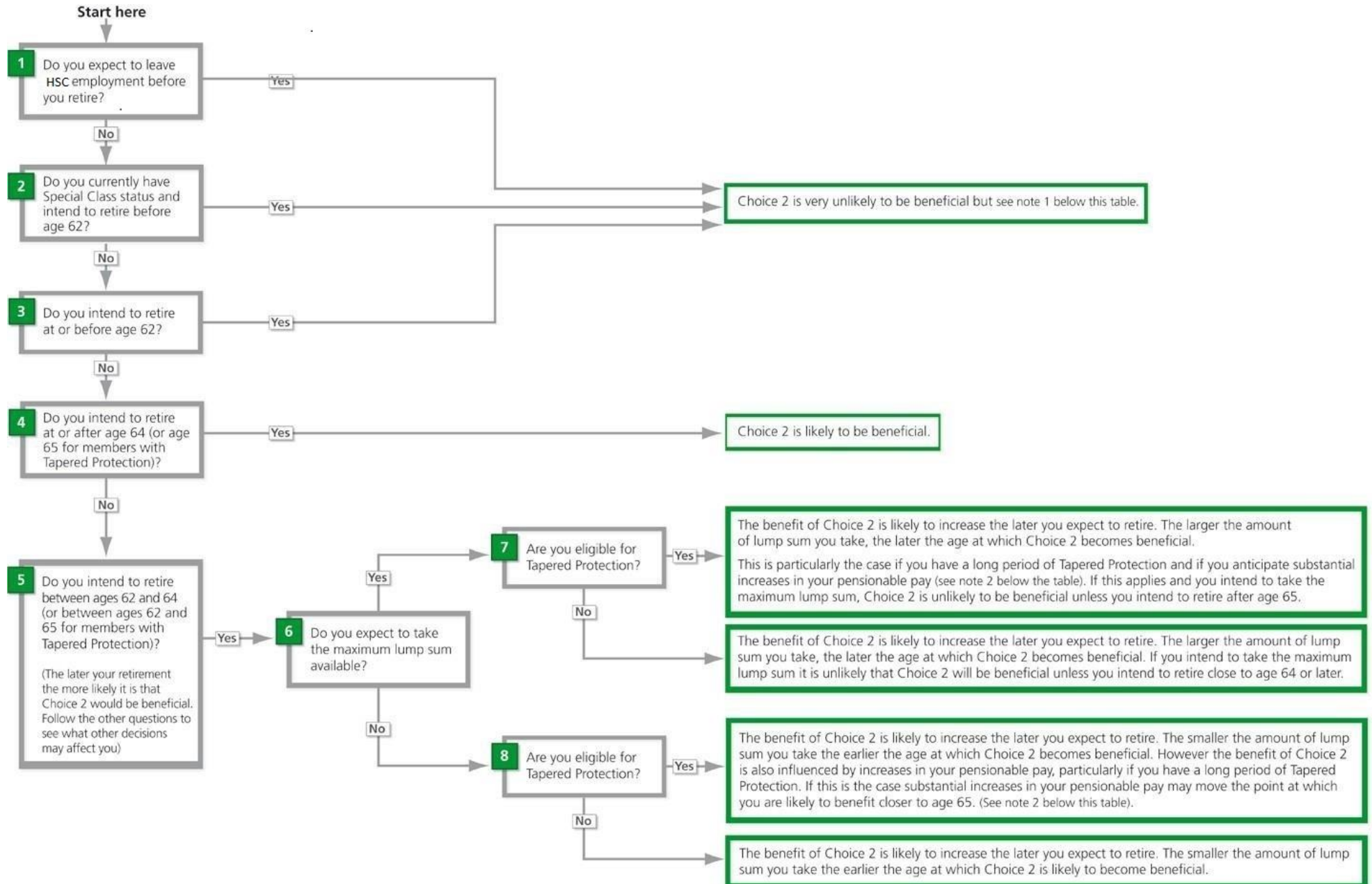


Choice 2 Decision Tree

The following diagram provides a flowchart to help you understand whether Choice 2 is likely to be beneficial to you. By answering the numbered questions in the grey boxes you can work through the various considerations involved.



Notes from flowchart:

1. If you remain in the 1995 Section you will be unable to rejoin the 2015 Scheme if you retire and later return to work. If you choose to move your 1995 Section benefits to the 2008 Section under Choice 2 you will be able to rejoin the 2015 Scheme and earn further HSC pension benefits.
2. If you have Tapered Protection you will move to the 2015 Scheme between 1 June 2015 and 1 February 2022 – see your Choice 2 letter for details. The longer the Tapered Protection period you have, the more important your future earnings will be in regard to your Choice 2 decision.
3. Remember, if you decide to move your 1995 Section benefits to the 2008 Section you will lose any Tapered Protection you may otherwise be entitled to. This will then bring forward the date on which you switch to the 2015 Scheme to 1 April 2015.

Other factors which you should also consider include:

- Benefits potentially payable to your dependants if you die before the end of the Tapered Protection period. These benefits will be higher if you exercise Choice 2.
- Benefits potentially payable to you if you retire on ill health grounds before the end of the Tapered Protection period. These benefits will be higher if you exercise Choice 2.
- The availability of flexible retirement options in the 2008 Section and 2015 Scheme and the inability to return to pensionable employment in a HSC Scheme once you have retired from the 1995 Section.
- If you currently contribute to an Added Years contract you will no longer be eligible to continue to do so from 1 April 2015 if you exercise Choice 2, but you will receive a credit for what you have paid.
- Higher partner pensions to members who joined before 1998 and have a long term partner, other than a man with a wife, are available if you exercise Choice 2.
- If you are a Mental Health Officer (MHO) any additional benefits from 'doubled years' will be lost if you exercise Choice 2.

See the Additional Information factsheet for more information.