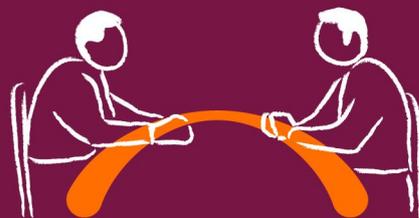


Guide: Pensions for individual investors



We suggest you view your financial goals as a personal business plan. In doing so you can assess your current circumstances, determine exactly what your aims are and consider how you might achieve them. This Guide is designed to provide you with an understanding of the key considerations that will impact on your financial plan and to demonstrate how Bridge Investments can help.

Where am I now?

There are a number of questions you need to consider:

- Q What pension provision do you already have?
- Q Are you currently paying into a pension?
- Q Do you pay into an Employers Scheme, Personal Scheme or both?
- Q Do your existing plans need reviewing?
(When were they last reviewed?)
- Q Have you been given a Pension Forecast?
- Q Do you have other assets you plan to use for your retirement?
- Q What are your current and likely future outgoings?
(Think about family circumstances and dependents).
- Q Is there a high probability that your employment status will change?
- Q What is your current income and anticipated future income?
- Q How much can you afford to save?

Your answer to these questions will determine the next stage, your goals and how realistic they are.

Where do I want to be?

Depending on where you are in your life stage, and your attitude to risk, this will all determine how much you are able to save for retirement and what additional priorities you face.

Again there are a number of questions you should attempt to answer:

- Q What do you want to do when you retire?
– what are your plans to fill those extra 8 hours a day?
- Q When do you plan to retire?
- Q Will you also require a lump sum out of your scheme?

Where do I want to be? continued

It is important to be realistic about your retirement goals and also worth mentioning that the sooner you start, all things being equal, the less you will need to put aside later in life to achieve the same financial security goal.

Q How much do you believe you will need annually when you retire?
Try a few pension scenarios yourself, using the link below;

[Pension Calculator](#)

How do I get there?

Our [Advice for Individual Investors PDF](#) gives a detailed explanation on the types of investments that can be used for retirement planning and the importance of having a balanced portfolio, which takes into account your attitude to risk.

Options may include:

- SIPPS
- Personal Pension Plans
- Stakeholder Pensions
- NISAs
- NEST *

In your calculations your options may also include

- Preserved Pensions (old employer schemes)
- Property To Sell
- Inheritance
- Savings

* NEST is not regulated by the Financial Conduct Authority.

How do I know I am on track?

Bridge Investments commit to regular reviews of your finances, so we can at that point assess if you are on track to reach your goals.

What happens if my circumstances change?

If your circumstances change let your Bridge Advisor know and they can review your investment strategy with you. They will guide you through the options available, providing the best advice to suit the new situation you find yourself in.

From a practical perspective personal pension contributions can be put on hold or modified to suit your new circumstances. It is important to have a balanced portfolio with sufficient liquid assets (cash savings and investments) and this will be discussed when setting your retirement goals. You may also wish to consider income protection schemes and critical health protection when deciding how best to manage current finances. Download our [Guide on Protection planning](#) for individuals.

How Bridge Investments can help

Our Advisors work with you so that you can get your plans in place early. We listen to your goals and assist you along the journey. We take the time to review your existing pension plans and come up with a bespoke solution for you. As financial advisors, we are able to offer a wider range of investment opportunities within your pension fund.

Pension legislation is always changing, at Bridge Investments we keep up to date with these changes and you can be confident that we will advise you on how any changes affect you personally.

Useful Resources

Useful Link:

[Money Advice Service - Pension & Retirement](#)

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