



Helping your pension savings work harder and smarter

When it comes to saving money on a credit card or mortgage, people don't think twice about looking around for the best deal. But did you know you can do the same with your pension?

Sticking with the same pension product until you retire might not be the best option for you. If you have an older type of pension, you could benefit from switching to a modern, flexible pension with lower charges, more choice in how you invest your pension savings and the ability to take your pension savings how and when you need to.

And if you've built up several pensions throughout your working life, one way to help your pension savings work harder and smarter could be combining them into one pension plan.

Benefits of pension switching

Complete picture of your pension savings

It can be difficult keeping track of multiple pensions. If you combine them into one plan, you'll have a complete picture of how much your pension savings are worth now and what you could have when you retire.

Less paperwork

Keeping on top of paperwork for multiple pensions can be very time-consuming. If you combine your pensions into one plan, you'll only have one set of paperwork from one pension provider.

More choice and flexibility

If you switch your pension into another plan, you could have more flexibility over how and when you access your pension savings and the option to leave money behind for loved ones when you die.

Value for money

You could benefit from lower charges, which means your pension savings could be worth more when you retire, and your income could last longer.

More suitable investment options

Your pension savings will have a coherent and consolidated investment strategy. You could also have a wider range of investments to choose from to suit your needs.

Things to consider

Lower charges might play a major role in your decision to switch your pension, but other features of the plan should also be considered. For example, a plan that can adapt to your changing circumstances or having access to a wider choice of investments might be more important to you, so you might be prepared to pay higher charges.

The decision to switch pensions needs careful consideration as it may not be in your best interests. Here's some things to consider with the help of a financial adviser:

- Does your current pension plan have high charges?
- Does your current pension plan offer a range of investments, designed to suit different attitudes to risk, time to retirement and ways to access your pension savings?

- Does your current pension plan allow you to access your pension savings how and when you need to?
- Does your current pension plan have any valuable benefits that could be lost if you switch to another plan?
- Does your current pension plan have any penalties for switching?
- Does your current pension plan allow you to pay your financial adviser for advice tax-efficiently, direct from your pension savings?

Pension switching case study

John's 56. He's self employed and has built up four pension plans throughout his working life. The table below shows that as well as having multiple pension plans, there's no overall structure to John's retirement planning.

John's chosen different investment options for each of his pension plans. Collectively, these investment options may not suit his attitude to risk. The retirement age is also different, meaning he'll receive his pension savings from each plan at different times. And with different review dates, he'll need to review each plan separately, making it difficult for him to get an overall picture of what pension savings he could have when he retires. Finally, each plan has a different charge.

Product	Transfer value	Contributions being made	Review date	Retirement age	Plan charge	Investments
Personal Pension	£42,000	No	1 July	65	0.80%	UK Equity Tracker fund
Personal Pension (formerly part of a previous employer's workplace scheme)	£85,000	No	1 April	60	0.75%	Lifestyle Strategy
Personal Pension	£65,000	Yes	1 October	65	1.25%	Managed fund
Stakeholder Pension	£15,000	No	1 May	60	1.00%	Default fund

John decides to transfer all his pension savings into one Pension Portfolio plan, as shown in the table below.

Plan type	Value of pension savings	Contributions being made	Review date	Retirement age	Plan charge	Investment option
Personal Pension	£207,000	Yes	1 May	65	0.40%	Governed Portfolios

By combining all of his pension savings into one Pension Portfolio plan, John will benefit from:

- One investment option, which suits his attitude to risk.
- A lower plan charge based on the value of all his pension savings.
- One review date.
- One retirement age.
- One yearly statement.
- Access to our mobile app to keep track of his pension savings.

As John's over 55, he can also access his pension savings immediately using our integrated drawdown facility, Income Release. If John has other drawdown plans, the transfer process is the same as any other transfer. Once we receive the transfers, we'll aim to pay tax-free cash within 5 working days.

Why Pension Portfolio?

At Royal London, we understand that your needs and goals will often change as life unfolds. That's why we've packed our personal pension full of flexibility. We call it Pension Portfolio.

- ✓ **We make saving flexible** - you can stop, start or change your contributions whenever you like.
- ✓ **We reward you for saving** - our management charge reduces as the value of your pension savings grows.
- ✓ **We provide value for money** - you'll only ever pay for the services you use.
- ✓ **We have lots of investment options** - our wide range of investments can match any risk appetite.
- ✓ **It's easy to access your money** - when the time comes, you'll find different ways to access your pension savings.
- ✓ **You can keep tabs on your pension** - use our online service and mobile app to keep an eye on your pension savings whenever you like.
- ✓ **You can access your savings flexibly** - you can move seamlessly into drawdown - from within the same plan. We call this Income Release.
- ✓ **You can leave money for loved ones** - our Beneficiary Income Release option gives you the flexibility to pass on your pension savings to anyone you choose.

What else you can expect from us

We'll keep you up to date with how your savings are doing

We'll send you an engaging yearly update which pulls out all the key performance information about your plan and gives you an idea of how your future's shaping up. You can use this to support your ongoing conversations with your financial adviser.

You can trust us to look after your best interests

Being a mutual means we're run purely for the benefit of our members and customers. So while a PLC will try to push its resources towards generating greater profit for its shareholders, our actions will always be driven by the long-term best interests of our members and customers. It's this simple ethos that makes us different to most of our competitors.

You'll benefit from our award-winning service

We pride ourselves on the quality of service we deliver through our great people and smart technology. So whenever you need to call on us, you can expect to deal with real people - who have been consistently voted among the best in the business for what they do.

We share our profits

As a mutual, we believe our members and customers should share in our success. So when we do well, we'll aim to boost your pension savings by giving you a share of our profits each year. We call this ProfitShare.

There's no guarantee that we'll be able to award ProfitShare every year. But once we've awarded ProfitShare, we'll never ask for it back.

We're a responsible investor

Through our regular engagement with the companies we invest in, we aim to make a positive difference to how these companies are run and the impact they have on our society and the environment as a whole.

To find out more about the benefits of pension switching and whether Pension Portfolio is right for you, speak to your financial adviser or visit our website at **royallondon.com**

We're happy to provide your documents in a different format, such as Braille, large print or audio. Just ask us when you get in touch.

All of our printed products are produced on stock which is from FSC® certified forests.



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