



LSEG

Member newsletter

**LONDON STOCK EXCHANGE
GROUP PENSION SCHEME (LSEGPS)**

For members of the LSE Section

November 2024

Please note: If you require this newsletter in a different format for ease of reading, please get in touch with our administrators.



Message from the Chair



Welcome to this year's edition of your newsletter from the Trustee of the London Stock Exchange Group Pension Scheme (LSEGPS) (the "Scheme").

This newsletter is intended to help keep you up to date with what's going on in the Scheme, as well as the wider world of pensions. As usual, we have also provided you with details of other resources to assist you if you would like more information about your pension benefits.

Financial update

The Scheme is in a very strong financial position, particularly following the purchase of a buy-in policy with Standard Life in May 2023. This is reflected in the latest actuarial valuation of the Scheme as at 31 December 2023. The valuation results for your Section of the Scheme are included in the enclosed Summary Funding Statement.

Additional Voluntary Contributions (AVCs)

The Trustee completed the transfer of AVC funds from BlackRock to the London Stock Exchange Group Pension Plan in the first quarter of 2024. Communications were sent to impacted individuals by both the Trustee and Legal & General.

Currently, the Trustee is in the process of reviewing the remaining AVC funds that are invested with Phoenix Life and Aviva. The Trustee will provide an update to members in due course regarding its plans to secure these AVCs outside the LSEGPS.

Topical pension news

As usual, under the 'Topical pensions news' section we have included a few items that might be of interest, such as: information on potential pensions scams and transferring personal information securely; an update on Pensions Dashboards and pensions tax allowances; a reminder on the State Pension and the increase to Normal Minimum Pension Age; and information on retirement living standards. Go to page 8 to find out more.

Please remember, its vitally important that we have your most current information, including your email details and beneficiary information. Please take immediate action and refer to page 3 for further instructions.

We hope that you continue to find this newsletter useful and interesting. We welcome your feedback and if there are any topics that you would like to see in future issues, please get in touch using the details on page 6.

Regards,

Catherine Redmond, representing BESTrustees Limited, Trustee Chair

Keep us updated



It's important that we have your most up-to-date information. This includes:

Your contact details – changes to name, address, email address, and phone number. This is to make sure that we can get in touch with you with Scheme news and information about your benefits. We've currently lost touch with 60 members. If you know a member of the Scheme (LSE plc employees with service before 1999) that has not received this newsletter, please direct them to Isio to update their contact details.

Your personal details – relationship status (if you get married/divorced), and bank details if you are receiving your pension. This is to enable us to work out your pension benefits and those of any spouse/civil partner upon your death and pay your benefits if you are in receipt of your pension.

Expression of Wish form – who you want to receive any lump sum death benefit that may be due under the Scheme.

If you are yet to retire from the Scheme, or you are within the first five years of receiving your pension, you need to complete an Expression of Wish form (EoW). We do not have recent completed EoW forms on file for over 700 members.

This form is key so that the Trustee knows who you want to receive any lump sum death benefits due in the event of your death.

If you are not yet taking a pension from the Scheme, it is also important that we have your current information at all times for the Pensions Dashboards – read more on page 10.

Please review and update your personal information and other data by logging on to the relevant member website or by contacting Isio or PIC directly (see contact information shown opposite).

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If you wish to contact us



Members who have not retired should contact Isio.

If you are receiving a pension, you should get in touch via the PIC Member Zone.



Full contact details for both Isio and PIC are shown on page 6.

If you have a complaint about your pension which the administrators cannot resolve, the first step is to put your complaint in writing and address it to the DB Pensions Manager (see below). They will provide you with further details of the formal procedure, known as the Internal Dispute Resolution Procedure (IDRP).

If you are not satisfied with the outcome of the IDRP, the DB Pensions Manager can supply you with details of The Pensions Ombudsman who will consider any complaints after the IDRP has been followed.



DB Pensions Manager, London Stock Exchange Group Pension Scheme, 10 Paternoster Square, London EC4M 7LS



georgina.wallis@lseg.com

Your Scheme updates

Your Trustee Board

LSEG Pension Trustees Limited is made up of member-nominated and Company-appointed Directors, including two independent Trustee Directors.

The current Trustee Board of the Scheme consists of:

Company-appointed Directors

BESTrustees Ltd (represented by Catherine Redmond)*

Nick Bayley

Diane Bouwmeester

Dalriada Trustees Ltd (represented by Tiziana Perrella)*

Member-nominated Directors

Susan Griffin** Mark Harries**

*Independent Trustee **Pensioners

Following a nomination and selection exercise, Susan Griffin was reappointed for a further three-year term as a Member Nominated Director from 1 April 2024.

During the Scheme year, the Trustee Board met four times. Additional sub-committee and working group meetings were also held on a regular basis.

The advisers to the Scheme

Scheme Actuary

Stuart Hailwood, Mercer Ltd

Investment Adviser

Redington Ltd

Legal Adviser

Eversheds Sutherland

Covenant Adviser¹

Cardano Advisory

Auditor

PricewaterhouseCoopers (PwC) LLP

Administrators

Isio Group Limited (deferred members)

Pension Insurance Corporation (pensioner members)

¹ The Employer covenant is the measure of the employer's ability to fund a pension scheme. This depends on the financial strength of the employer and the ability to pay contributions into the Scheme.

GMP equalisation project – an update

Work is progressing on the Guaranteed Minimum Pension project (to adjust an element of your pension, known as GMP, to remove any historic sex inequalities where necessary).

This only affects LSE Section members who were employed before 1 April 1991. Some members are expected to see a small increase in their benefits as a result of GMP equalisation.

We will write to affected members with more details when available.

For independent financial advice

Whether you're considering transferring your benefits from the Scheme or looking to retire, it is recommended that you take independent financial advice.

It is also a legal requirement for you take independent financial advice before transferring out of the Scheme if your transfer value (excluding AVCs) is greater than £30,000.

You can use your own adviser if you have one, or it may be possible to use the independent financial adviser currently paid for by the Company.

If you are interested in this option, please contact Isio to provide permission to share your data with WPS Advisory (WPSA) and kick off the process.

More details can be found on the Scheme website at www.lseg.yourisio.com/my-retirement/feeling-confused

Please note that the option to continue to offer WPSA's services is at the discretion of the Company.

Neither the Trustee nor the Company can advise you on how you should take your benefits. Only advice from WPSA is covered by the Company, so if you elect to choose your own adviser, you will be responsible for any fees.

You may wish to go to either www.fca.org.uk/register OR www.moneyhelper.org.uk for help finding an Independent financial adviser near you.

For further information on the impact of transferring your benefits out of the Scheme, you can visit the FCA's website on consumer information on DB transfers.

Please go to www.fca.org.uk/consumers/pension-transfer-defined-benefit.

Taking your AVCs

If you have AVCs invested with Phoenix Life or Aviva and are approaching or have already reached your normal retirement date, now might be a suitable time to explore your options.

Isio can provide you with further information on your options including the possibility of taking a tax-free lump sum. To learn more about your options please contact Isio using the contact details shown on page 6.

Financial guidance for AVC transfers



New regulations (since 2021) recommend that members seek guidance through Pension Wise (part of MoneyHelper) if looking to access or transfer any additional voluntary contribution (AVC) pension benefits.

MoneyHelper has a number of sections dedicated to different financial topics. Go to www.moneyhelper.org.uk/en/pensions-and-retirement/pension-wise where you can find out more and book an appointment.

Please note: If you decide to proceed with your AVC transfer, there may be a delay with Phoenix Life or Aviva, in settling any benefits arising from your AVC funds. This is outside of the Trustee's control.

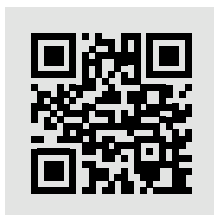
Remember – you need to contact Isio rather than the AVC provider at all times. Isio can give more guidance about how this could affect you individually.

Your Scheme updates

Your pension portals

For members not yet in receipt of a LSEGPS pension –
Isio pension tracker

Don't forget you have access to **www.mypensiontracker.co.uk**, which allows you to access your personal information securely online. Alternatively, you can scan the QR code opposite.



Login, review your Scheme benefits and check that your details remain accurate. If anything needs updating (including your Expression of Wish form), please do this through the portal or contact Isio using the details below.

Isio contact details:

 **0800 488 0796**,
or **+44 208 663 5850** if calling from overseas

 **LSEGPS@isio.com**

 Isio Group Limited, PO Box 108, Blyth, NE24 9DY

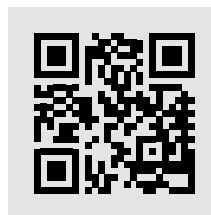
 **www.lseg.yourisio.com**



You also have access to many Scheme documents, including educational content and access to retirement and transfer request forms, without the need to login via **www.lseg.yourisio.com**.

For members receiving a pension –
PIC Member Zone

Visit Member Zone, your secure and easy-to-use 24/7 accessible website. View your monthly payslips or P60s, confirm what your dependant/s would get, update your personal details and view useful information.




Go to **www.picmemberzone.com** if you have already signed up. If you need to join, follow the steps in your registration letter using your unique registration code.

Need a registration letter or help? Please contact PIC:

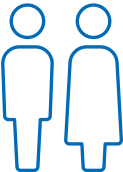

 **0800 652 7000**,
or **+44 1325 271 860** if calling from overseas

 **Enquiries@PICAdmin.co.uk**

 Pension Insurance Corporation,
PO Box 556, Darlington, DL1 9YX

If you are within the first five years of receiving your pension and need to provide PIC with an **Expression of Wish form**, this can either be sent by post or email using the above contact details. When contacting PIC by email please include your full name, address, date of birth and NI number.

Membership as at 31 December 2023

| | | |
|---|--------------|---|
|  | 591 | Members who are not yet in receipt of their Scheme pension |
|  | 1,153 | Pensioners (includes those currently receiving a dependant's pension) |
| | 1,744 | Total |

Investment update

The vast majority of the LSE Section's invested assets were sold in May 2023 to purchase the buy-in policy, but a small amount of illiquid** assets were temporarily retained with the intention of being sold in the near future.

The LSE Section subsequently sold all of its remaining illiquid investments on 30th September 2023 and paid the remaining deferred premium due to Standard Life.

The Trustee has prepared a Statement of Investment Principles, in accordance with the Pensions Act 1995 and the Occupational Pension Schemes (Investment) Regulations 2005. The latest version is dated October 2023 and can be found here:

www.lseg.yourisio.com/infosheets/.

**Illiquid is the state of a stock, bond, or other assets that cannot easily and readily be sold or exchanged for cash without a substantial loss in value.



Topical pension news



Pension scams are evolving – stay alert!

We may think we would always spot a scam – but fraudsters are constantly finding new ways of trying to steal our money.

Consumer magazine Which? revealed some of the most convincing scams of 2024 are, for example; holiday scams, bogus phone and broadband providers, or fake advertising and QR codes.

Visit www.which.co.uk/news to find out more about the latest scam alerts.

You can find more resources to help you avoid being scammed at www.fca.org.uk/scamsmart

More information is also available on The Pensions Regulator's website
www.thepensionsregulator.gov.uk/pension-scams

Remember to follow these tips to stay safe from scammers:

- Double-check the URL on any websites you visit.
- Never share your password, PIN or security codes.
- Have the most up-to-date security software on your devices.
- Always use your phone camera to scan QR codes.
- Be cautious of unsolicited company contacts and verify their legitimacy through trusted channels.
- Reject all unexpected investment offers.

Personal Data and Information Security

Due to the increasing cases of data theft and scams, it's important to be cautious when sharing personal information. When communicating via email about your pension, prioritise cyber security (including using password protection).

Whenever possible, use www.mypensiontracker.co.uk (for Deferred members) or www.picmemberzone.com (for retired members) to submit information securely.

Please note however that neither My Pension Tracker or PIC Member Zone can be used to submit forms or identification documents. If you need to email sensitive details, ensure you do so securely and consider contacting the recipient for guidance.

Please stay vigilant! Keep a look-out for emails or unexpected calls that may be suspicious and always use password protection when sharing personal data.

The National Cyber Security Centre website includes some useful guidance and tips to stay secure online, go to www.ncsc.gov.uk/guidance/data-breaches for more information.

Tax allowances for 2024/25

Lifetime Allowance

The Government announced its intention to abolish this allowance in the Spring Budget 2023 with effect from the 2024/25 tax year. This means that the Lifetime Allowance no longer applies to all UK pension arrangements, and you will no longer incur a lifetime allowance tax charge (which was abolished from 6 April 2023). The Lifetime Allowance had previously been set at £1,073,100.

However, the maximum amount you can take out of your pension pot on retirement as a tax-free lump sum has been frozen at £268,275, unless you have existing tax protections.

Annual Allowance

This is the amount you can save in all of your registered pension arrangements (from both your own and your employer's contributions) over a tax year before incurring a tax charge. This is set at £60,000 for the 2024/25 tax year. If you exceed this allowance, you would be responsible for paying any charges by 31 January the following tax year.

To check if you have unused allowances available, go to **www.gov.uk/guidance/check-if-you-have-unused-annual-allowances-on-your-pension-savings**

There are some cases where a reduced or a "tapered" annual allowance might apply – so do check at **www.gov.uk/guidance/pension-schemes-work-out-your-tapered-annual-allowance**

You can find more information on tax charges at **www.moneyhelper.org.uk**

Transitional tax-free amount certificate

If you have received benefits from any pensions before 6 April 2024 you may benefit from obtaining a transitional tax-free amount certificate before you receive any further lump sum benefits after 5 April 2024. If you are uncertain whether to apply for a certificate, we recommend you take financial advice.

HMRC is expected to publish guidance on how to apply for a transitional certificate. If you don't obtain a certificate before you receive any further lump sums from any of your pensions you might lose the right to apply for one. Get in touch with your administrator if you have any questions, go to page 6 for contact details.

Topical pension news

Inheritance tax changes – Autumn Budget 2024

It was announced in the Autumn Budget 2024 that, from April 2027, most lump sum death benefits from pension schemes (and any unused DC savings) will be included when calculating the value of your estate for inheritance tax purposes. This is a major change, and a consultation is now running until January 2025. However, this will only cover how the changes are implemented – the changes will definitely go ahead.

The Trustee and the Company will review the implications for the Scheme and provide further information and guidance in the coming months.

There was also some good news – it was confirmed that the pensions ‘Triple Lock’ will be maintained

for the duration of Parliament. This means the Basic State Pension and New State Pension will be uprated by 4.1% for 2025/26, meaning you could receive up to an extra £470 a year. The Pension Credit Standard Minimum Guarantee will also increase by 4.1% from April 2025.

Please note that inheritance tax is a complex area, and you may wish to speak to a financial adviser. If you need any advice about decisions relating to your pension or retirement savings, you should consult an independent financial adviser.

Help choosing one can be found at www.fca.org.uk/firms/financial-services-register

Pensions Dashboards update

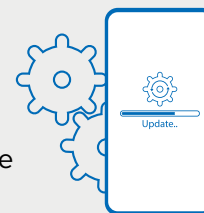
The pensions industry is busy working behind the scenes to introduce Pensions Dashboards, a Government initiative which will allow you to access your pension information, in respect of multiple pension arrangements, in a single place online. Pensions already in payment will not be shown on the dashboard.

All schemes of a certain size will be required to provide information to the dashboards architecture in order for this to work and new technology is being developed especially for this project. The date the dashboard will be made publicly available has not yet been announced by the Government.

To ensure that the Trustee has the correct information to transfer details for the dashboards, it is vitally important that you keep us updated (see page 6).

You can find out more about the programme at www.pensionsdashboardsprogramme.org.uk.

In the meantime, if you’re looking to track down a lost pension, visit www.moneyhelper.org.uk and search ‘[finding lost pensions](#)’ for advice and support.



Your State Pension



The State Pension is a payment that the Government makes every four weeks to people who have reached the qualifying age and have paid or credited enough National Insurance contributions.

In April 2024, the link to earnings under the ‘triple lock’ increased the State Pension by 8.5%, to a maximum of £221.20 a week.

To find out how much State Pension you could receive, visit www.gov.uk/check-state-pension.

Normal Minimum Pension Age

At present, the earliest age when you can retire from a registered pension scheme in the UK without tax penalties is usually 55. This is known as the Normal Minimum Pension Age (NMPA). However, if you are in ill health and meet the eligibility criteria in the Scheme rules, you may be able to access your pension before you reach this age.

If you’re planning to take early retirement in a few years’ time, it’s important to note that from 6 April 2028, the NMPA will rise from 55 to 57 so that it remains 10 years below the State Pension Age.

Find out more at www.gov.uk/government/publications/increasing-normal-minimum-pension-age, OR to find out when your SPA is expected to be, visit www.gov.uk/state-pension-age

Topical pension news

The latest retirement living standards

To help you plan your retirement finances, the Pensions and Lifetime Savings Association (PLSA) publishes annual updates on the UK Retirement Living Standards. This gives people an idea of what retirement could cost, depending on their salaries, households and savings.

The table below shows the PLSA's estimated costs of a comfortable, a moderate and a minimum lifestyle, compared to last year:

| Retirement Living Standard | | | |
|----------------------------|------------------------|------------------------|------------------------|
| One Person | | Couple | |
| COMFORTABLE | | | |
| £43,100 2024 | £37,300 2023 | £59,000 2024 | £54,500 2023 |
| MODERATE | | | |
| £31,300 2024 | £23,300 2023 | £43,100 2024 | £34,000 2023 |
| MINIMUM | | | |
| £14,400 2024 | £12,800 2023 | £22,400 2024 | £19,900 2023 |

Please note that the figures shown are the amounts of annual expenditure required to achieve the living standard (i.e. they are not gross income figures).

To find out more, including the PLSA's full definitions of the three different lifestyles, visit www.retirementlivingstandards.org.uk

Please note: The information in this Newsletter is meant to be helpful but does not have legal effect. Your benefits are solely governed by the Rules of the Scheme from time to time.