



Your 2016 Trustee newsletter

From the Trustee of the RBS Group Pension Fund (the Fund)

SEPTEMBER 2016



Welcome...

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to the 2016 edition of your newsletter from the Trustee of the
RBS Group Pension Fund (the Fund).

What's new?

This year we've refreshed the look and feel as well as the content of our annual newsletter. It now covers both former members of the RBS AA Pension Scheme (now the RBS AA Section of the Fund) as well as the Main Fund Section. You can find information specific to both Sections throughout this newsletter.

The Fund's finances

I'm pleased to report that the Fund's finances continue to be well managed, even though general market movements have been volatile recently. Read the full details from page 4.

Valuation results – Main Fund Section

Due to falls in investment markets, the value of the Main Fund Section's assets decreased by £1.5 billion in the nine month period to £31 billion as at 31 December 2015, taking the funding level to 84%. To help remove the funding shortfall, the Trustee and the bank agreed a payment of £4.2 billion into the Fund, which the bank paid in March 2016. This payment by the bank significantly improved the funding position of the Fund and demonstrates the bank's continued commitment to ensuring that members' benefits are funded.

I'm glad to report that the Fund is now more secure than it has been for some years and our current assumptions see that the funding shortfall should be eliminated by 31 December 2025.

Valuation results – RBS AA Section

As at 31 December 2015, the value of the RBS AA Section's assets decreased by £50 million in the 9 month period to £914 million; the funding level however remained unchanged at 101%. It's pleasing to see that the RBS AA Section now has a surplus, mainly due to deficit contributions paid by the bank over the last three years.

Latest funding update

An interim funding update indicated that as at 30 June 2016 the funding level improved to 98% in the Main Fund Section and 104% in the RBS AA Section.

The EU Referendum

On 23 June 2016 the people of the United Kingdom voted to leave the European Union. This decision has led to short-term volatility in asset markets, in particular leading to falls in long-term interest rates which increase the value of pension scheme liabilities.

The Fund is well protected against these movements thanks to the Trustee's investment strategy, which has helped the Fund avoid the worst impact of the unexpected movements in interest rates. Find out more from page 8.

Working together with the bank

The Trustee works collaboratively with the bank to monitor the funding, investment strategy and ability of the bank to provide financial support for the Fund.

In particular, we're now focussing on the potential impact of the bank's evolving strategy to meet the requirements of the Banking Reform Act on the Fund. We'll keep you updated on any relevant progress in future communications.

Change to our reporting period

This year our newsletter covers the nine-month period to 31 December 2015, reflecting the Trustee's decision to move the Fund's financial year end from 31 March to 31 December and to bring forward the date of the actuarial valuation from 31 March 2016 to 31 December 2015.

Updates to the Trustee Board

Over the year, we had some changes to the Trustee Board, including Miller McLean retiring as a Trustee Director and Chairman of the Trustee Board on 31 March 2016.

I would like to thank Miller for his dedication and leadership of the Trustee Board over this period. It's an honour to follow in his footsteps and to build on the excellent work he has done for the Fund.

Meet your Trustee Board on page 12.

Pensions in the news

We've seen further reduction in the limits for tax-efficient retirement saving, the State pension age increasing and the new State pension coming into effect. We've summarised what these changes mean for you on pages 16-17.

Your feedback is important to us

I hope you find this newsletter useful and I would love to hear from you with comments and topics for future editions. Simply get in touch with Pensions Services using the details on page 19.



Ronnie Bowie

Chairman – RBS Pension Trustee Limited



Spotlight on funding



Every three years, the Fund Actuary reviews the Fund's financial position. Here we've summarised the results of the formal actuarial valuation as at 31 December 2015.

2015 Results at a glance

- The Main Fund Section had a funding level of **84%** (81% as at March 2013).
- The RBS AA Section had a funding level of **101%** (98% as at March 2013).

What's an actuarial valuation?

- It's a snapshot of the Fund's funding position at a set date.
- It compares the value of the Fund's **assets** (the money its investments are worth) to its **liabilities** (the money needed to provide members' benefits).
- Formal valuations are required by law to ensure good governance of pension schemes.

Funding level of the...

Main Fund Section

When comparing the value of the Fund's assets to its liabilities, the 2015 valuation results showed a funding shortfall of £5.9 billion. This equals a funding level of 84% (based on technical provisions).

RBS AA Section

The 2015 valuation results showed a funding surplus of £5 million, so the funding level was 101% (based on technical provisions).

Technical provisions:

The value of the liabilities, assuming the Fund carries on as it is now.

Valuation results*

	Formal actuarial valuation as at 31 December 2015		Interim funding update as at 30 June 2016	
	Main Fund Section	RBS AA Section	Main Fund Section	RBS AA Section
Assets	£31 billion	£897 million	£43 billion	£1,056 million
Liabilities	£37 billion	£892 million	£44 billion	£1,101 million
Surplus / (Shortfall)	(£6 billion)	£5 million	(£1 billion)	£45 million
Funding level	84%	101%	98%	104%

*All figures have been rounded and are based on the technical provisions measure of the liabilities.

How has the funding level changed...

...between 31 March 2013 and 31 December 2015?

Main Fund Section

Between the two full valuations, the Main Fund Section's assets increased from £25 billion to £31 billion mainly due to bank contributions and investment returns. Over the same period, however, the liabilities also increased from £30 billion to £37 billion, meaning that a shortfall of £6 billion remained as at 31 December 2015. To help remove the funding shortfall, the Trustee and the bank agreed an additional payment from the bank of £4.2 billion into the Fund as part of a formal recovery plan to eliminate the funding shortfall by 2035.

...between 31 December 2015 and 30 June 2016?

Main Fund Section

In the first half of 2016, the bank paid deficit contributions of £4.2 billion which replaces the remaining deficit contributions as set out in the Recovery Plan agreed between the Trustee and bank as part of the 2013 actuarial valuation. This payment, combined with strong performance from both growth assets and liability-hedging assets, meant an increase in the Section's assets from £31 billion to £43 billion at 30 June 2016. The liabilities also rose from £37 billion to £44 billion, and so the shortfall has been greatly reduced to less than £1 billion as at 30 June 2016. Therefore, the funding level as at 30 June 2016 increased from 84% to 98%.

RBS AA Section

Between the two full valuations, the RBS AA Section's assets increased from £751 million to £897 million as at 31 December 2015. Falling market yields caused the Section's liabilities to rise from £766 million to £892 million but were offset by strong investment returns on the assets. The shortfall of £15 million identified during the 2013 valuation was eliminated by the deficit contributions, leaving a surplus of £5 million as at 31 December 2015 and a funding level of 101%.

RBS AA Section

In the same period the RBS AA Section's assets increased from £897 million to £1,101 million mainly due to strong returns across growth assets and liability-hedging assets, while the liabilities rose from £892 million to £1,056 million. Therefore, the RBS AA Section had a surplus of £45 million as at 30 June 2016 and a funding level of 104%, and so additional deficit contributions weren't required to be paid to this Section.

Making sure your benefits are secure

One of the Trustee's key responsibilities is to ensure that all members receive their benefits when they're due. That's why the Trustee, together with its professional advisers and the bank, closely review and agree the funding that may be needed to ensure the Fund's financial stability.

You will have seen in the media lots of coverage about the position of UK pension schemes like BHS and Tata. Relative to many other pension schemes, the Fund is well protected

What is the solvency position?

There are no plans to dissolve the Fund. By law, we need to show you this information to be transparent.

Hypothetically, if the Fund was dissolved, the Trustee would need to use the Fund's assets to buy the equivalent benefits for members from an insurance company.

As at 31 December 2015, the solvency position of the Main Fund Section was 51% and 66% for the RBS AA Section.

Bank contributions for active members

The valuation also calculates how much the bank needs to pay into the Fund to provide benefits for active members (who are still building up pensions in the Fund).



against the impact of unexpected market movements in interest rates and inflation and the funding level has remained broadly unchanged in spite of recent market volatility.

As at 30 June 2016, the Fund had a strong funding position and the deficit contribution payments further strengthened the security of members' benefits as well as demonstrate the bank's continued commitment to ensuring that members' benefits are securely funded

As insurers take a very cautious view of the future, the cost of providing members' benefits in this way is very high. As a result, the solvency funding position tends to be lower than the Fund's technical provisions funding level.

Since 1 July 2016 the bank contributes the following percentages of members' basic salaries*:

	Main Fund Section	RBS AA Section
For members with an elected Normal Pension Age of 60	38.6%	53.4%
For members with an elected Normal Pension Age of 65	32.9%	44.3%

*Less any member contributions payable.
NB: Please note that this also includes an allowance for the running expenses of the Fund.

Why are the contribution levels different?

Primarily because of different age profiles of the respective memberships and differences in some of the actuarial assumptions used when calculating the contribution rate.

What we need to tell you...

No payments between the Fund and the bank

The Trustee is pleased to tell you that no payments were made from the Fund to the bank in the previous 12 months.

No intervention by the Pensions Regulator

In certain circumstances, the Pensions Regulator has powers to intervene to make changes to the Fund, give directions on the valuation or impose a schedule of contributions. The Pensions Regulator has not needed to use these powers in relation to the Fund.

See the full picture

You can view a copy of the valuation report and related documents at:

<https://rbs.tbs.aon.com> > Learn More > Great Britain > Defined Benefit Pension Plan > Useful Information – there's no need to log in.



Recovery Plan:

A plan agreed between the Trustee and the bank to eliminate the funding shortfall over a set period of time.



Focus on finance

One of the key responsibilities of the Trustee is the continuous monitoring and management of the Fund's investments. Read on to find out more about the Fund's financial performance.

Ins and outs

Here we show you a summary of ins and outs of the Fund over the nine-month period to 31 December 2015.

	Main Fund Section £m	RBS AA Section £m	Total £m
Fund value at March 2015	32,573.3	963.1	33,536.4
Income			
Contributions	206.3	6.3	212.6
Transfers in	-	-	-
Other	-	-	-
Total income	206.3	6.3	212.6
Expenditure			
Benefits	(606.2)	(11.0)	(617.2)
Transfers out	(156.4)	(9.6)	(166.0)
Administration expenses	(15.8)	(0.5)	(16.3)
Total expenditure	(778.4)	(21.1)	(799.5)
Net returns on investments	(962.5)	(34.7)	(997.2)
Net change in the Fund	(1,534.6)	(49.5)	(1,584.1)
Fund value at December 2015	31,038.7	913.6	31,952.3

Latest estimated Fund value as at 30 June 2016 £44 bn.

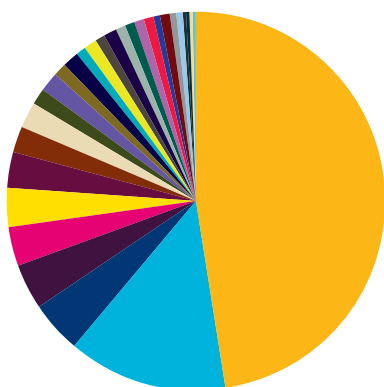
You can read the full detail in the Fund's latest Report & Accounts, available at:
<https://rbs.tbs.aon.com> > **Learn More > Great Britain > Defined Benefit Pension Plan > Useful Information**

How the Fund is invested

The Trustee's investment strategy is designed to take a carefully judged amount of risk in order to achieve the levels of return which, along with contributions paid into the Fund by the bank, will be sufficient to pay the Fund benefits to members. The Trustee takes a balanced view when determining what mix of higher risk and lower risk assets is right for the Fund.

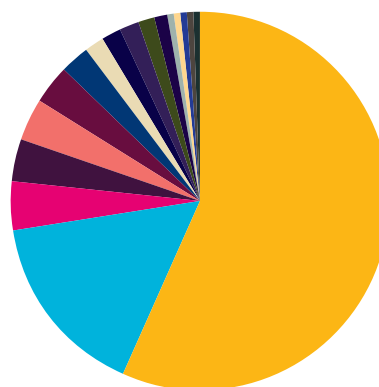
The Fund's investments are spread across a range of asset types, sectors and regions. This spread or diversification of investments helps offset any poor performance in a particular asset. See the chart below for details of how each Section is invested.

Asset mix 30 June 2016 – Main Fund Section



Index linked Gilts and swaps 47.6%	Quoted equity – Asia Pacific 0.9%
Global credit 13.6%	Emerging markets credit 0.9%
Cash and liquidity 4.6%	Reinsurance – non-life 0.8%
Quoted equity – Europe 3.8%	Annuities 0.8%
Quoted equity – UK 3.4%	US residential property 0.8%
UK property 3.2%	Emerging markets local currency debt 0.8%
Quoted equity – Emerging markets 3.0%	European property 0.7%
Private equity 2.4%	Reinsurance – Life 0.7%
Quoted equity – North America 2.1%	Life settlements 0.4%
Quoted equity – Japan 1.5%	Timber and forestry 0.3%
Infrastructure debt 1.5%	Shipping 0.2%
Syndicated loans 1.3%	Litigation finance 0.2%
Regulated utilities 1.2%	Hedge funds – macro 0.1%
Real estate debt 1.0%	Global property 0.1%
Infrastructure equity 1.0%	Distressed debt 0.1%
Hedge funds – momentum 0.9%	

Asset mix 30 June 2016 – RBS AA Section



Index linked Gilts and swaps 56.7%	Reinsurance – non-life 1.5%
Global credit 15.8%	Quoted equity – Japan 1.4%
Quoted equity – UK 4.2%	Quoted equity – Asia Pacific 1.0%
Quoted equity – Europe 3.7%	Emerging markets credit 0.8%
Global property 3.6%	Litigation finance 0.6%
Quoted equity – Emerging markets 3.4%	Emerging markets local currency debt 0.5%
Cash and liquidity 2.3%	Hedge funds – momentum 0.5%
Quoted equity – North America 1.9%	Timber and forestry 0.4%
Regulated utilities 1.7%	

Managing the Fund's investments

Over the past 12 months, the Trustee Board's Investment Committee has been busy with the following key activities.

What	Why	How
Strategic benchmark changes*	<p>The Trustee manages the strategic benchmark proactively to ensure that:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • The Fund stays on track to generate the returns required to meet the liabilities, and • Risk is maintained at acceptable levels 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • US equity exposure was reduced • The liability-hedge** ratio was increased
Asset diversification	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • The aim of diversification is to create a portfolio which can generate more consistent returns • Consider new asset classes and investment opportunities on an ongoing basis 	<p>Additions to the Fund's investments:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • A portfolio of on-shore wind farms in the UK • A portfolio of US life insurance settlements as part of the broader insurance portfolio
Investing the bank's £4.2 billion deficit contribution into the Main Fund Section	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • The Main Fund Section received a £4.2 billion deficit contribution from the bank in March 2016 as part of the funding agreement for the 2015 actuarial valuation 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Investments into growth assets including equities, credit, property and alternatives in stages through 2016

*Strategic benchmark:

Sets out the overall target allocation to each of the Fund's investment categories and is also used as a performance measure.



**Liability hedging:

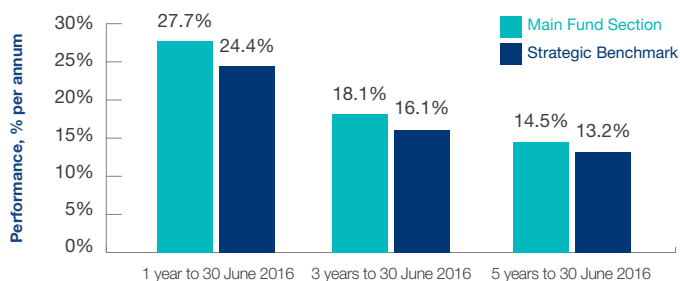
Where the Fund owns bonds, interest-rate swaps and inflation swaps to offset changes in the value of liabilities caused by unexpected movements in interest rates and inflation.



How the Fund's investments performed

See how the Fund performed to 30 June 2016 over one, three and five-year periods as well as over the five years to 30 June 2016 in the chart below.

The benchmark shown for comparison performance is based on the mix of assets in the strategic benchmark.



The Fund's Investment Committee

To help focus on finances, the Investment Committee (IC) supports the Trustee Board in setting investment objectives and reviewing how well the investments have performed. Members of the IC have strong financial backgrounds and, together, they can advise the Trustee Board on investment strategies and performance questions as needed.



Your Trustee Board

The Fund is one of the largest pension schemes in the UK and is governed by an experienced Trustee Board who run the Fund in the best interest of members.

Meet your Trustee Board

The graph below shows who sits on the Trustee Board and governs the Fund. Each of the Trustee Directors also serves across the Board's sub-committees: **Risk and Audit**, **Funding and Monitoring**, **Investment** and **Administration and Benefits**.

B: bank appointed **M**: member nominated **I**: Independent Trustee ●: committee member 👤: committee chair



Laura Barlow



Ronnie Bowie
Chairman of
Trustee Board



Stephen Boyle



Nicki Mortimer
Appointed
31 March 2016



Stephen Fallowell



George Graham



Malcolm Groves



Ian Purves



James Rowney



Donald Workman
(Deputy Chairman)



A very special thank you goes to Miller McLean, who retired as Chairman of the Board after having served as a Trustee Director for 16 years. We'd like to thank Miller for his dedication and leadership of the Trustee Board.

Another thanks goes to Marie Kiernan for her contributions during her term of office. Marie resigned from her Trustee role when she left the bank and so we welcomed James Rowney (Head of Real Estate Solutions) as a new member-appointed Trustee Director on 14 January 2016.

We were also joined by Nicki Mortimer, representing Capital Cranfield Pension Trustees Limited from 31 March 2016 as an Independent Trustee. Both Nicki and James bring valuable experience and skills to the Trustee Board and we're looking forward to working with them.



Fund membership

As at 31 December 2015, there were a total of 217,698 members in the Fund.

Member group	Who they are	Main Fund Section	RBS AA Section
Active members	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Still working with the bank and building up benefits in the Fund	26,128	35
Deferred members	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Have left the bank or have opted out of the Fund, and will receive their benefits from the Fund when they reach their Normal Pension Age	122,613	1,973
Pensioners	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Receive a monthly pension from the Fund, including widows/widowers, dependants, partners, and children	66,190	759

Going online

The Trustee is always considering ways to keep the Fund innovative, up to date, and financially efficient. That's why in future we'd like to issue Fund-wide communications such as newsletters, Fund booklets and guides electronically.

Many other pension schemes have already made the move to online and we too want to offer you different ways of accessing our information whenever and wherever you want it. Most importantly, we want to ensure costs are appropriately managed in the overall running of the Fund.

In advance of the next Fund-wide communication, we'll send you details of where and how to access this.

Working together with the bank

The Trustee works collaboratively with the bank to monitor the funding, investment strategy and ability of the bank to provide financial support for the Fund.

In particular, we're now focussing on the potential impact on the Fund of the bank's evolving strategy to meet the requirements of the Banking Reform Act. This legislation obliges banks, including RBS, to separate some activities, such as financial trading and investment, into different companies. This will involve changes to the corporate structure of RBS and to the companies sponsoring the Fund, and we'll keep you updated on any relevant progress in future communications.



Governing the Fund

To ensure the Trustee is running the Fund in the best way possible, it regularly reviews its processes and reflects on the following questions.

Q Governance – Are the interests of all members, the Trustee and the bank represented fairly and reflected in the decisions made by the Trustee, and do we make the best of the skills and knowledge across the Trustee Board?

A In all the decisions we make, we carefully balance the interests of all members – what is important to an active member may be very different from what is important to a pensioner. We have to act in the best interests of all Fund members and their beneficiaries.

The Trustee Board brings together independent professional trustees, retired member trustees and others with a wide mix of finance, investment, risk management and governance skills, giving us the right blend of skills and experience to manage a Fund of this size and complexity. We also take external independent advice to inform the substantive decisions we make.

Q Administration – Are we paying the right benefits to the right people at the right time?

A The bank's Pensions Services team currently provides administration and member support on behalf of the Trustee. The quality of the administration – in terms of calculating members' benefits in line with legislation, our Rules and policies, and giving our members a great service – is really important to us. Our Administration & Benefits Committee monitors this very closely and listens to the feedback we get from our members.

Q Funding and Investment – Are the assets held in the Fund sufficient to meet the promised benefits?

A This involves looking at the way we determine the Fund's funding and investment strategies both now and in the future. Our Funding and Monitoring Committee monitors the assets and liabilities closely and negotiates with the bank on appropriate funding arrangements, reflecting the results of each formal valuation of the Fund. This Committee also monitors what changes in the bank's corporate structure and financial position mean for the Fund and the bank's ability and commitment to support the Fund appropriately.

Meanwhile, our Investment Committee agrees an appropriate investment strategy in light of our funding position and our ability to absorb the inevitable variability of investment returns.

Q Managing risk – Do we have the right policies and processes in place to support the successful operation of the Fund, and are these properly documented and applied in the running of the Fund?

A One of the biggest risks facing the Fund is investment risk and the impacts market movements can have on how well it's funded. This is a key area of risk management and through our Investment Committee we seek to protect the Fund against risks which can have a negative effect on the funding, while at the same time taking a carefully judged level of risk to ensure that assets grow sufficiently.

However, there are many other critical risks that our Risk and Audit Committee monitors to check that the Fund has sufficient cash income to meet benefits expenditure, and that controls are in place and working well to mitigate any compliance, operational and reputational risks to the Fund.

Q Supporting members – Do the communications we issue to members help them understand their Fund benefits and the decisions that they need to make, particularly at retirement?

A The Government has allowed more flexibility and choice around how people use their retirement savings and this has increased the complexity around the way retirement savings are taxed. The Trustee is paying close attention to the impact of these changes on members. Whilst the Trustee cannot give members advice, we are committed to ensuring that all members have access to good, clear information about how the Fund works and the choices members have, and to the right sources of information on wider Government changes.

Q Trustee's knowledge & understanding – How well do we update ourselves on our legal powers and responsibilities, and do we have the right level of knowledge of the complex technical areas of pension funding, investment and administering the Fund to provide the level of governance and management of the Fund that is expected by the Regulators and by its members?

A The Trustee role is one of oversight, challenge and management of the operation of the Fund. Not all Trustee Directors are pension specialists and the Trustee defers to expert advice as appropriate. However, each Trustee Director completes on-going training to understand the scope of their role, how effective Trustee Board decisions are made, and to build the knowledge they need to be able to demonstrate the level and quality of governance required by the Government's Regulatory bodies.



Pensions in the news

Keep up to date with the changes to the UK pension landscape by reading our bite-sized news updates below.

Tax-efficient pension savings limits have changed

In the last newsletter, we updated you on Government changes to the amount you can save tax efficiently into any UK-registered pension scheme:

- In one financial year, known as the **Annual Allowance (AA)**, and
- Over your working lifetime, known as the **Lifetime Allowance (LTA)**.

About the AA

- From 6 April 2016, the AA is £40,000.
- It's tapered down for pension savers earning over £150,000 a year (to a minimum AA of £10,000).
 - These earnings include any salary you receive, income from rental properties, investment income, as well as the value of your pension savings in that tax year.
 - If you're affected, your AA for the year will depend on your income.


About the LTA

- From 6 April 2016, the LTA is £1 million.
- For defined benefit schemes such as the Fund, your LTA is calculated as 20 times the value of your annual pension benefits at retirement, plus any additional pension savings you may have.
- You may be eligible to protect your LTA at a level higher than £1 million – find out more at www.gov.uk/guidance/pension-schemes-protect-your-lifetime-allowance
- The LTA is expected to change every year from 6 April 2018, in line with increases in the Consumer Prices Index.



Did you know?

- The AA and LTA limits apply to all your pension savings – not just your savings in the Fund.
- State pensions are excluded.
- Tax limits may change in future.
- Find out more at www.gov.uk/tax-on-your-private-pension



Please note that it's your responsibility to monitor your personal tax position. If you need help, please seek financial advice.

New State pension

From April 2016, a flat-rate, single-tier State pension replaced the Basic and Additional State pensions. Pension savers retiring after this date can expect a payment of around £155.65 per week if they have paid full National Insurance (NI) contributions for 35 years.

The Fund was previously contracted out of the State Second Pension and you paid lower NI contributions, so you're likely to receive less than the amount quoted above.

When contracting out ceased from April 2016, active Fund members, together with the bank, started paying higher NI contributions to the Government, which will count towards the new single-tier State pension. The bank has recently written separately to active Fund members about this.

Check how much you could get at www.gov.uk/check-state-pension

Pension scams – don't be next!

Recently we've seen some Fund members being targeted by pension scammers, promising upfront cash and one-off 'deals' with guaranteed high returns. These tempting offers often end up with high tax charges and lost investments overseas, so please be cautious if you're being approached about your benefits.

Please note the legislation will still not allow access to benefits before the age of 55 (ignoring ill-health retirement cases and individuals who have special protected pension ages) without being subject to significant tax charges.

Protect yourself by reading up on the Pensions Regulator website at www.thepensionsregulator.gov.uk/pension-scams.aspx

Transferring-out your benefits

If you're eligible and sure you want to transfer your benefits out of the Fund, pensions regulation requires you to first get independent financial advice (if the value of your benefits is over £30,000) from an adviser authorised and regulated by the Financial Conduct Authority.

The Government has introduced this requirement to best ensure that such transfers are only undertaken by those individuals who are likely to benefit from it.

To find an Independent Financial Adviser in your area and what to look out for, visit www.moneyadvice.service.org.uk/en/articles/choosing-a-financial-adviser

Financial advice

By law, the Trustee, Pensions Services and the bank can't give you financial advice. You can find more information about free guidance and advice from the Money Advice Service or The Pensions Advisory Service. Alternatively, please speak to an Independent Financial Adviser (IFA) but be aware that you may have to pay for any services.



Making the most of your benefits

Being a member of the Fund means you're already saving for your future. But there are more ways of managing your benefits the best you can.

Who is dear to you?

As a member of the Fund, your loved ones may be entitled to benefits if you die before you reach retirement. To ensure that your beneficiaries are financially protected, it's vital that you complete an Expression of Wish Form. Please note that the Trustee will take your wishes into account but isn't legally bound by them.

To complete or update an Expression of Wish form:

- Download a form using the links below
 - To nominate a partner/dependant for a pension, visit <https://rbs.tbs.aon.com/RBS/media/default/PDFs/Current%20Pension%20Plan/UK-Partner-Dependant-Pension-Nomination-Form-plain-text-version.pdf>
 - To nominate a beneficiary to receive any lump sum payable on your death, go to <https://rbs.tbs.aon.com/RBS/media/default/PDFs/Current%20Pension%20Plan/UK-Lump-Sum-nomination-form.pdf>
- Once completed, send your form to Pensions Services (see page 19)

Increasing pensions in payment

If you're already receiving a pension from the Fund, we'll notify you in April 2017 of any increase that may be awarded.



For members who are still working for the bank and haven't opted out of the Fund

Could you afford a little bit extra?

If you think you may not have enough at retirement or would like to retire early, you may want to consider paying additional pension contributions, known as APeCs. Paying APeCs is tax efficient and helps you save on National Insurance contributions. However you will need to consider how this may affect your annual or lifetime allowance as detailed on page 16.

To find out more, start paying APeCs or increasing them, just go to RBSelect at <https://rbs.tbs.aon.com>

Monitoring the Fund's APeC arrangement

The Trustee regularly monitors the APeC arrangement to ensure that it continues to deliver good value to members. The Trustee reviews the current range of investment choices, closely monitors the investment performance, and also monitors the charges that members pay (being the investment management and investment administration charges) to ensure these continue to be competitive.

Here to help

If you have any questions related to your benefits in the Fund, please contact Pensions Services, the Fund's dedicated member support team.

Current employees:



0808 100 4242



Raise a query through Contact HR on any HR page in Insite

You can find a copy of useful Fund documents at:

<https://rbs.tbs.aon.com> > Learn More > Great Britain > Defined Benefit Pension Plan > Useful Information

Former employees and pensioners:



rbspensionplans@rbs.co.uk

Alternatively, you can write to: Pension Services, HR People Services,
The Royal Bank of Scotland, City Link House, 4 Addiscombe Road,
Croydon CR9 1YB



Protecting your personal information

RBS Pension Trustee Limited (the Trustee) is the Data Controller for the purposes of the Data Protection Act 1998. In the course of administering the Fund, the Trustee will collect, store and process your personal information and that of your spouse, partner and dependant(s).

By being a member of the Fund you are consenting to the Trustee using and sharing personal information for:

- 1) The administration and effective management of the Fund;
- 2) Processing by third parties who get information to facilitate the administration and effective management of the Fund;
- 3) Other forms of processing which the Trustee will carry out as part of their legal and regulatory obligations in relation to Fund management (e.g. complying with sanctions-screening requirements and anti-money laundering rules); and
- 4) Research and data analysis purposes, e.g. reviewing trends and producing longevity projections.

The third parties to whom the Trustee may disclose your personal information include actuaries, tracing companies, pension-risk companies, occupational health doctors, external advisers (e.g. independent financial advisers, lawyers, consultants), research and analytics providers, insurance companies, regulators and ombudsmen.

The Trustee requires advice from time to time from their actuarial adviser Aon Hewitt and the Scheme Actuary. That means Aon Hewitt and the Scheme Actuary may require access to personal data about members and their dependant(s). The Data Protection Act governs how the Trustee, Aon Hewitt and the Scheme Actuary use and store this personal data. You can find out more about how your personal information is used at www.aonhewitt.co.uk/privacy-statement

Should you have further questions regarding the processing of your personal information, please contact Pensions Services (see previous page). You can also find general guidance on the Information Commissioner's website.