

Local Government Pension Scheme (LGPS) Surrey Pension Fund Death Grant – Expression of Wish form Explanatory notes

(2016 v3)

The amount of tax free lump sum death grant for a contributing member of the Local Government Pension Scheme (LGPS) is normally equal to three years' pensionable pay. A death grant is payable no matter how long you have been a member of the scheme provided you are under age 75 at the date of death.

If you have a deferred benefit and / or a pension in payment from a previous period of LGPS membership, the death grant will be any lump sum payable in respect of those benefits **or** the death in service lump sum of three times your final pensionable pay, whichever is the greater.

- It is possible to name any number of individuals or incorporated or unincorporated organisations to receive the death grant.
- When completing the *Expression of Wish form*, please make sure that the percentage share column is completed for each individual beneficiary (even if you are naming only one) and that the sum of the percentage shares equals 100%.
- If you want to name more than five beneficiaries, please provide their details on a separate signed sheet of paper and attach it to this form.
- The named beneficiary / ies can be changed at any time simply by completing another *Expression of Wish form*, which can be sent on request or can be downloaded from the Pension Fund website at **www.surreypensionfund.org**
- The county council retains absolute discretion to decide whom any death grant is paid to. Having this discretion means the potential liability for the assessment of inheritance tax on the value of the grant will be avoided. The county council will of course have the greatest regard to your wishes in respect of the payment of the grant.
- Naming your beneficiary / ies will usually allow Surrey County Council (as the Administering Authority) to pay the death grant quickly and without the need to wait for your estate to be settled and Probate obtained.
- If the county council has been unable to pay the grant within two years of the date of your death, the grant will form part of your estate and payment will be made to your personal representatives.

If you have any questions about the Expression of Wish form or your LGPS benefits, you should contact Pension Services. Completed forms should be returned to Pension Services at the address below.

Contact details for Pension Services:

Pension Services

Tel: 020 8213 2802

Surrey County Council

Room 243, County Hall

Fax: 020 8541 9287

Kingston upon Thames

Surrey

Email: myhelpdeskpensions@surreycc.gov.uk

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This is not the form to nominate a co-habiting partner to receive a pension in the event of your death. A form for this purpose can be found on the Surrey Pension Fund website at: www.surreypensionfund.org