

Sanctuary Housing Association Final Salary Pension Scheme DC Section

Membership Benefits

How the Sanctuary Housing Association Final Salary Pension Scheme DC Section works

Invest

Your pension savings are invested in a fund of your choice until you retire. You can choose to invest in the default Target Date Funds (TDFs), or select your own funds.

TDFs are suitable for anyone who does not want to make their own investment decisions. You can find out more about all of the available investment funds on the TPT website in the 'Investment Performance' section.

Retire

You can normally choose to retire at any time from age 55. You will have several retirement options available to you, from the Scheme and from third parties. You should visit www.pensionwise.gov.uk for further information.

Options available include;

- Taking your fund as a single cash lump sum
- Using your fund to buy a pension (or annuity) to give you an income for the rest of your life
- Accessing your fund as a flexible source of retirement income, for example by using a draw down arrangement.

You will usually have the option to take up to 25% of the money you have saved as a tax free cash lump sum when you retire (if you elect to take your entire fund as a cash lump sum, 25% will be paid tax free and the remainder will be taxed).

Your questions

Are there any member charges?

Yes – the charges applied to your fund vary depending on the investment choices you make. The default investment fund – Target Date Funds, have an annual management charge of 0.45% a year plus a platform charge of up to 0.07% each year, making the average charge around 0.52% a year. Most of the self-select funds available have annual management charges of 0.45% each year; however the Ethical Target Date Fund, the Property Fund and the Diversified Growth Fund have higher charges. In addition all funds may incur other transaction charges, most notably when funds are being traded.

What happens if I leave?

Depending on the length of your pensionable service and when you joined the scheme, you may be entitled to: receive a refund of the value of your own contributions less tax; transfer the value of the whole fund to another registered pension arrangement; or remain in the Scheme and leave your fund invested until you retire or decide to transfer the value of the whole fund to another registered pension arrangement.

What happens if I die before retirement?

If you were to die before your pension has started to be paid, the value of your fund would be returned to your dependants.

You may be entitled to additional life cover if your employer has chosen this provision within the scheme, provided you are below age 75 when you die. Please check with your employer whether it has chosen to provide this benefit through TPT.

Contact us

The UK support team can be contacted by telephone on **0345 072 6780**, or you can submit an enquiry via **Contact TPT**.