

Annual Benefits Statement (DC)

By law, all pension providers must issue each member with an annual statement showing them the status of their pension fund and projected income on retirement. We call this your Annual Benefits Statement.

Defined Contribution (DC) schemes used to be known as Money Purchase schemes, so these statements are sometimes referred to as SMPI (Statutory Money Purchase Illustration) statements. These are issued in April/May each year and can be found in the 'Your documents' area of [pensionsWEB](#).

Your Annual Benefits Statement provides introductory information about projected benefits, investment performance and ways to increase your pension. It includes the following:

- key data that we hold about you, including your chosen retirement date, current salary and current contribution rate. *If any of this information is incorrect, please contact Hymans Robertson on ☎ 020 7082 6182 to get it updated. Please note that due to the timing of the statements, the salary shown will not reflect any increase that may have been applied in April as part of any company-wide pay agreement*
- information about your projected benefits upon leaving the Plan and death-in-service benefits that your dependants may receive. *Please check at [www.affinitywaterpensions.co.uk](#) that we have received an Expression of Wish form from you. This allows the Trustees to consider your wishes in the event of your early death. Without it, the Trustees will have to make assumptions about what you would have wanted to do with any death benefits*
- an estimate of your pension at your nominated retirement date ('Projected Benefits At Normal Retirement Date'). This calculation uses a number of assumptions around things like the growth of investments, salary increases and inflation, as specified by the Government. If you are only 25, you can expect a wide fluctuation in inflation, salary increases and so on during your working life. Using a single figure for some of these variables is a very crude calculation and the actual outcome may be very different in reality. That's why it's recommended that you treat the projections with caution, although they will generally become more accurate, the closer you get to your actual retirement date.

Please note that the calculated retirement income is based on the purchase of an annuity because this used to be required on retirement. However, the introduction of Pension Freedoms legislation in 2015 gives members far greater flexibility, so this illustration may not reflect what you actually do with your pension pot when you retire. This new legislation also had a negative impact on the annuity market and rates have generally fallen, so the projection based on current annuity rates may underestimate your actual retirement income

- a summary of your contributions during the year. You'll find this in the last part of your statement, along with details of the change in your fund value over the year.

Where can I find more information?

All information about the Plan and your Personal Account can be found at [www.affinitywaterpensions.co.uk](#)