



For Immediate Release: May 2014

## **Actuarial Valuation results of West Midlands Pension Fund.**

The West Midlands Pension Fund reported an updated funding level of 75% its triennial actuarial valuation.

The £10bn Local Government Pension Scheme (LGPS) fund's final valuation report confirmed that the funding level from 2010 had been maintained with an increase in underlying assets. The employer Common Contribution Rate increased from 11.9% in 2010 to 13.3% in 2013.

The experience over the inter-valuation period has largely been positive, with improvements in the funding position due to positive investment performance, the impact of contributions paid by employers and lower than expected pay increases for active members.

However, the shortfall increased from 2010 due principally to reductions in real gilt yields which increase the assessment of the liabilities, the impact of a maturing membership profile and changes in life expectancy.

The Fund which provides pension services for over 87,000 current employees spread over 400 employers, saw its active membership decrease by 15% between the 2010 and 2013 valuation as a result of opt outs and redundancies.

The full Funding Report of the Actuarial Valuation as at 31 March 2013 prepared by Mercer is available on the Fund's website at

<http://www.wmpfonline.com/About+the+Fund/Valuation+of+the+fund.htm>

**Ends**

### **Notes for Editors:**

The West Midlands Pension Fund provides pension services to over 260,000 current and former employees of the seven West Midlands district councils and over 400 employers participating in the Fund.

It is one of the largest funds of the LGPS in England and Wales, employing 115 FTE members of staff. As at 31<sup>st</sup> March 2013 the Fund was valued at £9.8 billion.

The West Midlands Pension Fund strives to be a best practice organisation, delivering a customer-focused service, while providing value for money to its stakeholders.

**For more information, please contact:**

**Antony Ellis, Communications Officer Tel: 01902 554689**