS (Transitional Provisions and Savings) Regulations 2014.	Whether to “switch on” the 85 year rule for a member voluntarily drawing benefits: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • on or after age 55 and before age 60 • whether to waive any reduction in whole or in part. 	That this discretion is used only where there is no cost to the Council or there is a clear financial or operational advantage to the Council or there are compassionate grounds. Such cases will need to be approved by: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> a) In the case of employees, the relevant Chief Officer, Director of Finance and the Head of Corporate Services. b) In the case of former employees, the Director of Finance and the Head of Corporate Services.