# **CASE STUDY**Age group: 30s

A hypothetical example of someone starting a pension in a typical age bracket.



GILL IS 35 AND WORKS IN A TRUST COMPANY EARNING £50,000 PER YEAR.

She wants to start saving towards her retirement and decides to invest £500 per month.



She uses the My Future Life Strategy investment process and raises her contributions each year in line with inflation.

> (She plans to retire at 67 and so needs to plan for a longer retirement period.)



## AT 67 SHE WOULD RETIRE WITH A PENSION POT WORTH AROUND £476,000\*

(Compared to her total employee contributions of £198.000)

(Average cost of the scheme up to the point of retirement was 1.5% per annum including all underlying costs and charges.)



## This would mean she could draw a pension of around £22000 per month

(assuming 23 years of retirement)

## THIS IS ROUGHLY 4 TIMES HER MONTHLY INVESTMENT

This is thanks to the power of long-term compound growth.

If Gill decided to retire three years later, at the state retirement age of 70, her monthly pension drawdowns would rise to £2,700 per month over a 20 year retirement.

EARLY RETIREMENT STATE RETIREMENT

AGE 35 AGE 70

### **Data Explainer**

The case study is calculated using annual data and long term historical average rates of return and inflation as detailed in the table opposite. It assumes contributions and withdrawals rise in line with inflation and that inflation runs at 2.4% on average as detailed below. The investments are dictated by the default invest process (My Future Life Strategy) which uses a portfolio of global company shares for the bulk of the life of the pension and begins to reduce portfolio risk from 10 years before retirement using incrementally more cautious investment strategies. Returns are based on the average growth rate of the MSCI World Index and the relevant Investment Association ("IA") sector averages (see table opposite). These returns are net of administration fees, investment management fees and underlying fund costs. The cost of administering the scheme is charged in addition to this but is accounted for in the case study.

Drawdowns assume a fixed amount of drawdown rising with inflation over the stated retirement periods. All cash figures are quoted in current money terms, which strips out the impact of inflation (at the rate quoted) for ease of comparison. In this example Gill's future pension withdrawals are quoted as £2,000 per month. What we mean by this is that the withdrawals she should be able to take in 32 years' time will buy the same amount of goods and services as £2,000 would buy her today.

\*Based on contributions increasing on a phased basis over eight years. In 2024 the total minimum contribution is 2%. This increases to a combined minimum of 10% in 2032.

#### **Historical Data Table**

The MSCI Index and Investment Association ("IA") sector averages are quotes in Sterling total return terms (including both capital gain/losses and income) from 30/11/1993 to 30/11/2023 after representative fees. IA sectors present the average performance of the funds in those sectors and are calculated by FE FundInfo. UK Consumer Prices Index ("CPI") data is compiled by the Office of National Statistics. Data collated 24/01/24.

| INDEX                                       | AVERAGE ANNUAL<br>GROWTH RATE | DESCRIPTION                      |
|---|-------------------------------|----------------------------------|
| MSCI World Index (less a 0.3% fee)          | 7.8%                          | Global Stock Market Index        |
| IA Mixed Investment 40-85% Shares<br>Sector | 5.5%                          | Growth Portfolio<br>Peer Group   |
| IA Mixed Investment 20-60%<br>Shares Sector | 4.6%                          | Balanced Portfolio<br>Peer Group |
| IA Mixed Investment 0-35%<br>Shares Sector  | 4.3                           | Cautious Portfolio<br>Peer Group |
| UK Consumer Price Index                     | 2.4%                          | UK Inflation Rate                |

The value of investments can go down as well as up, rates of return are not guaranteed and future rates of return could be higher or lower than the historical rates used in this example, especially over shorter periods of time. Past performance is not necessarily a guide to future performance and may not be repeated.

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