

# i-Connect

October 2024



#### What is i-Connect?

- Secure encrypted portal
- Monthly upload of data direct from payrolls to Altair Administration System
- Detects changes from month to month
- Built-in integrity checking







### What does i-Connect deliver?

- Starters
- Leavers
- CARE Pay
- Contributions
- Opt-in / Opt-out
- Personal data changes
- Address changes
- Service Breaks



### Advantages

- Accurate and up-to-date data on records
- Data follows through to My Pension Portal increases accuracy of member estimates
- Reduces the need for event notifications
- Monthly contribution reconciliation
- Year End Returns no longer required



### Importance of accurate data

#### Pre 2014 Scheme

 All benefits based on final salary



You could get it right at the end.....

#### Post 2014 Scheme

- Benefits based on 2 salaries:
  - Final salary (old definition)\*
  - Actual salary per year (including overtime and bonuses)
- Incorrect actual salary = Incorrect CARE pension for that year
- Assumed pensionable pay

Data requirements are more onerous – accurate record keeping is key

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#### Importance of accurate data (continued)



Public Service Pensions (Record Keeping) Regulations



Local Pension Board



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Scheme Advisory Board



#### The Pensions Regulator

Governance and administration of public service pension schemes

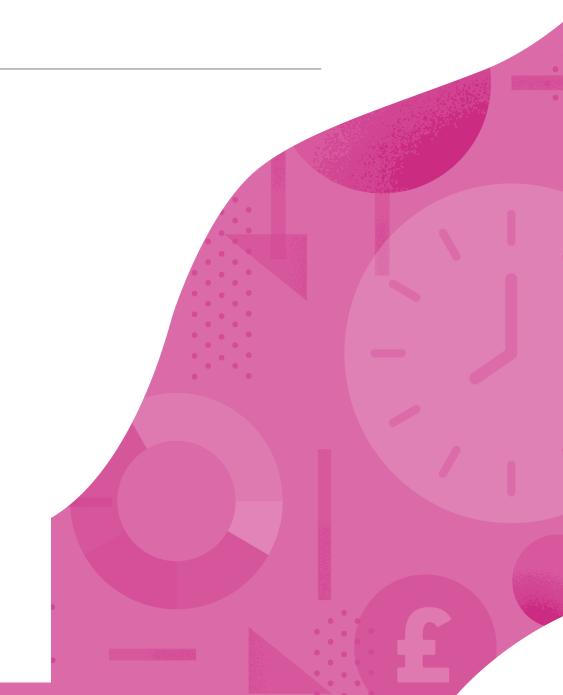


Ministry of Housing, Communities & Local Government



### Data flow





Interaction between i-Connect, Employers and the Pension Scheme



#### Returns

Different formats – can depend on your own circumstances:

- Online Return (data manually typed in each month)
- CSV report from payroll



## Onboarding Journey (CSV)

4 stage process

- Payroll Extract
- Staffordshire Pension Fund tests Extract
- Member Match
- Go Live



### Timescales once Live

- Data file upload deadline is 19<sup>th</sup> of the following month
- Nothing to stop you uploading the monthly file as soon as you run your payroll
- Monthly in arrears



#### Questions