Your Annual Pension Statement 2018

Welcome to your annual benefit statement 2018

This statement shows the value of your pension benefits as at **9 April 2018**. While we have taken every care please remember this statement is only an estimate and should not be treated as a guarantee of your entitlement.

There are notes to help you understand your figures but if you have any questions or the details are incorrect please contact us.

Personal Details

Name
Date of Birth
NI Number
Date Left

Value of Your Pension Benefits

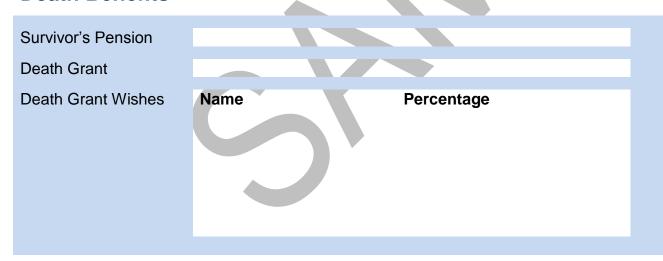
Annual Pension

Lump Sum

Date Payable From

Increase since leaving

Death Benefits



Guidance Notes

Annual Pension

This is the amount that will be paid to you every year in retirement. Once your pension is being paid, it will continue to increase each year in line with the cost of living.

Note:

- For members between 60 and their benefits payable date, the value of your benefits may be reduced if you take them before the date they become payable. Note these figures do not include a reduction.
- For members past their benefits payable date, there may be a small increase to your pension for late payment. Note these figures do not include any increase.

Lump Sum

This is a one-off, tax-free lump sum paid to you when you take your pension. If you joined on or after 1 April 2009, there is no automatic lump sum and the value shown is zero. When you take your pension, you can swap some annual pension to increase your lump sum (HMRC limits apply). For every £1 of annual pension you give up, you get £12 of lump sum.

Date Payable

This is the earliest date you can **choose** to take pension without any reductions for early payment being applied. If you take your pension benefits before this date, they would be reduced for early payment. The only exception to this is ill health retirement which can get paid at any age, unreduced.

Increase applied to pension benefits

Every year your pension increases in line with the cost of living. This figure shows how much your pension and lump sum have increased since leaving. Note the pension and lump sum figures include this increase.

Guidance Notes

Survivor's Pension

If you die before your pension is paid, we will pay a pension to your spouse, civil partner or **eligible*** co-habiting partner and any **eligible children**. This figure is only an estimate and has been calculated on the assumption that you are married or in a civil partnership and were so at the date you left the pension scheme.

For information on survivor's pension and your personal circumstances, contact the Pension Fund.

*A co-habiting survivor's pension will only be paid if:

- You were paying into the scheme on or after 1 April 2009, and
- Your relationship meets certain conditions

For more information and to notify the Pension Fund of a cohabiting partner please see the Notification of Cohabiting Partner form available on our website.

Death Grant

This is a tax-free lump sum paid upon your death. If you left the Scheme before 1 April 2009, the death grant is equal to your deferred lump sum. If you left the scheme on or after 1 April 2009, it is worth 5 times the value of your pension.

Also an active member? Be aware if you die and are also an active member (i.e. you are paying into the pension scheme) only one death grant will be paid, either:

- Death in service lump sum, or
- Deferred benefits lump sum,

whichever is greater.

Death Grant Wishes

These are the individuals and organisations you have nominated to receive your death grant. You can make or change your wishes by updating your record on My Pension. Your wishes are not legally binding, but we will follow your wishes wherever possible. Any expression of wish may cease to have effect if your relationship status changes e.g. you get married or end your marriage.

Pensions Q&A

How is my pension calculated?

How your pension is calculated depends on when you were paying into the pension scheme:

Before 31 March 2015

Your pension is based on your final salary at the date you left the pension scheme and your length of membership up to 31 March 2015. For membership up to 31 March 2009 an automatic lump sum is also payable. There is no automatic lump sum for membership after 31 March 2009.

On or After 1 April 2015

Each year you were paying into the pension scheme, you built up a pension worth 1/49th of your pay (or 1/98th if you were in 50/50) plus inflation.

The pension for each of the above periods is calculated separately and then added together to give your total annual pension. For more details visit our website.

When can I get my pension?

You can take your pension anytime between age 60 and 75. However, if you take your pension before your **Normal Pension Age**, your pension may be reduced due to early payment. Your pension can be paid unreduced if you were born before 1 April 1960 and you retire with Rule of 85 protection or if at any age you retire on ill health grounds.

What is Normal Pension Age?

It is simply the age your pension benefits can be paid in full, without any reductions. Normal Pension Age varies depending on when you built up pension benefits:

- Before 31 March 2015: Normal Pension Age = 65
- On or after 1 April 2015: Normal Pension Age is the same as your state pension age with a minimum age of 65 (i.e. if your SPA is below 65, your NPA remains 65).

You cannot take your pre and post April 2015 pension benefits separately. You can find your state pension age at www.gov.uk/state-pension-age

Pensions Q&A

Do I qualify for Rule of 85 Protection?

Rule of 85 protection is a way of calculating whether your pension will be reduced for accessing it before NPA.

There are two levels of Rule of 85 protection. To qualify for either you must have been an active member paying into the Scheme before 1 December 2006. The level which then applies depends on when you reach age 60:

- Before 1 April 2020: When you take your pension, if you meet the Rule of 85, all benefits built up to 31
 March 2020 will be paid, unreduced. Pension built up after this date will be reduced.
- On or after 1 April 2020: When you take your pension, if you meet the Rule of 85, all benefits built up to 31 March 2008 will be paid, unreduced. Pension built up after this date will be reduced.

The Rule of 85 is met if your age when you take your pension and your scheme membership (in whole years) adds up to 85. Remember you cannot retire before age 60 so even if you meet the rule, you cannot take your pension before your 60th.

Note: If you have more than one pension record, the Rule of 85 is applied on a record-by-record basis. So if you have Rule of 85 protection in one record but not another then it is only applied to the record which does have it. Similarly it is only membership for the record that qualifies for Rule of 85 which counts.

Can I withdraw or cash in my pension?

No, you cannot. If you wish to withdraw or cash in your pension, you must be at least 55 and you will need to transfer your pension from the Local Government Pension Scheme (LGPS) to another pension provider who offers these services. If the value of your pension benefits is more than £30,000, you are legally required to obtain independent financial advice before the transfer can be made. You must also prove that this advice has been sought.

Can I transfer my pension?

You can transfer your LGPS pension to another scheme as long as you:

- Have no other active records with LGPS Scotland (i.e. are paying into the pension scheme), and
- You are not receiving payment of a pension from LGPS Scotland, and
- You are not within 12 months of your Normal Pension Age.

You will need to speak to your new provider to see if they will accept LGPS pension benefits. If they do, they will contact us to begin the transfer process.

If you have more than one pension record in LGPS Scotland then, if you wish to transfer one, they must all be transferred.

Fund News

Data Management & Privacy

The General Data Protection Regulation (GDPR) is a new set of regulations which came into force on 25 May 2018. These new regulations change how organisations process and handle data with the aim of giving greater protection and rights to individuals.

The Fund already complied with similar data protection principles under the Data Protection Act but we have updated our privacy notice and procedures inline with GDPR.

Our Privacy Notice outlines why data is held, how it is processed, who it is shared with and details how long it will be held for.

You can access our Privacy Notice via our website.

Beware of scams - Keep your pension safe

Pension scams are on the rise so keep your pension safe from fraudsters by recognising common warning signs:

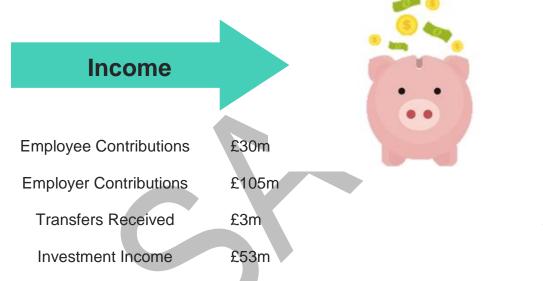
- Cold calls, text messages, emails or someone coming to your door with promises of quick cash, legal loopholes and pension loans
- Claims of accessing your pension before age 55
- Proposing a single investment and promising large returns
- Enticements of upfront cash

Always ensure you are aware of the facts when making decisions about your pension. Find out more about pension fraud and what to do if you think you have been targeted by visiting www.thepensionsregulator.gov.uk

Fund News

Our Annual Report provides detailed information about the Fund's administrative and financial performance. An overview of our performance during 2017/18 can be found below. Copies of the complete Annual Report and Accounts can be found on our website. Note the figures below are based on the draft, unaudited Annual Accounts and are subject to change.

Total Fund Value: £4.1 bn



Expenditure

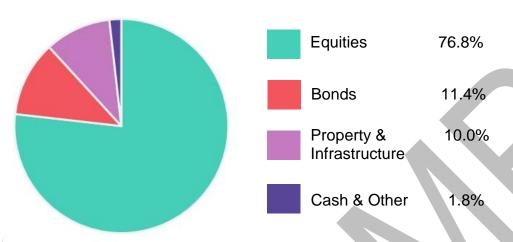
Pension benefits £130m

Leavers & Transfers £5m

Admin & Investment Costs £21m

Fund News

Asset Allocation



Top 6 Directly Held Stock

Company	£m	% of Fund
Amazon	79.2	1.91%
Tencent	73.2	1.77%
Alibaba	58.3	1.41%
Illumina	57.6	1.39%
Facebook	52.3	1.26%
Tesla	41.2	1.0%

Fund in Numbers







1 Award Win







11.1% Return on Investment

Contact Us

We hope you found this annual statement useful, if you have any questions or would like more information please get in touch. You can speak to the Pensions Section in person by visiting the Customer Service Centre in Marischal College Monday to Fridays (except public holidays) between 9:00am and 4:30pm.

North East Scotland Pension Fund

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Email: pensions@nespf.org.uk

Web: <u>www.nespf.org.uk</u>

Twitter: @nespf

Survey

Let us know what you think of our newsletter and how we can improve our service by completing our short online survey at www.surveymonkey.co.uk/r/NESPF2017 All feedback received is greatly appreciated as it assists in the planning and production of future communications so please take the time to share your opinions.