

# Greater Manchester Pension Fund and First Group

- A Private / Public Sector collaboration

**5,820**  
members

First Group's Local Government Pension Scheme (LGPS) liabilities in England and Wales were administered partly by West Yorkshire Pension Fund, partly by South Yorkshire Pensions Authority and partly by Greater Manchester Pension Fund (GMPF). In order to simplify administration and improve the strategic management of their LGPS obligations, First Group decided to consolidate all their LGPS assets and liabilities into one fund.

GMPF was chosen due to its experience of managing large-scale data transfers and bespoke investment strategies.

**Circa  
£800  
million**  
assets across all  
three employers

## The project

Aquila Heywood worked closely with all three funds in order to transfer pension records successfully to GMPF. There were several challenges with this project:

- Data was stored on different administration systems.
- Pensioners were paid on two different pay dates.
- There were short timescales and deadlines for transferring data.

This meant that Aquila Heywood and the GMPF team had to collaborate closely to ensure data was transferred accurately and pension payments were paid correctly and on time. The project was successfully delivered on budget and in advance of the deadlines set.



# Greater Manchester Pension Fund's viewpoint:

“ *The transfer of data went incredibly well. GMPF was confident from similar previous data transfers that the Aquila Heywood team had the knowledge, drive and expertise to deliver what was needed. The teams from all three LGPS funds collaborated effectively to ensure a smooth and seamless transition for pension members.* ”

Emma Mayall, Pensions Policy Manager

## The benefits

Some of the benefits for GMPF included:

- **A quick and smooth transition:** GMPF benefited from Aquila Heywood's expertise in large-scale administration data transfers.
- **Quick resolution of any discrepancies:** Aquila Heywood's expertise in identifying data discrepancies and finding quick resolutions was particularly useful, as data was stored in different administration systems.
- **A flexible and collaborative partnership:** Aquila Heywood and GMPF had previously worked together on similar transfers, so Aquila Heywood was able to be flexible and tailor its approach to match GMPF's needs.

