

Cummins UK Pension Plan

Pension news

for defined benefit members

March 2021



Welcome

A warm welcome to the latest issue of *Pension news*, the newsletter for defined benefit (DB) members of the Cummins UK Pension Plan.

Since our autumn newsletter, we've seen further lockdown restrictions across the UK because of the pandemic, but the new year brought more positive news with the rollout of the vaccine heralding the easing of lockdown measures. We hope that all our members are staying safe and well.

Later this year, we'll be holding a selection process to find some new member-nominated Trustees (MNTs) to fill three vacancies on the Trustee board. If you're an active member, we'll be writing to you in May with more details and to invite any members who might be interested in taking a more active role in helping to run our pension plan, to consider putting themselves forward for selection. In the meantime, if you'd like to know more about the work of the Trustee board and what it's like to be an MNT, have a look at our interview on page 8 with Jack Finlay, who's been an MNT since January 2019.

Following feedback from members, we've changed the name of the Plan's AVC investment option from flexicycle to lifestyle. This is simply an update of the name to bring it in line with industry convention.

If you pay AVCs, you'll know that in December last year, we reviewed the lifestyle investment options. There's an overview of your choices on page 10.



We're reminding everyone about the importance of updating your nomination form on an annual basis. It tells the Trustees what you'd like them to do with any benefits that are payable in the event of your death. Unfortunately, there's still a large number of members for whom we don't hold an up-to-date nomination. This year, we're holding a nomination day on 1 July – make sure you remember to update your nomination before then. There's more information on page 6.

Finally, we hope you find this issue of *Pension news* useful and informative. You can always find regular updates from the Plan on the Plan website at **www.cumminsukpensions.co.uk**

Nichola Moore

Chair of Trustees

In this issue

Plan noticeboard	4
A nomination form: is it worth it?	6
Being a Trustee	8
Investing your AVCs	10
How much will you need in retirement?	12
Running the Plan	13
Pensions news	14
Get in touch	16



Plan noticeboard

A brighter tomorrow

It's been a tough year for everyone, and you might have been tempted to cut back on your AVCs. However, your pension is a long-term investment, and we urge you to continue to save as much as you can into the Plan to enhance your income in retirement.

Some members like to give their AVC savings a bit of a boost each spring by paying their variable compensation into the Plan as a one-off additional contribution. This is a great way to maximise your variable compensation (you don't have to pay tax on it if you pay it into your pension rather than taking it as income) without impacting your regular monthly pay.

Don't forget that you can boost your AVCs at any time of the year, whenever suits you:

- Log into your account via Manage my pension
- Select **instruct us** from the left-hand menu
- Choose change how much you pay into your pension
- Select make a one-off payment.

Benefit statements

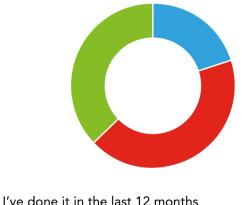
We're planning to issue benefit statements slightly earlier this year. They give you a snapshot of your fund value and explain, in today's money, how much your projected pension will be by the time you retire.

Look out for your annual benefit statement in the summer.

Do a quick poll

The most recent quick poll in the DB Section of the Plan website asked members when they last updated their nomination form, and here are the results.

When did you last update your nomination form?



I've done it in the last 12 months 20%
Probably more than two years ago 43%

37%

 I can't remember – I think I completed one when I joined the Plan Unfortunately, only a very small proportion of members have an up-to-date nomination form, namely, one that's been completed in the last 12 months. It's important because it's used by the Trustees to help them decide what to do with any Plan benefits that are payable in the event of your death. (If you're an active member, it's not the same as the next of kin emergency contact form that's held by HR.)

Your benefits in the Plan are very valuable. There's more information about what happens if you die without an up-to-date nomination form on the next page.

Take part in the next quick poll at: www.cumminsukpensions.co.uk/db-section/

A nomination form: is it worth it?

Yes – it's worth all the money you've paid as AVCs PLUS (for active members) between three and four times your salary (depending on your section). These amounts, which could be sizeable, would be payable as cash lump sums if you died before taking your benefits.

Different from your HR next-of-kin form, your nomination tells the Trustees what you'd like them to do with this money. It's a key document, along with other information, that the Trustees use help them decide who should receive any lump-sum payments. These are not automatically paid to your partner, if you're not married or in a civil partnership, even if you've been living together for several years.

Tell us your wishes and it's simple

The process is straightforward where members have completed an up-to-date nomination, especially if there's also a valid will that supports their wishes. The Trustees can make a decision quickly and pay any benefits that are due without delays.

What if you don't tell us your wishes?

Unfortunately, without a nomination form, things can become rather complicated and take a long time. The Trustees have strict legal duties to make certain investigations before paying out discretionary lump-sum benefits. They need to:

- find out if there's a will or a grant of probate
- track down who the eligible beneficiaries are
- find out if there's a partner the member has been financially dependent with.

These investigations aren't simple, can take a long time and be very intrusive at a time when your loved ones are grieving. They also require the Trustees to rake through your personal life and make judgements about the nature of your relationships with different individuals, maybe interviewing friends or former colleagues, union representatives, etc. to gather evidence for who your beneficiaries should be. At each stage of the process, the Trustees strive to do the right thing. However, this does mean asking your friends and family some very penetrative questions about the nature of their relationship with you, such as how often they saw you and when; if they didn't live with you, why not? If they did live with you, can they provide evidence of what's called 'financial interdependency' that shows how you shared expenses? Your partner would need to provide evidence covering at least two years from:

- bank statements either in joint names or ones showing money being transferred between the two of you with the shared address at the top of the statements
- utility and council tax bills in joint names, a TV licence, house deeds or mortgage application in joint names.

Ideally, a decision needs to be made within two years so that the benefits can still be paid tax free.

If you don't complete a nomination form, the Trustees have to balance what's morally right with what's legally correct under the Plan rules. With the best intentions, this may not be the person you would have chosen.



1 July is nomination day

Make sure you update your nomination, even if there are no changes to your circumstances. Think about who you would wish to receive any benefits – especially if your situation might be complicated.

By completing your nomination and keeping it updated each year, you can avoid any additional distress for your loved ones and make sure your benefits can be paid without delay.

You don't have to wait until 1 July, you can make changes at any time – why not do it right now?

Update your nomination in under two minutes

- Log into your account via Manage my pension
- Choose Instruct us from the left-hand menu
- Select Update your nominations
- Complete online and submit.

Being a Trustee



Jack Finlay is a member-nominated Trustee (MNT), who joined the board in January 2019. He has worked for Cummins for nearly six years and is currently a project manager for the Marine Group.

This involves handling customer orders for engines that go into fishing vessels, Navy patrol boats and other vessels of that size from contract signing to sea trials.



1. What does your role as an MNT involve?

My role, first and foremost, is to represent the members of our pension Plan. This ranges from ensuring that our investment managers act with prudence when choosing investment vehicles to help your pension pot grow to ensuring that, should a member die while still in full-time employment with Cummins, any lump-sum payment that is due goes to the people that the member would have wanted. My interest in pensions stems primarily from my interest in investing, so I also sit on the investment sub-committee (ISC), where some of the more technical aspects of investing are delegated from the full board.

2. What do you enjoy most about being a Trustee?

The fact that I'm contributing real value. Individually, my contribution may be relatively minor, but as a team, we dedicate a lot of time to ensuring that our members get the best possible value for the investment they make every month, while maintaining a prudent level of risk. I take the fact that I am helping shape your future very seriously.

3. What advice would you give to a member thinking about becoming an MNT?

Reach out to someone who is an MNT and ask them about their experience directly. It's a big responsibility and not a very efficient way of getting volunteer work on your CV, if that's what you're looking for! However, if you really are interested in contributing towards the future of your colleagues at Cummins, this is the role for you.

It's extremely rewarding. You get to work with people you wouldn't ordinarily come into contact with from across the Company, you get priceless experience sitting on a board of directors and you get to see what it's like to be an institutional investor.

4. What do you like to do in your spare time?

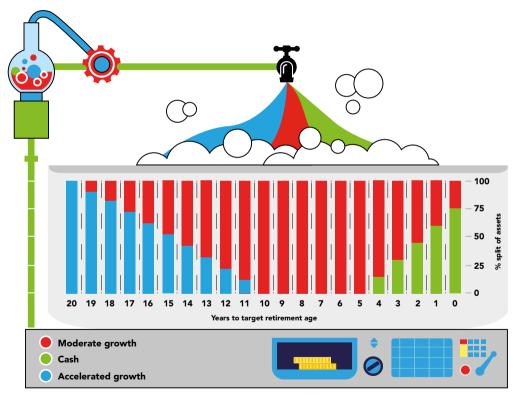
I recently bought a house in the countryside, so that really shapes my spare time. I'm either ripping something down, building it back up or walking through fields when I'm not working!

Investing your AVCs: the default lifestyle strategy explained

What's changed?

At the end of last year, we made some changes to the lifestyle investment options (formerly known as 'flexicycle') for DB members with additional voluntary contributions (AVCs). The key changes are:

- the default option which targets taking cash at retirement is now called cash focused (previously called 'lump sum focused')
- the other two lifestyle options are now called annuity protection and continued growth
- from 20 years before retirement, your money starts to move out of the accelerated growth fund - the option to choose a shorter time frame of 5 or 10 years is no longer available.



How does lifestyling work?

The lifestyle investment strategy is for you if you don't want to make detailed investment decisions about your AVC savings. It aims to maximise investment growth in your younger years and then automatically switches your money into less volatile funds as you get closer to retirement.

Time to target retirement age	What's happening to your money?	
20+ years	Accumulation phase – 100% of your account is invested in the accelerated growth fund. This hasn't changed.	
20 to 0 years	Switching phase – investment risk is gradually reduced over 20 years as shown in the chart opposite. The funds haven't changed. However, the optional shorter time frames of 5 or 10 years are no longer available.	

5 or 10-year lifestyling periods

Please note: a 5-year or 10-year switching period is no longer available as part of the lifestyle option. If you don't want your account to start moving out of the accelerated growth fund at 20 years to retirement, you'll need to use the self-select fund options instead. If you have any queries, please contact Premier using the details on the back page.

How much money will you need in retirement?



Research shows that less than a quarter of us really understand how much money we'll need in retirement. The Pensions and Lifetime Savings Association (PLSA) has suggested the income that's needed to achieve different standards of living.

Remember to take into account your income from all workplace pension plans across your career, any personal pensions you may hold, and the State pension which is payable from your State pension age.

Single		Couple
£33,000	comfortable more financial freedom and some luxuries	£47,500
£20,200	moderate more financial security and flexibility	£29,100
£10,200	minimum covers all your needs with some left over for fun	£15,700

You can get a forecast of your State pension by going to www.gov.uk/check-state-pension. The amount you're entitled to depends on how many years' worth of National Insurance contributions (or credits) you've got. To get any State pension, you need a minimum of 10 years; while to get the full amount, you need 35 years' worth.

If you were a member of a workplace pension scheme before 2016 that was contracted out of the State pension (like our Plan), your State pension amount will be reduced.

Note: these are current figures, so you'll need to add an allowance for inflation.



A realistic financial plan is essential when thinking about what you'll need for a successful retirement.

- List your current expenses: housing, food, transport, utilities, holidays, leisure, clothing, etc.
- Think about how much money you'll need after you stop working

 some expenses (housing, commuting) may go down, but others may increase (travel, leisure).
- Develop a savings plan that meets your needs – saving even a small amount extra can make a big difference.

To find out more, go to: www.retirementlivingstandards.org.uk

Running the Plan

The Plan is looked after by a Trustee board which has 14 directors: seven appointed by the Company and seven who are nominated by the Plan's members.

Anthony Waller Bernadette Daley Edward Smith Gloria Griesinger Gordon Davis* James Guilfoyle Jack Finlay* Lisa Thornton Martin Bruniges* Natalie Morton* Nichola Moore, Chair Paul Hoskins* Stephen Coughlan* vacancy*

*member-nominated Trustees

The Plan has three sub-committees which focus on communications, investment and governance.

- Governance sub-committee (GSC): ensures that the Trustee's processes comply with the Pensions Regulator's expectations, legal requirements and good business practice.
- Communications sub-committee (CSC): provides clear, engaging pensions information to members. It includes members from most of the UK sites.
- Investment sub-committee (ISC): advises the Trustee on strategic investment, risk management and covenant issues. It reviews the providers we use to help us.

Pensions news



Scams – stay alert

Scammers are continuing to target pension pots of all sizes. The pandemic has impacted all kinds of companies, including those listed on the stock markets. As a result, markets have been volatile and are likely to remain so for a while. This can have an impact on pensions, leading to an increase in scams.



If you're facing financial difficulties because of the pandemic, you may be tempted to cash in some of your pension. Scammers design attractive offers to persuade you to transfer your pension pot to them, where it is:

- invested in unusual and high-risk investments
- invested in more conventional products but within an overly complex structure that hides multiple fees and high charges
- stolen outright.

Common pension scams include early pension release or pension reviews. You should:

- reject any unsolicited contact about investments
- check the Financial Conduct Authority's warning list
- get impartial advice.

New regulations to support pension trustees in blocking transfers that display pension scam red flags are expected to come into force this autumn.





Pension Schemes Act 2021

The long-awaited Act covers a wide range of issues, including bringing in criminal and civil offences for pension funding negligence and lays the groundwork for pensions dashboards. It was delayed last year as a result of Covid-19 and has spent more than a year awaiting approval.



Saving small pension pots

A pensions-industry working group has published recommendations on how to ensure that pension savers are not disadvantaged by having numerous small pension pots, often formed during brief stints of employment. Left deferred, these small pots may slowly be eroded due to pension scheme charges, or savers may lose track of them.

It's estimated that there would be around 50 million dormant pension pots by 2050, and the pensions industry is being encouraged to develop workable solutions that allow savers to consolidate their pension pots, either on request or through large-scale transfers.

Anyone who wishes to transfer a previous pension pot into the Plan should contact Premier. If you're wanting to locate a lost pension, go to: www.gov.uk/find-pension-contact-details

Get in touch

If you have a question about the Plan or your benefits, please get in touch with Premier, the Plan administrator.

Call us:

0800 122 3266 +44 (0)203 3722 113 (from overseas)

Email us:

cummins.helpdesk@premiercompanies.co.uk

Write to us:

Premier **PO Box 108** Blyth NE24 9DY

Plan website:

www.cumminsukpensions.co.uk

Remember to let us know!

Please don't forget to update your personal details online if you move house or any other details change (active members should use OneSource).

> **FSC** Logo to go here

This product is made of material from well-managed, FSC[®]-certified forests and other controlled sources.

Please recycle this document after use. 📩

