

HSC Pension Scheme Factsheet: Time Limits - Transfers In

A member who joined the 1995 Section of the HSC Pension Scheme (ie joined the Scheme before 1 April 2008 or rejoined the Scheme before 1 October 2008 after a break in Scheme membership) must request a transfer of pension benefits within 12 months of joining the Scheme.

A member who joined the 2008 Section of the HSC Pension Scheme (ie joined the Scheme on or after 1 April 2008, or rejoined the Scheme on or after 1 October 2008 after a break in Scheme membership of five years or more) must request a transfer of pension benefits within 12 months of becoming eligible to join the Scheme (for example a member who opts out of the Scheme from the start of their employment who then elects to join the Scheme at a later date).

The member must be under their normal retirement age when they make their transfer request.

If the time limits for a transfer request are met the member will need to obtain a Transfer Booklet.

The HSC Pension Scheme can accept a transfer payment in respect of a member's rights under another registered occupational pension scheme, a personal pension scheme, including a stakeholder pension scheme or a buy-out policy, but not in respect of a free-standing AVC scheme.

In exceptional cases, for example, where a member has been denied access to, or information about the HSC Pension Scheme, discretion may be granted to allow a transfer request to proceed where the statutory time limits have not been met.

The same time limits do not apply if the member is transferring from another NHS Pension Scheme (ie England & Wales, Scotland, or Isle of Man) provided the member has deferred benefits with their former HSC Pension Scheme. However, a transfer application must still be made.