Planning for your retirement

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Today's Session

What we'll be covering:

- What's the value of my pension?
- Taking your retirement benefits & types of retirement
- The retirement process
- Your retirement options & other things to consider
- Keeping your savings on track & finding out more









What's the value of my pension?

- Process for your retirement can be daunting
 - First step = finding out how much you've saved in your pension pot
- You can do this in a number of ways:









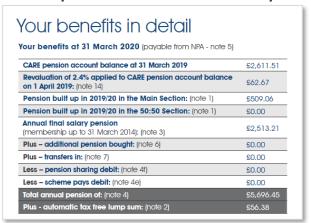


Also, how much will you get from the DWP on reaching State Pension age?

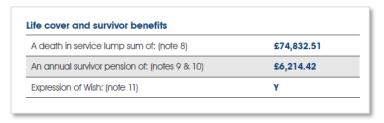
Your annual pension statement

- Helps you keep track of how much you've built up in the Scheme
 - o pension statements provided every year.

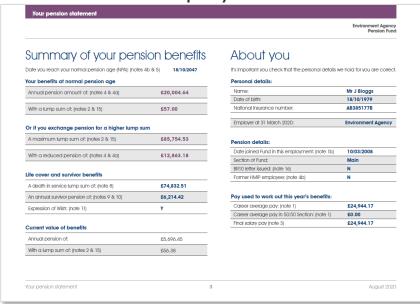
Current pension at 31 March each year:



An estimate of death and survivor benefits:

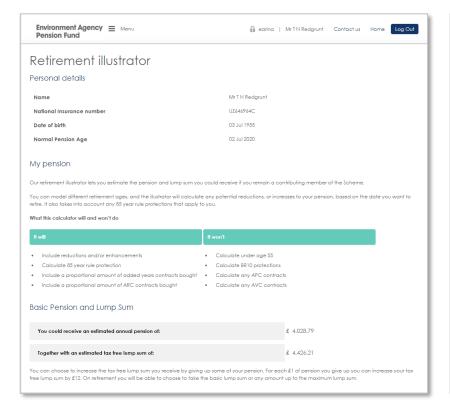


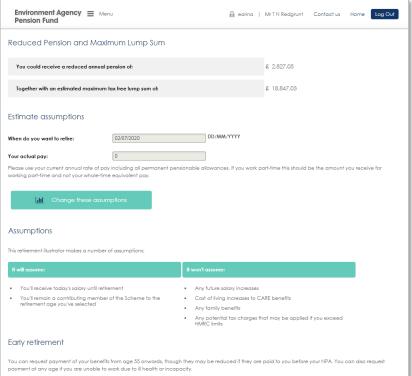
Potential benefits up to your NPA:



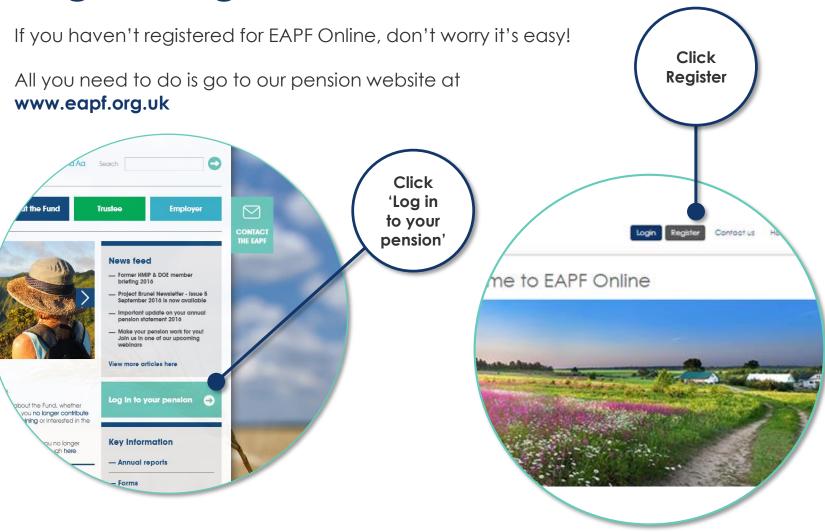
Register online to view your statements at www.eapf.org.uk

Using the retirement illustrator

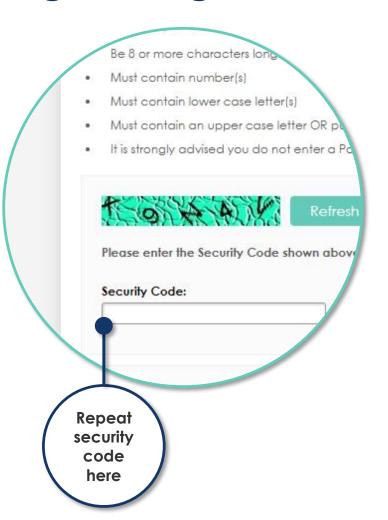


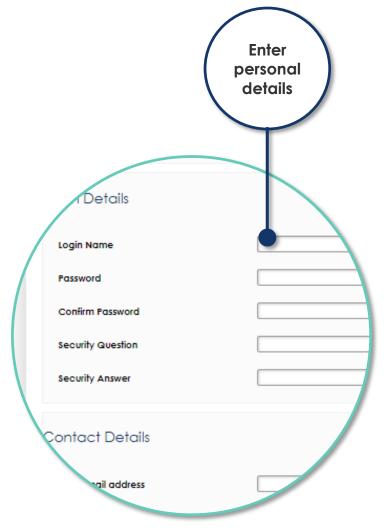


Registering for EAPF Online



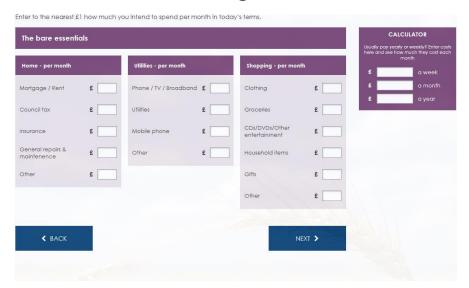
Registering for EAPF Online





Would you live comfortably on your estimated pension?

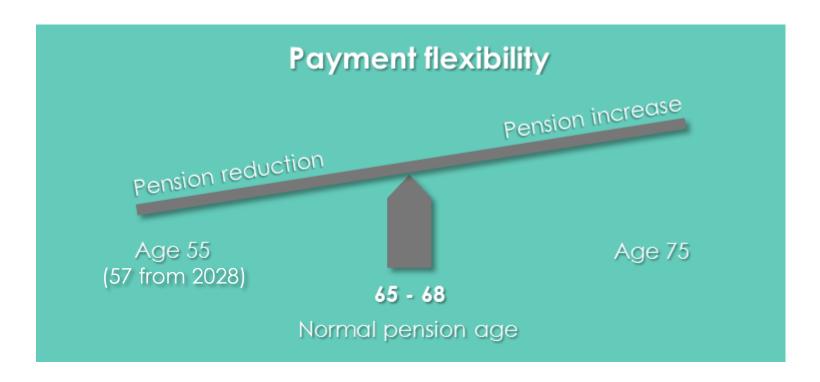
- The EAPF's retirement budget planning tool helps you consider expenditure now vs in retirement
- You can input other savings held elsewhere for an accurate picture
- Great tool for general financial awareness and future planning



Find the tool online to budget for your retirement www.budgetplanner.eapf.org.uk/



Do you know when you can retire?



Normal pension age (NPA) = Later of 65 or state pension age (<u>www.gov.uk/new-state-pension</u>)

Different ways of taking your pension

Voluntary Options

Voluntary retirement

- Age 55+ (increasing to 57+ from 2028)
- Reduced if taken before NPA

Transfer out

- Can choose to transfer your EAPF benefits to another pension scheme
- Must do by no later than
 - 1 year before your NPA
 - Before retirement or age 75 (if transferring AVCs)
- Some private pension schemes may allow for your transferred pension pot to be accessed under 'Pension freedoms'
- But beware...

Beware of Pensions Scams!

- Over £30m lost through scams since 2017*
 - Reported pensions scams are up by 400% since Covid-19 outbreak
- Market volatility has led some to consider transferring their pension pots elsewhere
- Scammers are targeting people by phone, email & letter
 - Always be vigilant pensions 'cold-calling' is illegal!
- As well as losing your pension pot, transferring could also lead to you being subject to a hefty tax charge from HMRC!

Remember:

- LGPS is a defined benefit, statutory scheme, backed by Government!
- Transferring is a risky business always seek independent financial advice from an authorised & registered specialist
- Search 'retirement adviser directory' at <u>www.moneyadviceservice.org.uk</u>

Different ways of taking your pension

Employer consent required

III health cover

- Payable from any age
- o May be enhanced depending on the severity of your condition

Voluntary Early Release Scheme (VERS)

- Aged 55*+ retired on grounds of redundancy/business efficiency
- Benefits may be paid without reductions

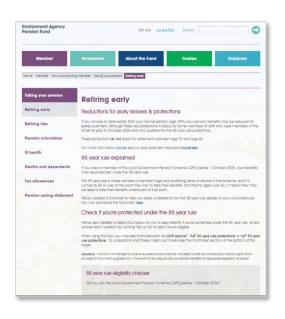
Partial retirement

- Aged 55*+, must also reduce your hours and/or grade @ that date
- Can draw some or all of your benefits
- May help you ease into retirement
- Benefits you receive at that time may be reduced for early payment

Protection for retiring early

85 year rule protections

- Checker tool available online, to see instantly if you're protected under the 85 year rule
- '85 Year rule explained' flowchart at www.eapf.org.uk/publications





Early retirement in action!

Example

- Sharifa is retiring at 58, but meets the 85-year rule at age 62
- Sharifa is a 'protected' member, so:

Benefits built up	Retirement age
To 31 March 2008	62 (85yr)
1 April 2008 to 31 March 2014	65
1 April 2014 - date	67







Early retirement in action!

Example (continued)

Sharifa is retiring at 58, but meets the 85-year rule at age 62

Sharifa is a 'protected' member, so:

Period	Retirement age	% reduction (pension)	% reduction (lump sum)
To 31 March 2008	62 (85YR)	18.4% (4 years)	9.1% (4 years)
1 April 2008 to 31 March 2014	65	29% (7 years)	
1 April 2014 -	67	35% (9 years)	

Sharifa's pension benefits at retirement (after reductions):

Pre 1 April 2008 pension: £2,650 - 18.4% = £2,162.40Post 31 March 2008 pension: £2,650 - 29% = £1,881.50Career average pension: £3,455 - 35% = £2,245.75

Total pension: £8,755 = £6,289.65 (-£2,465.35)

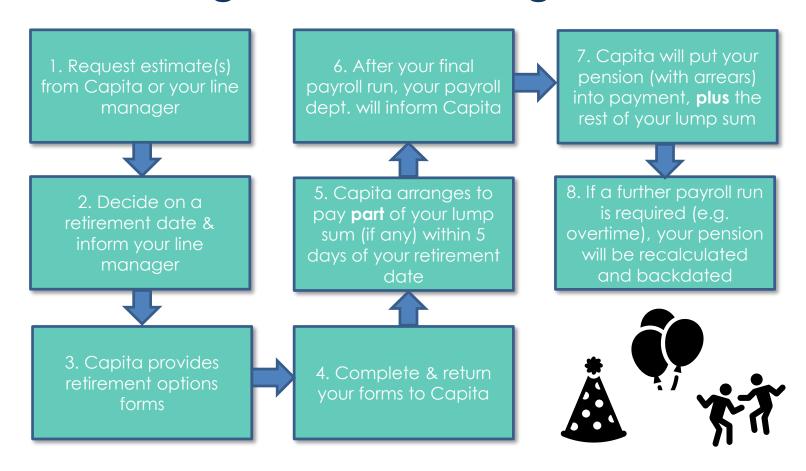
Automatic lump sum: £7,950 - 9.1% = £7,226.55 (-£723.45)

^{*}Sharifa's benefit contains LGPS service between 1 April 1998 & 30 September 2006, so has 85-year rule protection

Pay in more = get more out!

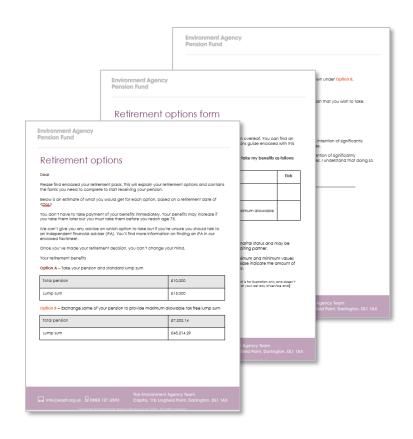
	AVC	APC (extra)	APC (lost)
What you'll get	Value of contributions paid & investments	Guaranteed pension	Guaranteed pension
What are the good points?	 Flexible contributions Different ways of using it (inc.100% tax free cash) 	Additional pensionInflation proofedIll health cover	 ER contributes 2/3rds Additional pension Inflation proofed Ill health cover
What are the bad points?	Few guaranteesValue of pot can go up & down	Can be expensiveOnce started, not flexibleReduced if taken early	Once started, not flexibleReduced if taken early
Limits on what you can you buy/pay?	100% gross pensionable pay	£7,194 extra pension	Amount of lost pension (falls within £7,194 limit)

How do I go about retiring?



If you're leaving due to VERS or ill health, steps 1 & 2 will be sorted for you

Your retirement option forms





Which one shall I choose?



- We recommend that you seek independent financial advice from an authorised person
 - www.moneyadviceservice.org.uk
 - -'Pensions & retirement'; then
 - 'Retirement adviser directory'
- Capita, the EAPF and your employers are not authorised to provide financial advice



Exchanging pension for lump sum

- Get a £12 lump sum for every £1 of pension that you choose to give up
- Maximum lump sum allowed is subject to HMRC limits
 - o Up to 25% of the 'capital value' can be taken as a lump sum
 - All lump sums within HMRC limits = tax free!
- Can use in-house AVCs to provide additional lump sum
 - In some cases, up to 100% of AVC fund can be paid as a (tax free) lump sum

Exchanging pension for lump sum

Example - no AVCs

Sharifa's pension benefits at retirement (after reductions):

Pension = £6,289.65Automatic lump sum = £7,226.55

Maximum lump sum = £29,536.55 (+£22,310.00)

Residual pension = £4,430.48 (-£1,859.17)

Sharifa has the option to receive:

- A pension of between £4,430.48 & £6,289.65; and
- A tax free lump sum of between £7,226.55 & £29,536.55

Exchanging pension for lump sum

Example – using AVCs & pension for additional lump sum

Sharifa's pension benefits at retirement (after reductions):

Pension = £6,289.65Automatic lump sum = £7,226.55

Sharifa also has an in-house AVC fund of £15,000

Maximum lump sum = £34,893.70 (+£27,667.15)

Residual pension = £5,234.05 (-£1,055.60)

Environment Agency Pension Fund

Converting AVCs into additional pension

Example

Sharifa's pension benefits at retirement (after reductions):

Pension = £6,289.65Automatic lump sum = £7,226.55

Sharifa also has an in-house AVC fund of £15,000

Based on Sharifa's age (58y & 0m), she'll receive £1 of additional pension for every £22.17 of AVC fund she converts*

Residual pension = £6,966.15 (+£676.50)

Lump sum = £7,226.55 (no change)

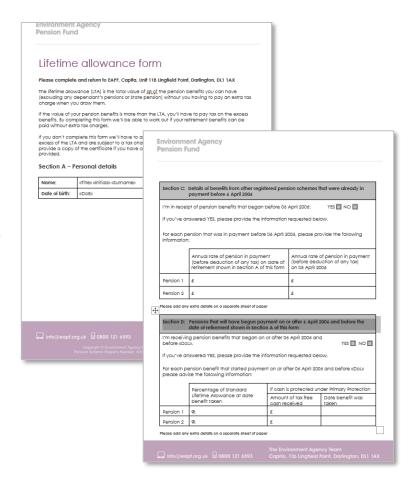
The latest AVC-to-pension factors can be found at www.lgpsregs.org/schemeregs/actguidance.php

^{*}Age 58y 0m factor is £4.51 pension for every £100 of AVC; therefore £22.17 of AVC will buy £1 of pension

Your available lifetime allowance

- Lifetime allowance (LTA)
 - An allowance on the total taxefficient pension benefits you can build up across your working life
 - \circ 2020/21 = £1,073,100
 - Once LTA used up, excess benefits will be subject to tax charges
- You'll need to provide details of any other pension benefits:
 - You've already taken to date; and
 - You plan to take on the same day as your EAPF benefits
 - You've transferred to an overseas pension scheme

All of the above use up LTA



Your State Pension

- State pension is a flat rate 'single tier' pension of £175.20 pw (2020/21 rate)
- Applies to:
 - Women born after 5 April 1953
 - Men born after 5 April 1951
- Need 35 qualifying years for a 'full' pension
 - However, you won't get the full amount if you were a member of a 'contracted out' pension scheme before 6 April 2016

To calculate or forecast your State pension, contact www.gov.uk/check-state-pension

Will I get the 'full' State Pension?

Before 6 April 2016 – the 'two-tiered' State Pension



Basic State Pension

Add. State Pension



Will I get the 'full' State Pension?

Before 6 April 2016 – the 'two-tiered' State Pension



Department for Work & Pensions

Basic State Pension Add. State Pension

- You paid reduced National Insurance (NI) contributions; but
- You didn't build up any Add. State Pension for that period

better than between April 1978 & April 1978 on!

Pension!





Employer's pension

Will I get the 'full' State Pension?

Since 6 April 2016 – the 'single-tier' State Pension



Department for Work & Pensions

Basic'Situate Tier' State State
PensionPension Pension

- You now pay full NI contributions; but
- Your 'flat rate' State pension will be reduced to take into account any service between 1978 & 2016 where you paid reduced NI contributions





Employer's pension

Topping up your State Pension

- You may be able to pay contributions to fill any 'gaps' in your National Insurance records
- The rules concerning eligibility are complex and differ depending on your circumstances
- For more information
 - Visit <u>www.gov.uk/check-state-pension</u>
 - Contact the 'Future pension centre' on 0800 7310175
 - Complete an online enquiry form at <u>www.gov.uk/future-pension-centre</u>

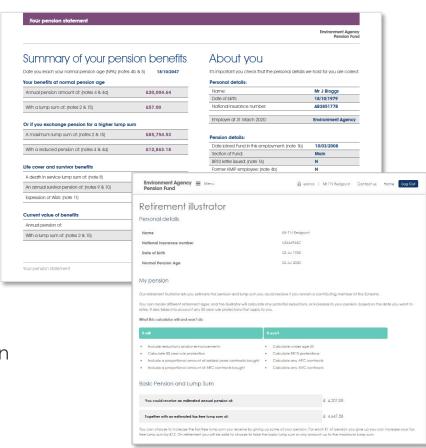
Keeping your savings on track

Top things to check:

- Pension statement
- Register EAPF Online
- Retirement illustrator
- Nominations
- Pay used to work out benefits

Using our Retirement illustrator lets you have an estimate instantly online.

Visit our website at <u>www.eapf.org.uk</u> to log in or register.



Resources to find out more

- Visit <u>www.eapf.org.uk</u> to check out our helpful tools and <u>videos</u>
- Publications available online:
 - Explanatory guides & presentations
 - 85 year rule click tool
 - Scheme guides & factsheets





Email for specific queries

Any specific questions email:

Jacinta.Wilmot@environment-agency.gov.uk

Find in outlook for EA employees

Any questions?

Thank you

Regulatory Statement

- The information contained within this presentation does not constitute financial advice.
- The information provided is based on Capita's understanding of current law and LGPS Regulations, as at 1 October 2020.
- HMRC policy, practice, and legislation may change in the future.

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