

Transferring your pension

Should you consider consolidating your pension plans?

The reasons people transfer their pensions vary, with some looking for better fund performance and lower charges, and others having been made redundant and seeking to bring all their pension arrangements together.

If you have a number of pensions from previous employers you should obtain professional advice as it may be appropriate to consolidate them, although this will depend on a number of different factors you'll need to discuss in full.

Increased buying power

If appropriate, consolidating your pension plans could enable you to bring all your retirement savings together, which may make it easier to manage or increase your choice of investment options – particularly useful if your existing funds are underperforming.

Is transferring your pension right for you?

Pension transfers are a complex area of retirement planning and you should be sure that a transfer is right for you before you proceed.

- 1. Compare the charges** – how do the costs of your current pension compare with those of the potential new provider?
- 2. Exit fees** – some pensions apply an exit fee when you transfer out, so check with your current provider before you transfer.
- 3. Loss of benefits** – check what benefits from your current pension you could lose if you transfer out of it.
- 4. Compare the investment options** – how does the range of investments from your current pension compare to that offered by the new pension provider?

THERE IS A WIDE RANGE OF PENSION TRANSFER OPTIONS AVAILABLE THAT PROVIDE A DIFFERING ARRAY OF BENEFITS AND ARRANGEMENTS. DUE TO THE COMPLEXITY OF PENSION TRANSFER ARRANGEMENTS, ANYONE RESEARCHING THIS ROUTE SHOULD DO SO WITH THE HELP OF PROFESSIONAL FINANCIAL ADVICE. IF YOU WOULD LIKE TO DISCUSS YOUR OPTIONS, PLEASE CONTACT US FOR FURTHER INFORMATION.

A pension is a long-term investment. The fund value may fluctuate and can go down as well as up. You may not get back your original investment. Past performance is not an indication of future performance. Tax benefits may vary as a result of statutory change and their value will depend on individual circumstances. This is for your general information and use only and is not intended to address your particular requirements. It should not be relied upon in its entirety and shall not be deemed to be, or constitute, advice. Although endeavours have been made to provide accurate and timely information, Critchleys Financial Planning cannot guarantee that such information is accurate as of the date it is received or that it will continue to be accurate in the future. No individual or company should act upon such information without receiving appropriate professional advice after a thorough examination of their particular situation. We cannot accept responsibility for any loss as a result of acts or omissions taken in respect of any articles. Thresholds, percentage rates and tax legislation may change in subsequent Finance Acts.

