

User Guide



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2 Revision History

Vsn	Date	Updated By	Approved By	Details of Amendment
2.00	30 Nov 2016	J Dale	Colin Lewis	Updated for GAD and DCLG reporting requirements for LGPS pension fund transactions for cash flows from 1st April 2017 onwards
2.01	05 Oct 2017	J Dale	Colin Lewis	Member address changed to Mandatory to conform with the Pensions Regulator Codes of Practice.
2.02	08/11/2017	J Dale	Colin Lewis	Am ended the name of Data item 37 to Auto- Enrolment Qualifying Earnings and replaced the example file
3.00	07/06/2018	K Prid geon	J Dale/E Fisher	Rebrand
3.01	0 1/0 8/20 18	Colin Lewis	Colin Lewis	Description of data item 48 was incorrect. Now fixed.
3.20	02/11/2018	J Dale	C Le w is	Telephone number change
3.30	29/04/2018	J Dale	C Le w is	Suspension renamed to Employment Break and reason codes added. Auto-Enrolment Qualifying Earnings retired. Service examples added to FAQ's. Part-Time Hours Effective Date notes amended. What's Changed section added.







Vsn	Date	Updated By	Approved By	Details of Amendment
3.40	12/07/2019	J Dale	C Lewis	Suspension Reason renamed Employment Break reason. Notes updated.
3.50	19/12/2019	J Dale	P Stocks	Data item 48 (Employers Contributions), max number of characters corrected.
3.60	12/03/2021	C Lewis	J Dale	Clarification on part - time hours for term -time employees
3.70	19/01//2023	C Lewis	J Dale	Change to Data Item 37 Auto -Enrolment Qualifying Earnings
3.8	07/12/2024	C Lewis		Clarification on part - time hours effective date





3 Purpose of this guide

This guide will provide you with a comprehensive understanding of the i-Connect payroll extract file specification, including each of the data items that must be submitted to your administering authority every pay period.

Data items are mandatory, conditional, or optional for i-Connect data processing. Your administering authority may insist on some of the conditional or optional data items being provided.

3.1 Further reading

If you are an employer:

- Refer to the i-Connect User Guides for Employers for further in form ation regarding the i-Connect service.
 - · Logon
 - · Reporting
 - · Onboarding
 - · Online Return
 - · File Upload

If you are an administering authority:

• Refer to the User Guides for Employers listed above, and the i-Connect User Guide for Administering Authorities.

Please email <u>support@i-Connectdata.co.uk</u> if you have not received copies of the documentation.





4 Preparation

4.1 Record matching

i-Connect will autom atically match, where possible, each separate post on your payroll system to a corresponding record on your administering authority's pensions administration system (referred to throughout this document as 'the target system'). The matching process uses employees' National Insurance numbers, together with a unique payroll identifier.

4.2 Unique payroll identifier

A unique payroll identifier must be present for each payee/post on the payroll extract file. This key can be a combination of fields held on the payroll system, for example, payroll reference, employee reference and post number. There are three 12-character fields available on the payroll extract file to output the unique payroll identifier:

- Payroll Reference 1(Data Item 2)
- Payroll Reference 2 (Data Item 3)
- Payroll Reference 3 (Data Item 4)

These three fields provide you and your administering authority with the flexibility to create a unique payroll identifier in a single field or across multiple fields.

The examples in the table below use the following information:

• National Insurance Number: AA123123A

• Payroll Reference: 555444

• Post Number: 144-543

Identifier		•		Payroll Reference 3
Single Field	AA123123A	555444144543		
Multiple Fields (2)	AA123123A	555444	144-543	
Multiple Fields (3)	AA123123A	555444	14 4	543



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Each of the three payroll reference fields corresponds to a specific field on the target system. Your administering authority will provide you with their specific field -level matching requirements as part of the i -Connect implementation process; please c ontact them as soon as possible if this information has not been provided.

The selected matching method must be consistent for all records on the payroll extract file.





5 Extract file creation preparation

5.1 File form at

All payroll extract files uploaded into i-Connect must be saved as comma-separated-value (CSV) files. Files not in this form at will be rejected during the upload process.

Fields containing com m as must be embedded within a set of double quotes (com monly referred to as 'text qualifiers'), to maintain data integrity. For example, a data entry in Address Line 1 (data item 15), with a com ma present, would be output as:

"Dun Roamin, Dun Campin"

5.2 Headerrow

A header row must be present on the first row of each payroll extract file, to describe the i- Connect data items. Failure to include a header row will result in the first record on the file being omitted from processing, as i-Connect always assumes the first row is the header.

A sample header row is:

NI_NUMBER, PAY_REF_1, PAY_REF_2, PAY_REF_3, ADD_LINE_1, ADD_LINE_2, ADD_LINE_3, ADD_LINE_4, ADD_LINE_5, POSTCODE, EMAIL_ADDRESS, TELEPH ONE_NUMBER, MOBILE_NUMBER, WORKS_PLACE_NAME, WORKS_ADD_LINE_1, WOR KS_ADD_LINE_2, WORKS_ADD_LINE_3, WORKS_ADD_LINE_4, WORKS_ADD_LINE_5, WORKS_POSTCODE, WORKS_EMAIL_ADDRESS, DATE_OF_LEAVING, PAYROLL_PERIOD_END_DATE, ADDITIONAL_CONTRIBUTIONS_1, ADDITIONAL_CONTRIBUTIONS_2, EMPLOYMENT_BREAK_START, EMPLOYMENT_BREAK_END, FILLER_1, EMPLOYMENT_BREAK_REASON, SURNAME, FORENAMES, GENDER, DOB, MARITAL_STATUS, TITLE, FILLER_2, FILLER, ANNUAL

PENSIONABLE_SALARY, PENSIONABLE_PAY, EFFECTIVE_DATE, DATE_JOINED_PENSION_SCHEME, JOB_TITLE, PART_TIME_HOURS_EFFECTIVE_DATE, PART_TIME_HOURS, PART_TIME_INDICATOR, WHOLE_TIME_EQUIVALENT_HOURS, EMPLOYEES_MAIN_SECTION_CONTS, EMPLOYERS_CONTS, SCHEME_CONT_RATE, OPT_OUT_DATE, OPT_IN_DATE, MAIN_SECTION_CUMULATIVE_PEN_PAY, 5050_SECTION_CUMULATIVE_PEN_PAY, FTE_FINAL_PAY, CUMULATIVE_EMPLOYEES_MAIN_SECTION_SCHEME_CONTS, CUMULATIVE_EMPLOYERS_SCHEME_CONTS, REASON_FOR_LEAVING, CUMULATIVE_SCAPCS, CUMULATIVE_APCS, EMPLOYEES_5050_CONTS, CUMULATIVE_EMPLOYEES_5050_CONTS, CUMULATIVE_EMPLOYEES_5050_CONTS, SCAPCS, APCS

The column names do not have to be identical to those above, but the field ordering must be the same as the order specified in section 5.





5.3 Duplicate records

All records on the i-Connect payroll extract file must be unique. Uploaded files will be rejected if there are one or more records containing duplicate combinations of National Insurance Number and the unique payroll identifier.

5.4 Other payroll extract file considerations

- **5.4.1** The order of the data items must match the order specified in the file layout.
- **5.4.2** The payroll period end date (data item 23) must be the same on all records.
- **5.4.3** Blank rows must not be present in the payroll extract file.
- **5.4.4** Ensure all leading zero values remain if the file has to be converted to CSV form at.
- **5.4.5** Ensure all transactions processed after the payroll cut-off date are included on the i- Connect payroll extract file report. This must include new starters, leavers, post changes and so on.
- **5.4.6** Part-time hours must be pro-rated for term-time employees.
- **5.4.7** Negative values are indicated by a minus '-' character at the beginning of the data field (for example, '-115.64').





6 Uploading data

6.1 Preparing to upload data

Please read the i-Connect User Guide for Employers and ensure that you can answer 'Yes' to the following questions before attempting to upload any data into i-Connect:

- **6.1.1** Is the file in the correct form at?
- **6.1.2** Have you used the correct payroll-period-end date?
- **6.1.3** Are all the records unique?
- **6.1.4** Has your administering authority provided you with a username?
- **6.1.5** Have you completed the i-Connect registration process?

6.2 Processing times

The following table provides approximate timings for processing payroll extract files in i- Connect. The first stage, 'File Upload/Employment Check', checks the structure of the file, validates the data and checks whether any payees have been deleted from the target system by the administering authority. The second stage, 'Target System Update', uploads the detected events to the administering authority's target system:

Number of Records	mber of Records Approx. Processing Times (mins)		
	File Upload/	Target System Update	
	Employment		
	Check		
1,0 0 0	15	20	
2,000	20	40	
5,000	30	10 0	
7,500	50	150	
10,000	70	200	
15,000	10 0	300	
20,000	120	400	

Note: Processing times can vary, depending on Internet speeds and the number of employers using the i-Connect service.





Item	Data Item	Description	Maximum Number of Character s	Mandatory / Optional
1	NATIONAL INSURANCE NUMBER	National Insurance (NI) number of the employee	9	Mandatory
Exam ple:	AB 1234 56 C			
Notes:	reference fields (item s 2-4) to	•	ority's target s	ystem. Please contact
2	PAYROLL REFERENCE 1	An additional unique identifier. Generally, this is	12	Conditional*
Exam ple:	134-0547	the employee's payroll number with the current employer. It should be a unique identifier for each post in your organisation.		
Notes:	Number. Please contact your a Payroll Reference 1, Payroll Re		ue identifier sl	hould be placed in





Item	Data Item	Description	Maximum Number of Character s	Mandatory / Optional
Item	Data Item	Description	Maximum Number of Character s	Mandatory / Optional
3	PAYROLL REFERENCE 2	An additional unique identifier. Generally, this is	12	Conditional*
Example:	TY0123456	the employee's payroll number with the current employer. It should be a unique identifier for each post in your organisation.		
Notes:	Number. Please contact your adm Payroll Reference 1, Pa yroll Ref	e identifier, it can be used to store additional payroll identif tract Number.	er should be placed	in
4	PAYROLL REFERENCE 3	An additional unique identifier. Generally, this is	12	Conditional*
Example:	07	the employee's payroll number with the current employer. It should be a unique identifier for each post in your organisation.		





Item	Data Item	Description	Maximum Number of Character s	Mandatory / Optional
Notes:	Number. Please contact your admi Payroll Reference 1, Pa yroll Refe	identifier, it can be used to store additional payroll identifica ract Number.	should be placed in	
Item	Data Item	Description	Maximum Number of Character s	Mandatory / Optional
5	ADDRESS LINE 1	Address Line 1 of the correspondence address	30	Mandatory
Example:	Riverview	of the employee		
Notes:			and apostrophe ('). ess lines m	ust be provided.
6	ADDRESS LINE 2	Address Line 2 of the correspondence address	30	Mandatory
Example:	23 Upper Riverbank	of the employee		
Notes:			and apostrophe (').	,





Item	Data Item	Description	Maximum Number of Character s	Mandatory / Optional
7	ADDRESS LINE 3	Address Line 3 of the correspondence address	30	Optional
Example:	Hale Barns	of the employee		
Notes:	1	• •	-) and apostrophe (') lines must be provide	
8	ADDRESS LINE 4	Address Line 4 of the correspondence address	30	Optional
Example:	Altrincham	of the employee		
Notes:	Please enter the fourth address	s line of where the employee lives	<u> </u>	
Notes:	Upper - and lower -case charac	s line of where the employee lives. cters are valid. Valid characters are A to Z, hyphen (i) is present for the employee, a minimum of two address li	-) and apostrophe (')). e provided.
Notes:	Upper - and lower -case charac	cters are valid. Valid characters are A to Z, hyphen (,	
	Upper - and lower -case characterist If any of the address lines (1 to 5	cters are valid. Valid characters are A to Z, hyphen (5) is present for the employee, a minimum of two address is Description Address Line 5 of the correspondence address	Maximum Number of Character	e provided. Mandatory
Item	Upper - and lower -case characteristics (1 to 5	cters are valid. Valid characters are A to Z, hyphen (5) is present for the employee, a minimum of two address is Description	Maximum Number of Character s	e provided. Mandatory / Optional
Item	Upper - and lower -case characters in the address lines (1 to 5) Data Item ADDRESS LINE 5 Cheshire Please enter the fifth address line Upper - and lower -case characters.	cters are valid. Valid characters are A to Z, hyphen (5) is present for the employee, a minimum of two address is Description Address Line 5 of the correspondence address of the employee e of where the employee lives.	Maximum Number of Character s 20	e provided. Mandatory / Optional Optional





Item	Data Item	Description	Maximum Number of Character s	Mandatory / Optional
Example:	WA14 1TT	of the employee		
Notes:	Please enter letters (A -Z), numb	ers (0 -9) and a single space.	-	-
11	EMAIL ADDRESS	Personal email address of the employee	72	Optional
Example:	hsmith@domain.co.uk			
Notes:	Please enter the employee's person Email address should be in the cornivery.common@example.co.uk'). required, as it may affect access to	rect format (for example, 'niceandsimple@example.com You should check with your administering authority was a second control of the control o		
12	TELEPHONE NUMBER	Personal telephone number of the employee	14	Optional
Example:	01234 567890			
Notes:	Please enter the employee's personumber. Numeric characters and s			
Item	Data Item	Description	Maximum Number of Character s	Mandatory / Optional
13	MOBILE NUMBER	Personal mobile number of the employee	14	Optional
Example:	07777 777777			
Notes:	Please enter the employee's personumber. Numeric characters and s		·	,





Item	Data Item	Description	Maximum Number of Character s	Mandatory / Optional
14	WORKS PLACE NAME	The place name of where the employee currently	40	Optional
Example:	Elmridge Primary School	works		
Notes:	Please enter the name of the emp	ployee's workplace.		
15	WORKS ADDRESS LINE 1	Address Line 1 of the works address of the	30	Optional
Example:	Wilton Drive	employee		
Notes:	If any of the works address lines provided.	ters are valid. Valid characters are A to Z, hyphen (-) and apostrophe ('). wo address lines mu	
16	WORKS ADDRESS LINE 2	Address Line 2 of the works address of the	30	Optional
Example:	Hale Barns	employee		
Notes:		, ,	-) and apostrophe ('). Iress lines must be	
Item	Data Item	Description	Maximum Number of Character s	Mandatory / Optional
17	WORKS ADDRESS LINE 3	Address Line 3 of the works address of the	30	Optional
Example:	Altrincham	employee		





Item	Data Item	Description	Maximum Number of Character s	Mandatory / Optional
Notes:		. ,	and apostrophe (').	
18	WORKS ADDRESS LINE 4	Address Line 4 of the works address of the	30	Optional
Example:	Cheshire	employee		
Notes:		. ,	and apostrophe (').	
19	WORKS ADDRESS LINE 5	Address Line 5 of the works address of the	30	Optional
Example:	United Kingdom	employee		
Notes:	Please enter the fifth address line Upper - and lower -case characte If any of the works address lines (provided.	ers are valid. Valid characters are A to Z, hyphen (-)	and apostrophe ('). o address lines mus	t be
20	WORKS POST CODE	Postcode of the works address of the employee	10	Optional
Example:	WA15 1PS			
Notes:	Please enter letters (A -Z), numb	pers (0 -9) and a single space.		
Item	Data Item	Description	Maximum Number of Characters	Mandatory / Optional
21	WORKS EMAIL ADDRESS	Work email address of the employee	72	Optional





Item	Data Item		Description	Maximum Number of Character s	Mandatory / Optional		
Example:	hsmith@doma	ain.co.uk					
Notes:	Email address		ddress for where they work. er format (for example, 'niceandsimple@example.com	n' or			
22	DATE OF LEA	AVING	Date the employee left this post	10	Conditional*		
Example:	31/05/2015						
Notes:	Please enter the date in the format DD/MM/YYYY . *Mandatory for leavers						
23	PAYROLL PE	RIOD END DATE	End date of the earnings period to which	10	Mandatory		
Example:	30/06/2015		the pay relates				
Notes:	The same date This data iten Non -monthly which the final	n must be completed. payrolls - please n ncial information is writ	DD/MM/YYYY . each record on the file; mixed payroll period end dates ote that the payroll period end date is used to determ ten back on the target system. The pay date should be I is paid in advance or arrears.	ine the scheme year to)		
24	ADDITIONAL	CONTRIBUTIONS 1	Additional voluntary contributions the	10	Optional		
Example:	10.01	CUMULATIVE	employee is paying				
Notes:			tributions to date total for any additional voluntary concers and decimal point.	tributions the	,		

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Item	Data Item		Description	Maximum Number of Characters	Mandatory / Optional	
25	ADDITIO1	NAL CONTRIBUTIONS	Additional regular contributions the employee is paying	10	Optional	
Exam ple:	15.99	CUMULATIVE				
Notes:	Please enter the cumulative contributions to date total for any additional regular contributions the employee is paying. Enter only numbers and decimal point. Leave blank or populate with zero values if value is null.				2	
26	EMPLOYMENT BREAK START DATE		The start date of any unpaid employment break for the employee	10	Optional	
Exam ple:	17/06/2015					
Notes:	Please enter the start date of commencement of any unpaid employment break, for example, strike, maternity or paternity. Please enter the date in the format DD/MM/YYYY .					
27	EMPLOYMENT BREAK END DATE		The end date of any unpaid employment break for the employee	10	Optional	
Exam ple:	18/06/201	5				
Notes:	Please enter the end date of a term ination of any unpaid employment break, for example, strike, maternity or paternity. Please enter the date in the form at DD/MM/YYYY. The end date can be left blank until known.					
28	FILLER		A spare field reserved for future use	1	N/A	
Exam ple:						
Notes:	Leave bla	nk.				

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Item	Data Item	Description	Maximum Number of Characters	Mandatory / Optional			
29	EMPLOYMENT BREAK REASON	Employment break reason	1	Optional			
Example:	M						
Notes:	Please enter the reason for the employment break, the following entries are valid: • A - Leave of Absence • E - Education Break • M - Parental Break* • S - Strike • U - Unauthorised The employment break reason will default to 'U' - Unauthorised, if the data item is left blank. *Y' can be used to indicate the employment break reason was due to maternity or paternity.						
30	SURNAME	Surname of the employee	25	Mandatory			
Examples:	James Howard- Jones Vaughan Williams O'Hara						
Notes:	Please enter the last name of the Upper- and lower-case charact This data item must be completed.	ne em ployee. ers are valid. Valid characters are A to Z, hyphen (-) a	nd apostrophe (").			





Item	Data Item	Description	Maximum Number of Characters	Mandatory / Optional
31	FORENAMES	Forename(s) of the employee	25	Mandatory
Examples:	Myfanwy Amelia - Lily Lewis Watson			
Notes:	Please enter a maximum of three Upper - and -lower case characters This data item must be completed.	forenames for the employee. are valid. Valid characters are A to Z, hyphen (-) are	nd apostrophe (').	
32	GENDER	Sex of the employee	1	Mandatory
Example:	M			
Notes:	Please enter either M (male) or This data item must be completed.	F (female).		
33	DATE OF BIRTH	Date of birth of the employee	10	Mandatory
Example:	06/05/1971			
Notes:	Please enter the date in the format	DD/MM/YYYY .		





34	MARITAL STATUS M		The employee's marital/partnership status	1	Optional				
Example:									
Notes:	Please enter the employee's marital/partnership status, the following entries are valid:								
	• C - Civil Partnership								
	• D -	Divorced							
	• M -	Married							
	• P-	• P - Declared Partnership							
	• S-	• S - Single							
	• W -	Widowed							
35	TITLE		Title	4	Optional				
Exam ple:	Mr								
Notes:	Please ent	er one of the follow	ving valid						
	titles: Mr Mrs Miss Ms Dr								
36	FILLER		A spare field reserved for future use	10	N/A				
Exam ple:									
Notes:	Leave blan	k.		·					
37	FILLER		A spare field reserved for future use	10	N/A				
Exam p le:									
Notes:	Leave blan	k or zero fill	·	•	,				
38	ANNUAL PENSIONABLE SALARY		The annual pensionable salary rate for the employee	10	Optional				
Exam ple:	18 50 0 .0 0	ANNUAL							





Notes:	Please enter the employee's annual pensionable salary for the post. An effective date must be entered in data item 40 if an annual pensionable salary is entered. Enter only numbers and decimal point. Leave blank if null.					
39	PENSIONA	BLE PAY	The pensionable pay/or assumed pensionable	10	Mandatory	
Example:	1000.01	PAY PERIOD	pay of the employee for the current pay period			
Notes:	period. Ente	er only numbers and o	sionable pay for the current payroll decimal point. 0.00' if null pay this period.			
40	EFFECTIVE	E DATE	The effective date for the annual pensionable	10	Conditional*	
Example:	01/04/2015 salary rate					
Notes:	Please enter the date from which the annual pensionable salary entered in item 38 is applicable. Please enter the date in the format DD/MM/YYYY . *Mandatory if data item 38 is present - leave blank if data item 38 is blank.					
41	DATE JOIN SCHEME	ED PENSION	The date the employee joined the pension scheme	10	Conditional*	
Example:	01/04/2015					
Notes:	Please enter the date the member joined one of the following:					
	 Local Government Pension Scheme Police Pension Scheme Firefighters' Pension Scheme Please enter the date in the form at DD/MM/YYYY . *Mandatory for new starters 					
42	JOB TITLE		Job title/description of the employee	20	Optional	
Exam ple:	Payroll Off	icer				





Notes:	Please enter the employee's job title for this post.					
43	PART-TIME/WHOLE -TIME HOURS EFFECTIVE DATE	The date the employee started working the contracted part -time/whole -time hours	10	Conditional*		
Example:	15/03/2015					
Notes:	This should be the last date the me vice versa, and must be greater the for whole -time members. Please enter the date in the format	ember had a change in part -time hours, moved nan the members data joined scheme date. T	l from part -tim	fied in item 44 below. e to full time/casual or ld also be populated		
44	PART-TIME HOURS	The part -time hours the employee is working	5	Conditional*		
Example:	15.75	for this post		Conditional		
Notes:	-	 -time hours the employee is working for -time or casual, this field should be left ted if the employee works term -time only. See sec to or greater than the value in data ecimal point. 	tion 7 below for ex	amples.		
45	PART-TIME INDICATOR	An indicator to identify that the employee is	1	Conditional*		
Example:	Υ	part -time in this post				
Notes:	Please enter R if the employee is	5 .	neme.	casual members.		





46	WHOLE -TI EQUIVALEN		The notional whole -time hours a part -time member would be working in this post	5	Conditional*	
Example:	37.50]			
Notes:	for this post. If Y is entered entered. Entered.	r the notional whole . If the member is whol ed in data item 45, a fig ter only numbers and d y for part -timers	gure greater than zero must be	ı		
47	EMPLOYEE'S MAIN SECTION CONTRIBUTIONS		Employee's main section scheme contributions for the current payroll period	10	Mandatory	
Example:	120.00	PAY PERIOD]			
Notes:	payroll perio	r the employee's main od. Enter only numbers - populate with '0.00' lues are valid.	and decimal point.			
48	EMPLOYER	RS CONTRIBUTIONS	Employer's scheme contributions for the	10	Mandatory	
Example:	240.00	PAY PERIOD	current payroll period			
Notes:	Please enter the employer's scheme contributions for the current payroll period. Enter only numbers and decimal point. Mandatory - populate with '0.00' if null pay this period. Negative values are valid.					
49	SCHEME CONTRIBUTION RATE		Employee's scheme contribution rate	5	Mandatory	
Example:	6.25	PAY PERIOD				





Notes:	Please enter the member's scheme contribution rate (2.75 to 12.50), for the current payroll period. Enter only numbers and decimal point. Mandatory - default rate required for members who have left or opted out of the scheme						
50	OPT OUT DA	ATE	The date the employee opted out of the	10	Conditional*		
Example:	31/05/2015		pension scheme				
Notes:	Please enter the date the employee opted out of the pension scheme. The Opt Out Date should be removed if the member opts back into the scheme and an Opt In Date is entered in data item 51. All opt -outs should remain on the payroll extract file until they leave employment (at which point a date of leaving should be entered in data item 22). Please enter the date in the format DD/MM/YYYY . *Mandatory for opt -outs						
51	OPT IN DATE 01/05/2015		The date the employee opted in to the pension	10	Conditional*		
Example:			scheme				
Notes:	Please enter the date the employee opted into the pension scheme. Please enter the date in the format DD/MM/YYYY. The Opt In Date should be removed if the member opts out of the scheme and an Opt Out Date is entered in data item 50. *Mandatory for opt -ins: leave blank for existing LGPS members.						
52	MAIN SECTI CUMULATIV PENSIONAE	ON 'E BLE PAY	The total pensionable pay or assumed pensionable pay in the main section of the CARE scheme for the scheme year (1 April -31 March)	10	Mandatory		
Example:	1000.01	CUMULATIVE					
Notes:	financial yea Mandatory, p	r. Enter only numbers	o date total for the employee's main section pensionable pages and decimal point. null or the member is not in the CARE scheme.	y for	the current		





lt em	Data Item		Description	Maximum Number of Characters	Mandatory / Optional	
53	50/50 SECTION CUMULATIVE PENSIONABLE PAY		The total pensionable pay or assumed pensionable pay in the 50/50 section of the CARE scheme for the scheme year (1 April -31 March)	10	Mandatory	
Example:	1000.01	CUMULATIVE				
Notes:	Please enter the cumulative pay to date total for the employee's 50/50 section pensionable pay for the current financial year. This is required only for members of the LGPS. Enter only numbers and decimal point. Mandatory - populate with '0.00' if null or if the employ ee is not in the CARE scheme or a member of the Police or Firefighters' Pension Scheme. Negative values are not valid.					
54		EQUIVALENT	Full -time equivalent pensionable pay in respect of the employment for the scheme year (pre -	10	Mandatory	
Example:	18000.00	ANNUAL	CARE scheme definition)			
Notes:	Please enter the member's annual final pay, based on the pre -CARE definition of pay for the current financial year. Please contact your administering authority if you are unable to provide an accurate FTE final pay. i -Connect recommends that this field be populated with '0.00' until a satisfactory arrangement has been agreed with the administering authority. A value is required before the scheme year end for use with annual benefit statements and member self -service systems. Enter only numbers and decimal point. Mandatory - populate with '0.00' if null.					
55	CUMULATIV MAIN SECT CONTRIBU		Employee's main section cumulative scheme contributions	10	Mandatory	
Example:	999.99	CUMULATIVE				





Notes:	Please enter the cumulative contributions to date total for the employee's main section scheme contributions, for the current financial year.					
	•	numbers and decimal p populate with '0.00 -				
	iviaridatory	- populate with 0.00	II Hull.		.	
56	CUMULAT EMPLOYE CONTRIBL	R'S	Employer's cumulative scheme contributions	10	Mandatory	
Example:	1999.98	CUMULATIVE				
Notes:	Please enter the cumulative confinancial year. Enter only numbe Mandatory - populate with '0.0		•	contributions	for the current	
57	REASON FOR LEAVING		Reason the employee terminated employment	100	Optional	
Example:	Voluntary E	Early Retirement				
Notes:	This is a 10	00 -character (including	spaces) field to hold the reason why the employee's er	nployment has terr	minated.	
58	CUMULATIVE SHARED COS	-	Cumulative shared cost additional pension contributions (employer	10	Optional	
Example:	1050.00	CUMULATIVE	contributions only)			
Notes:	Please enter the cumulative contributions to date total for any shared cost additional pension contributions you pay on behalf of the employee (employee contributions should be excluded). Enter only numbers and decimal point.					
		r populate with zero va	1	T		
59	CUMULATIVE	E EMPLOYEE APCs	Cumulative employee additional pension contributions (include employee SCAPC	10	Optional	
Example:	1050.00	CUMULATIVE	contributions (include employee SCAPC contributions, but exclude employer SCAPC contributions)			





Notes:	Please enter the cumulative contributions to date total for any additional pension contributions the employee is paying. Employee SCAPC contributions should be included; please do not include any employer SCAPC contributions.							
	Enter only nur	mbers and decimal po	int.					
	Leave blank o	or populate with zero v	alues if null.					
60	EMPLOYEE'S SECTION CO	S 50/50 NTRIBUTIONS	Employee's 50/50 section scheme contributions for the current payroll period	10	Mandatory			
Example:	360.00	PAY PERIOD						
Notes:	period. Enter	Please enter the employee's 50/50 section scheme contributions for the current payroll period. Enter only numbers and decimal point. Mandatory - populate with '0.00' if null pay this period. Negative values are valid.						
		-	Employee's cumulative 50/50 section scheme contributions	10	Mandatory			
Example:	999.99	CUMULATIVE						
Notes:	for the curr Enter only	er the cumulative cont ent financial year. numbers and decimal - populate with '0.0	•	section scheme c	ontributions,			
62	PAY PERIO	OD SHARED COST	Pay period shared cost additional pension contributions (employer contributions only)	10	Optional			
Example:	100.50	PAY PERIOD	7					
Notes:	employee (Enter only	Please enter the pay period total for any shared cost additional pension contributions you pay on behalf of the employee (employee contributions should be excluded). Enter only numbers and decimal point. Leave blank or populate with zero values if null.						
63	PAY PERIO	OD EMPLOYEE APC	Pay period employee additional pension	10	Optional			



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Example:	100.50	PAY PERIOD	contributions (include employee SCAPC contributions, but exclude employer SCAPC contributions)		
Notes:	Please enter the pay period total for any additional pension contributions the employee is paying. Employee SCAPC contributions should be included, please do not include any employer SCAPC contributions. Enter only numbers and decimal point. Leave blank or populate with zero values if null.				



8 Example payroll extract file

NI_NUMBER, PAY_REF_1, PAY_REF_2, PAY_REF_3, ADD_LINE_1, ADD_LINE_2, ADD_LINE_3, ADD_LINE_4, ADD_LINE_5, POSTCO DE, EMAIL_ADDRESS, TELEPHONE_NUMBER, MOBILE_NUMBER, WORKS_PLACE_NAME, WORKS_ADD_LINE_1, WORKS_ADD_LINE_2, WO RKS_ADD_LINE_3, WORKS_ADD_LINE_4, WORKS_ADD_LINE_5, WORKS_POSTCODE, WORKS_EMAIL_ADDRESS, DATE_OF_LEAVING, PAYROLL_PERIOD_END_DATE, ADDITIONAL_CONTRIBUTIONS_1, ADDITIONAL_CONTRIBUTIONS_2, EMPLOYMENT_BREAK_START, EMPLOYMENT_BREAK_REASON, SURNAME, FORENAMES, GENDER, DOB, MARITAL_STATUS, TITLE, FILLER_2, FILLER_ANNUAL_PENSIONABLE_SALARY, PENSIONABLE_PAY, EFFECTIVE_DATE, DATE_JOINED_PENSION_SCHEME, JOB_TITLE, PART_TIME_HOURS_EFFECTIVE_DATE, PART_TIME_HOURS, PART_TIME_INDICATOR, WHOLE_TIME_EQUIVALENT_HOURS, EMPLOYEES_MAIN_SECTION_CONTS, EMPLOYERS_CONTS, SCHEME_CONT_RATE, OPT_OUT_DATE, OPT_IN_DATE, MAIN_SECTION_CUMULATIVE_PEN_PAY, 5050_SECTION_CUMULATIVE_PEN_PAY, FTE_FINAL_PAY, CUMULATIVE_EMPLOYEES_MAIN_SECTION_SCHEME_CONTS, REASON_FOR_LEAVING, CUMULATIVE_SCAPCS, CUMULATIVE_APCS, EMPLOYEES_SON_SCAPCS, APCS

BB000001A,200001,1,,1 Willow Bank, Timperley, Altrincham, Cheshire, England, WA15 6LU, m.jones@gmail.com,1612823232,7901300648, Outreach Unit, Timperley, Altrincham, Cheshire,,,WA15 3MJ,,,31/05/2017,100,,,,,Jones, Martin, M,01/01/1961, M, Mr,,,17199,1433.25,01/04/2017,01/01/2008,30/12/1946, Supervisor,,,,83.13,207.83,5.8,,,2866.5,0,17199,166.26,415.66,,,,0,0,,

BB000002A,200002,1,,5 Sandy Bank, Timperley, Altrincham, Cheshire, England, WA15
8YY, d.denton@aol.com, 1612343223,7902500332, Outreach Unit, Timperley, Altrincham, Cheshire,,, WA15
3MJ,,,31/05/2017,,50,,,,Denton, Daniel, M,02/01/1961, S, Miss,,,10617,884.75,01/04/2017,06/05/2010,03/05
/1949, Carer, 06/05/2010, 20, Y, 40, 48.66, 121.65, 5.5,,,1769.5,0,21234,97.32,243.3,,,,0,0,,

BB000003A,200003,1,,85 Ash Close, Timperley, Altrincham, Cheshire, England, WA15 3TB, p.allen@yahoo.com,1612875441,,Outreach Unit, Timperley, Altrincham, Cheshire,,,WA15



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3MJ,,,31/05/2017,,,,,,Allen,Pauline Tricia,F,03/01/1961,M,Mr,,,9328.5,777.38,01/04/2017,28/09/2005,24/09/1944,Carer,01/03/2012,20,Y,40,0,106.9,5.5,,,0,1554.76,18657,0,213.8,,,,42.76,85.52,,

BB000004A,200004,1,,47 South Parade, Timperley, Altrincham, Cheshire, England, WA15
1SS, coleen.carbery@hotmail.com,1612850984,,Outreach Unit, Timperley, Altrincham, Cheshire,,,WA15
3MJ,,,31/05/2017,,,,,,Carbery,Coleen,F,04/01/1961,S,Miss,,,25412,2117.67,01/04/2017,10/08/2012,06/08
/1951,Carer,,,,137.65,344.13,6.5,,,4235.34,0,25412,275.3,688.26,,,,0,0,

BB000005A, 200005, 1,, 7 Springwell Terrace, Timperley, Altrincham, Cheshire, England, WA15
3JD, c.johnston@live.co.uk, 1612377643,, Outreach Unit, Timperley, Altrincham, Cheshire,,, WA15
3MJ,,,31/05/2017,,,,,,Johnston, Carol, F, 05/01/1961, S, Miss,,,19598, 1633.17,01/04/2017,24/12/2000,19/12
/1939, Carer,,,,94.72,236.8,5.8,,,3266.34,0,19598,189.44,473.6,,320.04,160.02,0,0,160.02,80.01

BB000006A,200006,1,,16 Upwell Road, Timperley, Altrincham, Cheshire, England, WA15
4NN, harry.james@talktalk.net,1612844423,,Outreach Unit, Timperley, Altrincham, Cheshire,,WA15
3MJ,,,31/05/2017,,,,,James, Harry
Horrace, M,06/01/1961, M, Mr,,,3380.88,281.74,01/04/2017,02/10/2010,25/09/1949, Groundskeeper,02/10/2010,5,Y,40,15.5,38.75,5.5,,,563.48,0,27047,31,77.5,,,00,0,

BB000007A,200007,1,,87 Malpas Road, Timperley, Altrincham, Cheshire, England, WA15
9GF, m.brunt@sky.com,1612832267,,Outreach Unit, Timperley, Altrincham, Cheshire,,,WA15
3MJ,,,31/05/2017,,,,,,Brunt, Mary
Jane,F,17/05/1991,M,Mrs,,,23478,1956.5,01/04/2017,03/03/2010,17/10/1918,Chef,,,,127.17,317.93,6.5,,,3913,0,23478,254.34,635.86,,,,0,0,,





BB000008A,200008,1,,71 Hall Avenue, Timperley, Altrincham, Cheshire, England, WA15
7SW, alex.may@plusnet.com,1612899653,,Outreach Unit, Timperley, Altrincham, Cheshire,,,WA15
3MJ,,,31/05/2017,,,,,,May, Alex,M,08/01/1961,M,Mr,,,13992.75,1166.06,01/04/2017,15/10/1999,06/10/1938,Chef,08/01/2010,30,Y,40,64.13,160.33,5.5,,,2332.12,0,18657,128.26,320.66,,,,0,0,,

BB000009A,200009,1,,81 Deansgate Lane, Timperley, Altrincham, Cheshire, England, WA15

1WE, j.queen@tiscali.co.uk,1612333418,,Outreach Unit, Timperley, Altrincham, Cheshire,,WA15

3MJ,,,31/05/2017,,,,,Queen, Jennifer, F,09/01/1961,S,Miss,,,24456,2038,01/04/2017,11/09/2013,01/09/19

52,Senior Manager,,,,132.47,331.18,6.5,,,4076,0,24456,264.94,662.36,,,00,0,

BB000010A,200010,1,,31 Bloomsbury Lane, Timperley, Altrincham, Cheshire, England, WA15 8CC, h.smith@homecall.co.uk,1612366598,,Outreach Unit, Timperley, Altrincham, Cheshire,,,WA15 3MJ,,31/05/2017,31/05/2017,45.12,,,,,Smith, Harry,M,10/01/1961,M,Mr,,,12500.5,1041.71,01/04/2017,10/0 5/2010,29/04/1949, Director,10/05/2010,20,Y,40,57.29,143.23,5.5,,,2083.42,0,25001,114.58,286.46,Ill Health Retirement,,0,0,0,



9 Frequently asked questions (FAQs)

We have compiled a list of common questions and answers below; please contact the i- Connect support desk if you have any other questions or comments relating to this guide:

1. Should I include all payees on the payroll extract file, including those employees who have previously opted out of the scheme?

Whether you include opt-outs on the payroll extract file is entirely up to you and your administering authority, and the inclusion of opt-outs should be agreed during the implementation stage.

If you do decide to include opt outs, the difference between the 'Opt Out Date' (data item 50) and the 'Date Joined Scheme' (data item 41) must be less than three months. This is because i-Connect will create new starter records on your administering authority's target system for each opt-out, irrespective of whether they ever existed on the target system, and a date of less than three months will ensure that the starter records are created with a status of 'Opt Out'.

2. What should I do if an Opt Out re-joins the scheme?

You must remove the 'Opt Out Date' from data item 50 and insert an 'Opt In Date' in data item 51. The 'Opt In Date' should remain on the payroll extract file each month.

3. How do I record service?

Examples have been included below:

Part Time Employee			
Part Time Hours Effective Date	Part Time Hours	Part Time Indicator	Whole Time Equivalent Hours
01/05/2012	28.75	Υ	37
Whole Time Employee			
Part Time Hours Effective Date	Part Time Hours	Part Time Indicator	Whole Time Equivalent Hours
01/05/2012			
Casual Employee			
Part Time Hours Effective Date	Part Time Hours	Part Time Indicator	Whole Time Equivalent Hours
19/11/20 14		C	

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4. How do Irecord part-time hours for casual employees?

Part-time hours should be left blank if the employee is casual. Your administering authority will ask you for a sum mary of the total hours worked as part of their year-end process.

5. How do I pro-rata the hours for term -time-only employees?

Part-time hours must be pro-rated if the employee is term-time only. Two examples are provided below. Please check with your administering authority to ensure this complies with their own guidelines for pro-rating term-time service:

Example 1 - Part -time, term -time only:

Jennifer works for 12 hours per week during term time (full-time equivalent hours are 37). Her contract is for 39 weeks per year, plus 4.4 weeks' holiday, totalling

43.4 weeks. The following calculation can be used to pro-rata her hours:

43.4 weeks/52 weeks x 12 hours = 10.02

Jennifer's part-time hours should be supplied as 10.02 and her whole-time equivalent hours as 37.00.

Example 2 - Whole -time, term -time only:

Colin works whole-time during term time (37 hours per week). His contract is also for 39 weeks per year, plus 4.4 weeks' holiday, totalling 43.4 weeks. The following calculation can be used to prorata his hours:

43.4 weeks/52 weeks x 37 hours = 30.88

Colin's part-time hours should be supplied as 30.88 and his whole-time equivalent hours as 37.00.

6. What happens if there is more than one part-time hours change in a single pay period?

i-Connect can process only one part-time hours change in a single pay period. The latest hours change in the pay period, together with the effective date, should be output to the patrol extract file. Any earlier changes within the same pay period should be communicated

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via a separate report directly to the administering authority.

7. Why are payroll extract files with duplicate records rejected?

This is because your administering authority records separate data on the target system for each active post on the payroll system, and there are one or more records containing duplicate combinations of National Insurance Number and the unique payroll identifier on the payroll extract file.

8. My payroll system does not store all the elements required to calculate Full-Time Equivalent Pay (Data Item 54), for employees who joined the scheme before 1 April 2014 (England and Wales) or 1 April 2015 (Scotland/Police and Fire); are there any alternative values I can use?

You should discuss the use of alternative values for data item 54 with your administering authority.

9. Why have salary validation errors been detected?

This is because an annual salary is in data item 38, but an effective date has been omitted from data item 40, or vice versa.

10.One or more of my payees do not have a National Insurance number: what should I do?

You will be unable to include the member on the payroll extract file until a National Insurance number is provided, as this is a mandatory field on your administering authority's target system. They may be happy to accept a temporary National Insurance number for pension administration purposes.

11. How do I record additional contributions?

Cum ulative additional voluntary contributions should be output to 'Additional Contributions 1' (data item 24), the cum ulative values of all other additional contributions should be added together and output to 'Additional Contributions 2' (data item 25).

Employer contributions cannot be stored on the target system.

- 12. What type of employment break should I notify to the administering authority? You should notify your administering authority only of any unpaid breaks in service, for example, strike, maternity or paternity breaks.
- 13. How long should leavers remain on the payroll extract file?

 Leavers can remain on the payroll extract file indefinitely, although it is recommended that they be purged on a regular basis. Generally,

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leavers remain on the payroll extract file for an additional pay period after the leaver notification, to ensure that any arrears of pay (usually for cl aims -based employees), are processed via i-Connect.

14. How do I record assumed pensionable pay?

This should be included in pensionable pay (data item 39) and the main and/or 50/50 section cumulative pay (data item s 52 and 53).



10 About this version

Som etimes we need to make changes to our specification due to circum stances outside of our control, such as legislation changes. If this happens, we will make sure we minimise disruption and give you plenty of time to start using the new payroll extract file specification.

Version	Date	Data Item	What's changed?
3.80	07/12/2023	44	Clarification that the part-time hours effective date cannot be earlier that the members date joined scheme
3.70	19/01/2023	37	Removal of Auto Enrolment Qualifying Earnings – field is now filler reserved for future use
3.60	12/03/2021	44	Signposting how to pro-rata part-time hours for term -time employees
3.50	19/12/20 19	48	Max number of characters has been changed from 5 to 10 to correct a documentation error.
3.40	12/07/2019	29	Suspension Reason renamed Employment Break reason. Notes updated.
3.30	29/04/2019	26 27 29	SUSPENSION has been renamed to EMPLOYMENT BREAK. The SMP INDICATOR has been renamed EMPLOYMENT BREAK REASON. A new list of employment break reasons has been added, however existing customers can still use 'Y' to indicate the employment break reason was due to maternity or paternity leave, to avoid changing any existing extract reports.
3.30	29/04/2019	37	AUTO ENROLMENT QUALIFYING EARNINGS has changed from mandatory to conditional. The data item only needs to be populated for new starters.





3.30	29/04/2019	43	The PART -TIME HOURS EFFECTIVE DATE has been renamed to PART -TIME/WHOLE -TIME HOURS EFFECTIVE DATE. The data item should be completed for part -time and whole -time members.
3.30	29/04/2019	45	The PART -TIME INDICATOR data item has been updated to include part -time indicators used for employees in the modified and retained sections of the Firefighters' Pension Scheme.
3.30	29/04/2019		The FAQ section has been amended to include part -time hours examples.
3.70	19/01/2023	37	AUTO ENROLMENT QUALIFYING EARNINGS / GROSS EARNINGS is no longer required for new starters. Field change d to a filler



11 Need more help?

If you need any further assistance, you can contact the i-Connect support desk by phone or em ail:

- . 0 16 1 6 13 4 3 3 3
- support@i-Connectdata.co.uk