

Age Retirement FAQs

Q I have a member retiring who wishes to take their retirement benefits. How do I notify HSC Pensions?

A You are reminded that form AW6 'Application for retirement benefits' must be completed by both the employer and member. To enable these benefits to be paid on time, HSC Pensions must receive the completed form at least 3 months prior to the proposed retirement date.

Q Where do I access the application form AW6?

A The most up-to-date version of form AW6 is available from the "scheme forms" section of our website www.hscpensions.hscni.net.

Q Will HSC Pensions accept an old copy of form AW6?

A No

Q How do I close down their membership record, ready for retirement?

A You need to complete form "Termination of scheme membership notice" available from the "scheme forms" section of our website www.hscpensions.hscni.net.

Q A member has expressed an interest in commuting part of their pension, what information do I need to supply them with?

A HSC Pensions has provided a pension commutation modelling tool which is available to members on our website www.hscpensions.hscni.net. Members will be able to enter their expected pension and basic lump sum amounts and look at different scenarios, from giving up £1 pension to the maximum permitted under HM Revenue and Customs (HMRC) rules.

Before using the calculator members will need to know their estimated pension and lump sum amount.

Q If a member is still working – can they receive their retirement benefits?

A No. All members have to have a break of at least 24 hours to qualify for their retirement benefits unless they are age 75.

Q What if they have more than one job?

A A member would have to leave their substantive employment and opt out of other pensionable posts before they could claim their retirement benefits.

Q If a member has outstanding annual leave, do I extend their leaving date?

A Yes. Annual leave is classed as membership so this will extend the member's leaving date.