

Meeting:	Pension Board
Date:	07/04/2025
Title:	Connecting to the Pension Dashboard
Purpose:	For information only
Author:	Meirion Jones, Pensions Manager

1. Introduction

This report outlines the Gwynedd Pension Fund's progress and plans for connecting to the Pension Dashboard. The Pension Dashboard will allow members to view their pension information in one place, enhancing transparency and engagement with their retirement planning.

2. Timetable for Connection

The Department for Work and Pensions (DWP) has set a staged timetable for connecting to the Pension Dashboard. The key dates are as follows:

- **August 2024:** Initial connection phase for volunteer participants.
- **April 2025:** Wider industry connection begins.
- **31 October 2025:** All LGPS funds must connect to the pension dashboard ecosystem.
- **31 October 2026:** Final deadline for all occupational pension schemes and personal and stakeholder pension providers to be connected.

We are committed to adhering to this timetable and will ensure that all necessary steps are taken to meet them.

3. Selection of ISP Provider

In order to connect to the dashboard, it is essential that an Integrated Service Provider (ISP) is selected. An ISP for the Pensions Dashboard Programme (PDP) acts as a bridge, connecting pension schemes and providers to the central digital architecture, ensuring data is securely and compliantly shared with members.

We are pleased to announce that we have selected **Heywood Pension Technologies** as our ISP. Heywood Pension Technologies is renowned for its secure and compliant solutions, ensuring a seamless connection to the Pension Dashboard. Additionally, as the provider of our Altair Administration software, Heywood Pension Technologies makes connecting to the ISP effortless.

Connecting the dashboard will be completed in two phases:

- **Phase 1:** Initial Setup and Testing
- **Phase 2:** PDP Onboarding

We are currently in the midst of Phase 1, and everything appears to be functioning correctly. This phase is expected to conclude on Friday, April 11, 2025.

While the date for Phase 2 has not yet been set, we hope to schedule it for the summer to ensure we are well-connected ahead of the October 31, 2025 deadline.

4. AVC Providers

In addition to our main pension scheme, we are working with our Additional Voluntary Contribution (AVC) providers to ensure their data is also connected to the Pension Dashboard. This involves coordinating with each AVC provider to confirm their connection methods and readiness. The Pensions Administration Standards Association (PASA) has provided a checklist and toolkit to assist with this process.

5. Conclusion

Connecting to the Pension Dashboard is a significant step forward in enhancing the service we provide to our members. With Heywood Pension Technologies as our ISP and a clear timetable in place, we are confident in our ability to meet the requirements and deadlines set out by the DWP. We will continue to update the Board on our progress and any developments in this project.