

Sending data to the pension fund

This guide explains the process of submitting employee data to your pension fund using i-Connect.





Introduction

This guide explains how use i-Connect to automatically send information about Local Government Pension Scheme (LGPS) members in your organisation to the pension fund.

i-Connect is an internet application which helps to manage the transfer of employee information from payroll administrators to pensions administrators.

Throughout this guide we will refer to monthly processing, i-Connect can accept files from weekly, fortnightly, lunar (4 weekly) payrolls as well as monthly payrolls

You upload data about your employees in a file into i-Connect using a web browser. i-Connect then automatically identifies and sends information about new joiners, opt-outs and leavers, together with pay and contributions to the pension fund. In addition, this process also fulfils your record keeping obligations.

FAQs

There is a FAQ section at the end of this guide with answers to some of things that do go occasionally wrong when uploading and submitting the file

Who to Contact

If you have any questions about using i-Connect please contact your Pension Fund.



Dashboard

After you have signed in you will land on the 'Dashboard' screen, where you will be able to upload employee data to the pension fund.

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Upload	Repo	rts	Emplo	yer	Administering Authority	l	User Managem	ent	Hist	ory
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Recent Activitie Ile Name LGPS_1000_Members_30042 Submission Statistics Total Number of Payroll Mem Omitted Payroll Members (pri Payroll Members submitted th Payroll Members in Error Accepted for Processing Submitted By User	D15_PAY014.csv bers Tracked by i-C esent on the last su is period	Pe 30- Connect bmission, and	riod End Date 04-2015 no leaver event pro 1,000 0 1,000 qatfreddo	Expected S 31-03-2015 cessed)	Total Pensionable Total Employee Co Total Employee Co Total Employer Co Processed By Use	Subn 13-03 Pay ntributio	nission Date -2015 16:19:35	Submis Payroll U	sion Type pload 1,000 0 £1,457,955.00 £230,784.29 £461,558.73	Status Pendin
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Click on the Upload icon to submit employee data for this pay period.

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	,

Payroll Selection



It is important to remember that the information displayed on the Dashboard relates only to the currently selected payroll. You can select a payroll using the drop-down list located in the upper left hand corner of the i-Connect Dashboard.



Upload file

To upload a payroll extract file to i-Connect click the 'Browse' button. Navigate to the file's location, then click the 'Upload File' button. i-Connect checks to make sure the correct file has been uploaded for that month:

Upload File	
Please click on the 'Browse' button to cho select it and then select 'Open'. Click 'Uplo	ose a payroll file to upload. Use the explorer window to navigate to the file you wish to upload, click on it to vad File' to upload the file to i-Connect.
The next expected payroll period end date	for a payroll file upload is: 31-07-2017
Choose File	Choose File standard_31072017.csv
Upload File	

When the file is accepted for processing a 'File successfully submitted' message will be displayed:

Latest Upload
File successfully submitted.
A payroll file has been uploaded to i-Connect and is being processed. The detected events will be shown here when this is complete.

i-Connect then performs member employment checking to ensure no records have been deleted from the pension funds system, the following message will be displayed:

Member Employment Checking

i-Connect is currently processing member data from the target system and comparing it to the uploaded payroll file. When this processing is complete, this page will display the results. Please try again later.

Member Employment Checking

Member Employment Checking looks for employees who have been deleted from the pension funds system, altair. Members can be deleted for a number of reasons, but generally, this is because the pension fund has decided that a post change should not create a new record on their system.

The pension fund should send you a list of the old payroll references. These must be removed from the payroll extract file to avoid duplicate errors. The pension fund have also been instructed to ensure that all matching fields (NI number, payroll reference, date of birth, gender and surname), are updated on their system, to ensure that you can select the correct member when processing a re-match.



Member Employment Checking Process

i-Connect checks altair to make sure that all members processed on the last file submission are still present. If i-Connect finds that one or more members are missing from altair the following page is displayed:

Member Employment Checking

Below are the current statistics of the member employment checking process for this payroll.

Click 'View Next Conflict' to view the next member employment conflict to be resolved.

Total members on upload payroll file	25
Matched members on payroll file	25
Exact matches	20
New starters	0
Matched members deleted from the target System	5
Number of deleted matches resolved	0
Progress	
View Next Employment Conflict	X Cancel Employment Checking Proces

i-Connect provides totals for the number of:

- members on the payroll file
- matched members
- exact matches
- new starters
- matched members deleted from altair
- number of deletions resolved

Select 'View Next Employment Conflict' to resolve any members who have been detected. The first deleted matched member conflict is displayed:

	Oneon	king								
Member conflict resolved.										
Below is a member located on the p target system that matches this me Any potential matches that are gre 'Undo / Match', which will undo the	payroll file mber, or ir yed out ha existing m	that could not be ndicate that the n ave already been atch to that memi	e matched e nember is a matched di ber and cre	exactly to a mo new starter o uring this mat ate a new ma	ember in or opted ching pr tch to th	the ta out of ocess. e payr	rget syste the schem These ca roll membe	m. Please se ne. In be matched er on the scre	lect the mem d to this mem en.	iber from the
Payroll Member	F	Payroll Reference		NI Number Surr		Surna Dale	me	Date of Birth		Gender Female
Potential Matches										
Potential Matches Score Payroll Ref NI I	Number	Date of Birth	Gender	Surname	Forenan	ne	ldent 1	Ident 2	ldent 3	Job Title

The 'Payroll Member' information is taken from the payroll extract file. The potential matches information is taken from altair If you agree with a potential match, select the relevant radio button and click the 'Confirm Member Match' button.

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If you disagree with the potential matches displayed in the table, click the 'This member is a new starter / has opted out of the pension scheme' button. i-Connect will then create a new record on the pension funds system.

The following page is displayed when all detected conflicts have been resolved:

Below are the current statistics of the member employment checking process for this payroll. Total members on upload payroll file 25 Matched members on payroll file 25 Fract matches 20
Total members on upload payroll file 25 Matched members on payroll file 25 Evact matches 20
Matched members on payroll file 25 Exact matches 20
Exact matches 20
New starters 0
Matched members deleted from the 5
Number of deleted matches resolved 5
Progress

To cancel the entire process click the 'Cancel Employment Checking Process' button.

You can reset all employment conflicts and restart the resolution process by clicking the 'Reset All Employment Conflicts For Submission' button.

To complete the employment checking process and proceed with the payroll update by clicking the 'Confirm Employment Checking Complete' button. I-Connect then updates the payroll reference and synchronises payroll data

Payroll Update
i-Connect is currently updating payroll references on the target system. When this processing is complete, this page will allow you to upload a payroll file for processing. Please try again shortly.
Payroll Synchronisation
i-Connect is currently synchronising the payroll data with the target system. The facility to submit a payroll file will be available again shortly.

When the payroll synchronisation submission completes i-Connect compares this month's file with last month's file to detect any changes. When the process completes, the 'Latest Upload Summary' page is displayed.

Latest Upload Summary Page

The Latest Upload page displays a table with totals for event detected by i-Connect for sending to the Pension Fund.

Latest Upload

Below is a summary of the latest file submission to i-Connect for the selected payroll.

You may proceed with the processing of this submission by clicking the 'Proceed' button, or alternatively cancel the submission by clicking 'Cancel'.

File Name		Per	Period End Date Expected Submission Date			Subr	nission Date	Submission Type	Status
LGPS_1000_Members_30042015_P	AY014.csv	30-0	04-2015	31-03-2015		13-03	-2015 12:04:47	Payroll Upload	Pending
Submission Statistics									
Total Number of Payroll Members Tr	acked by i-C	Connect						1,000	
Omitted Payroll Members (present or	n the last su	bmission, and r	no leaver event pro	cessed)				0	
Payroll Members submitted this period	bd		1,000 Total Pensi			able Pay		£1,457,955.00	
Payroll Members in Error			0		Total Employ	ee Contributio	ons	£230,784.29	
Accepted for Processing			1,000		Total Employ	er Contributio	ns	£461,558.73	
Submitted By User			qatfreddo		Processed By	User			
Events	Total	Pending	Submitted	Completed	Failures	Errors	Workflow Errors	Progress	
New Starter	7	7	0	0	0	0	0	0	2
Member Address Update	7	7	0	0	0	0	0	0	
Contributions	1,000	1,000	0	0	0	0	0	C2	
Salary	1,000	1,000	0	0	0	0	0	C	
NI Contributions	1,000	1,000	0	0	0	0	0	0	
Member Details Update	7	7	0	0	0	0	0	C.:	
Service	49	49	0	0	0	0	0	. C.	1
Opt In	0	0	0	0	0	0	0		
Opt Out	0	0	0	0	0	0	0		
Leaver	0	0	0	0	0	0	0		
Leaver Absence	0	0	0	0	0	0	0		
Works Address Update	0	0	0	0	0	0	0		
Additional Contributions	1,000	1,000	0	0	0	0	0	C	
CARE Pay	1,000	1,000	0	0	0	0	0	L::	-

Event Reporting

Clicking anywhere on the relevant line in the event history will display a summary, which provides a breakdown for that event by National Insurance number (NINO) and Payroll Reference(s):

New Starter Breakdown - All								
events have bee	en detected for the following member	rs:						
NI Number	Payroll Reference	Status	Error	Additional Information				
LW000001A	298400001	CREATED						
LW000002A	298400002	CREATED						
LW000003A	298400003	CREATED						
LW000004A	298400004	CREATED						
LW000005A	298400005	CREATED						
LW000646A	298400646	CREATED						
LW000939A	298400939	CREATED						

Submitting Data to the Pension Fund

Click the 'Proceed' button to send the detected events to your pension fund or click 'Cancel' to cancel the upload process.

When you click 'Proceed', the upload status changes from 'Pending' to 'Submitted' to indicate that i-Connect has started sending the events. The progress bars fill to indicate the progress of the upload and the totals change to display the number of pending, submitted and completed events (any failures or error totals will also be updated):

Latest Upload

Below is a summary of the latest file submission to i-Connect for the selected payroll.

File Name			Per	od End Date	Expected Submis	ssion Date	Submission Date	Submission Type	Status
IC.POST2014_LGPS_20 _Memb	ers_File_BAU_3	30042014_Monti	hly.csv 30 A	pril 2014	30 April 2014		11 July 2014 13:36	Payroll Upload	Submitte
Submission Statistics									
Total Number of Payroll Records	,					23			
Payroll Members in Error						0			
Accepted for Processing						23			
Submitted By User						de	moemployer		
Processed By User					de	moemployer			
New Starter	3	n	o	3	n ranures	n	0	Frogress	
Tolerance failures were det	ected and confin	med by the user	to proceed with	submission proce	essing. Click here to v	view the failure	IS.		
Events	Total	Pending	Submitted	Completed	Failures	Errors	Workflow Errors	Progress	
New Starter	3	0	0	3	0	0	0		
Member Address Update	23	0	22	1	0	0	0		
Contributions	23	0	22	1	0	0	0	•	
Salary	23	0	22	1	0	0	0		
NI Contributions	23	0	22	1	0	0	0		
Member Details Update	8	0	7	1	0	0	0		
Canina	2		2						
Service	2	U	2	0	0	0	0		
Opt In	0	0	0	0	0	0	0		
Opt In Opt Out	0	0	0	0 0 0 0	0 0 0 0	0	0 0 0 0		
Opt In Opt Out Leaver	0 1 1	0	2 0 1 1	0 0 0 0	0 0 0 0	0	0 0 0 0		
Opt In Opt Out Leaver Leaver Absence	0 1 1 1	0 0 0 0 0 0 0 0	2 0 1 1 1	0 0 0 0 0	0 0 0 0 0		0 0 0 0 0		
Opt In Opt Out Leaver Leaver Absence Works Address Update	2 0 1 1 1 3	0 0 0 0 0	2 0 1 1 1 2	0 0 0 0 0 1	0 0 0 0 0	0 0 0 0 0	0 0 0 0 0 0		
Opt In Opt Out Leaver Leaver Leaver Absence Works Address Update Additional Contributions	2 0 1 1 1 3 22	0 0 0 0 0 0 0 0	2 0 1 1 1 2 21	0 0 0 0 1 1		0 0 0 0 0 0	0 0 0 0 0 0		

The upload process can take several hours to complete, depending on the size of the payroll and the amount of activity on i-Connect.

You should login to i-Connect the following day to ensure all events have been processed correctly and that the status of the file upload has changed from 'Submitted' to 'Complete'. If the status is still displayed as 'Submitted' or is reported as, 'Internal Error' contact the i-Connect service desk.

Tolerance Failures

If any of the payroll tolerances are breached for, your selected payroll (see Onboarding Guide) a message is displayed on the Dashboard, underneath the Recent Activities section:

Latest Upload					
Below is a summary of the latest file submission to i-Conne	ct for the selected	payroll.			
You may proceed with the processing of this submission by	clicking the 'Proc	eed' button, or alternatively	cancel the submis	sion by clicking 'Ca	incel'.
File Name	Period End Date	Expected Submission Date	Submission Date	Submission Type	Status
1C.POST2014_LGPS_20 _Members_File_BAU_30042014_Monthly.csv	30 April 2014	30 April 2014	11 July 2014 14:00	Payroll Upload	Pending
Submission Statistics					
Total Number of Payroll Records		23			
Payroll Members in Error		0			
Accepted for Processing		23			
Submitted By User		dem	ioemployer		
Processed By User					

Click the message for further details:

Tolerance Failu	res				
Displayed below are the tolerance failures detected during the initial processing of this submission.					
Tolerance	Tolerance Amount	Previous Submission Total	Total This Submission	Difference	
				Difference	
Employee Contributions	10.00 %	25,586.16	28,310.02	10.65 %	

Check the payroll extract file against the payroll system to ensure that the details are correct. If there is a problem with the file, you should return to the Dashboard, cancel the payroll upload and request a new payroll extract file from your payroll team/provider.

If the file is valid (the triggered tolerances are consistent with the payroll system), you should return to the Dashboard and click the Proceed button. i-Connect will then display the tolerance failures on a new page, and it will not be possible to proceed with the upload until you have ticked each failure to confirm that the tolerance checks will be ignored:

Tolerance Failures	;				
Please review the tolerar completed, click 'Proceed	nce failures on this submissic d' to continue.	on and confirm each failure can be igno	red by checking the boxes on this	page. Once	
Tolerance	Tolerance Amount	Previous Submission Total	Total This Submission	Difference	
Employee Contributions	10.00 %	25,586.16	28,310.02	10.65 %	
Payroll Members	10.00	213.00	241.00	28.00	
Viroceed					

Validation Errors

i-Connect checks the payroll extract file for validation errors as part of the upload process. An error message is displayed on the Dashboard if any validation errors are detected:

Latest Upload					
Below is a summary of the latest file submission to i-Conne	ct for the selected	payroll.			
You may proceed with the processing of this submission by	clicking the 'Proc	eed' button, or alternatively	cancel the submis	sion by clicking 'Ca	ncel'.
File Name	Period End Date	Expected Submission Date	Submission Date	Submission Type	Status
1B.POST2014_LGPS_20 _Members_File_BAU_30042014_Monthly.csv	30 April 2014	30 April 2014	11 July 2014 13:50	Payroll Upload	Pending
Submission Statistics					
Total Number of Payroll Records		23			
Payroll Members in Error 3					
Accepted for Processing		20			
Submitted By User		de	moemployer		
Processed By User					
\bigtriangleup 6 validation errors were detected with this submission. Click here to vi	ew the errors.				

Click on the message for further details:

Validation Errors

Displayed below are the validation errors detected during the initial processing of this submission.

Please note that all i-Connect event processing will be cancelled for members who appear on the list below.

It is therefore essential to correct validation errors for all existing members. If you choose to ignore the validation errors and proceed with the file upload, the members will be removed from the current i-Connect submission and all future i-Connect tracking will cease. If any of the members appear on a subsequent i-Connect payroll extract file, i-Connect will detect a new starter event and a duplicate record will be created on the administering authorities target system.

New Starter Validation Errors 1 *	

*Unique records only

Validation Errors:

Line Number	Matching Key	Surname Initial	Day of Birth	Validation Error
20	40019	D	19	Salary details invalid
20	40019	D	19	Invalid CARE Pay details
21	40020	S	20	Salary details invalid
24	40023	J	2	Invalid new starter details
24	40023	J	2	Salary details invalid
24	40023	J	2	Invalid CARE Pay details

i-Connect provides the following information for each error, enabling you to identify the relevant records on the payroll extract file to investigate the error:

Line Number	The row in the \mathtt{csv} file for employee with the error
Matching Key	The employees payroll refence(s)
Surname Initial	The first letter of the employees surname
Day of Birth	The day of birth from the employees date of birth
Validation Error	A description of the error

Validation Error A description of the error Following investigation, you may choose to ask your payroll team/provider to correct the file

or proceed with the upload and ignore the validation errors by ticking each of the checkboxes.

Validation Errors:					
Line Number	Matching Key	Surname Initial	Day of Birth	Validation Error	
20	40019	D	19	Salary details invalid	\checkmark
20	40019	D	19	Invalid CARE Pay details	
21	40020	s	20	Salary details invalid	•
24	40023	J	2	Invalid new starter details	•
24	40023	J	2	Salary details invalid	\checkmark
24	40023	J	2	Invalid CARE Pay details	•
V Proceed					

Detected events will not be updated for each member with a validation error. You must ensure that any ignored errors are corrected on the next pay period payroll extract file. See The FAQ section for a full list of validation errors.

Event Errors

Errors may be reported for one or more events during the submission process (after you selected the 'Proceed' button to submit data to the pension funds system):

Events	Total	Pending	Submitted	Completed	Failures	Errors	Workflow Errors	Progress	Actions
New Starter	31	0	0	31	0	0	0		
Member Address Update	31	0	0	31	0	0	0		
Contributions	40	0	0	39	0	1	0		View Event Errors
Salary	40	0	0	39	0	1	0		View Event Errors
NI Contributions	40	0	0	39	0	1	0		View Event Errors
Member Details Update	31	0	0	31	0	0	0		
Service	1	0	0	0	0	1	0		View Event Errors
Opt In	0	0	0	0	0	0	0		
Opt Out	0	0	0	0	0	0	0		
Leaver	0	0	0	0	0	0	0		
Leaver Absence	0	0	0	0	0	0	0		
Re-enrolment	0	0	0	0	0	0	0		
Works Address Update	0	0	0	0	0	0	0		
Contributions Revision	0	0	0	0	0	0	0		
Additional Contributions	40	0	0	39	0	1	0		View Event Errors
Salary Revision	0	0	0	0	0	0	0		
TPS Appointment	199	0	0	199	0	0	0		
TPS Leaver	0	0	0	0	0	0	0		

Select the 'View Event Errors' link from the Actions column for further details for each of the event errors:

Event Errors				
Errors encountered while processing the selected event type are described below.				
Matching Key	Error	Additional Information		
30808002	Part time hours effective date is not after current date commenced employment			

Omitted Members

Omitted members are employees who do not appear on the payroll extract file each payroll period, for example zero hour contract employees, who are not included on one payroll submission and are included on a subsequent payroll submission.

Omitted member processing prevents needless new starter events from being identified and sent to the pension fund. Omitted member processing happens automatically for file upload. i-Connect displays a warning on the dashboard for any omitted members found:

Clicking on the warning message on the dashboard, displays a list of the omitted members;

Omitted Members		Omitted
Members from previous submissions that have been omitted are described	members are	
NI Number	Payroll Ref	carried
MB000001A	740001	forward each
MB000001A	M300001	nav period
MB000002A	M300002	pay periou,
MB000002A	740002	until they re-
MB000003A	740003	appear on the
M8000003A	M300003	payroll
MB000004A	M300004	evtreet file
MB000004A	740004	extract me,
MB000005A	M300005	when normal
MB000005A	740005	processing is
MB000006A	740006	resumed
MB000006A	M300006	resumea.
MB000007A	740007	

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FAQs

This section provides details of the possible error messages that can be displayed by i-Connect while the payroll extract file is uploaded, validated and the events detected.

File Upload Errors

Please contact i-Connect

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Member Employment Checking - Duplicate Members

I get a message about
the file containing
duplicate members

File Name	Period End Date	Expected Submission Date	Submission Date	Submission Type	Status
POST2014_LGPS_20_Members_File_BAU_30062014_PAY040.csv	30 June 2014	31 May 2014	10 March 2014 17:33	Payroll Upload	File Mapping Erro
Submission Statistics					
Total Number of Payroll Records 0					
Payroll Members in Error 0					
Accepted for Processing 0					
Submitted By User			empaqarex	¢	
Processed By User					

Duplicate members are reported if a member has been re-matched on the target system, but the member still has two records on the payroll extract file, both with the same NI Number, but one with the previous post number (processed as a leaver on the payroll system), and the second as the new active post with the new payroll reference.

It will not be possible to proceed with the file upload until the duplicate records have been identified and deleted from the payroll extract file.

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File Upload Errors

These errors are identified from the initial validation of the file and prevent the file from being uploaded. They must be resolved before the file can be successfully uploaded.

I have the following error	
INSUFFICIENT NUMBER OF COLUMNS	Insufficient number of data columns found on line(s): {0}.
BAD IDENT	Missing or invalid member identifier on line(s): {0}.
GENERIC VALIDATION ERROR	One or more fields failed validation on line(s): {0}.
DATA DECODE ERROR	Data formatting error found on line(s): {0}.
BAD NI NUMBER	Missing or invalid NI number on line(s): {0}.
NO PERIOD ENDS	The payroll file does not contain a payroll period end date.
MULTIPLE PERIOD ENDS	The payroll file contains more than one payroll period end date
PERIOD END DOESNT MATCH	The payroll period end date on the payroll file is not the expected payroll period end date for this submission
NO INCOMING MEMBERS	The payroll file does not contain any members
MEMBER DATA REQUEST ERROR	An error occurred when retrieving member data from the target system. Please contact your system
INTERNAL PROCESSING ERROR	An internal processing error has occurred with your payroll file. Please contact your system administrator

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File Validation Errors

These validation errors are generated when the file is uploaded. i-Connect identifies the events that need to be submitted to the Pension Fun, but an item of data is missing and would cause the event to fail. They require investigation by the employer.

I have the following error			
GENERIC VALIDATION	Please contact your system administrator		
INVALID CONTRIBUTION	The extract file must have a Scheme Contribution Rate (data item 49) present and values (zero is a valid entry) for		
DETAILS	 Employees Scheme Contributions (data item 47) Cumulative Employees Scheme Contributions (data item 55) 		
	 Employers Scheme Contributions (data item 48) 🛛 🔹 Cum	nulative Employers Scheme Contributions (data item 56)
INVALID SALARY DETAILS	There should be an entry in Annual Pensionable Salary (data item 38) and Effective Date (data item 40)		
INVALID CARE SCHEME	Either		
DETAILS	 Cumulative Pensionable Pay (data item 52) or 50/50 Section Cumulative Pensionable Pay (data item 53) 		
	are missing in the payroll extract file – zero is a valid entry		
INVALID SERVICE DETAILS	The Part-Time Effective Date (data item 43) is present and one or more of the following fields are missing:-		
	 Part-Time Indicator (data item 45) 		
	 Part-Time Hours (data item 44) and must be > 0 and <= 99.99 and < whole time hours 		
	 Whole-Time Equivalent Hours 	(data item 46) and must	t be > 0 and <= 99.99
INVALID NI DETAILS	National Insurance Earnings (data item 36)are missing – zero is a valid entry		
INVALID MEMBER ADDRESS	At least two address lines must be present in the extract file (data items 5 to 9)		
INVALID WORKS ADDRESS	At least two work address lines must be present in the extract file (data items 15 to 19)		
INVALID NEW STARTER	One of the following data items are missing		
	 NI Number (data item 1) 	 Forenames (data item 3 	 Date Joined Scheme (data item 41)
	 Payroll Reference (data item 2) 	 Gender (data item 32) 	 Scheme Contribution Rate (data item 49)
	 Surname (data item 30) 	 Date of Birth (data item 	a 33) Taxable Earnings (data item 37)
INVALID STARTER OPT IN	One of the following data items are mi	issing	
	 Scheme Contribution Rate (data) 	ta item 49)	 Date of Birth (data item 33)
	 Gender (data item 32) 		 Taxable Earnings (data item 37)

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