



# Northern Ireland Colleague Benefits

This document gives you an overview of the benefits available under the bank's flexible benefits programme for colleagues in Northern Ireland.

To make use of single sign on links within this document please [sign in](#) to the NatWest Group Benefits Hub.

[Defined Benefit Pension Plan](#)

[NatWest Group Retirement Savings Plan](#)

[Life Cover](#)

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# How it works

Your pension is a way of providing an income for your life after work.

## *About this benefit*

The name of your scheme depends on your region (see below). But we'll talk about it generally as 'the scheme'.

Great Britain	The NatWest Group Pension Fund
Northern Ireland	The Ulster Bank Pension Scheme
Jersey, Guernsey, Isle of Man, Gibraltar	International Pension Trust
Republic of Ireland	The Ulster Bank Pension Scheme ROI Lombard Ireland Limited Non-Contributory Pension and Death Benefits Plan First Active Pension Scheme

This defined benefit pension is based on the time you've been a member and your 'final pensionable salary'. Your pensionable salary is on your pay statement – it simply means your pay that your pension is based on. Your **final** pensionable salary is based on your pensionable salary when you start to take your pension. Membership can also give you other benefits, such as:

- life cover to give your family some protection after your death; and
- an income if you're too sick and can't work.

## *Each scheme has several sections.*

Each one slightly different terms and conditions.

Contact WTW if you need to check which one you're in and to see the specifics of your plan.

If you're already in the Benefits Hub, you can click [here](#) to reach the WTW website without a password. Or you can go

to [epa.towerswatson.com/accounts/rbs](https://epa.towerswatson.com/accounts/rbs) directly, but you'll need your log in details.

## *Membership*

No one can join the scheme anymore – most schemes were closed to new members in 2006.

But if you're already a member you can still build up benefits and make certain changes. We've listed the changes in 'Your options' under the 'More info' page.

If you're not a member, you can pay into the Retirement Savings Plan instead. To see what plan you're in, look at your Confirmation Statement in the Benefits Hub.

## *Your pension*

You get a pension for life at your Normal Pension Age (NPA), which is normally 60, 63 or 65. You can start to take your pension at 55 even if you're still working. But it will normally be less, as you're taking it early.

Whatever age you take it, you can normally pay to choose to swap some of your pension for a tax-free cash lump sum.

## *Security for your family*

If you die while you're still an 'active member', the scheme will pay out life cover and a monthly pension. Being an 'active member' means you're paying into the scheme.

To help us pay the money to the right people, go to the [WTW website](#) to make sure you've made your wishes clear. Remember to keep this up to date if your personal situation changes (for example, if you lose a partner or become a parent).

See more detail in the 'If you die' section on the 'More info' page.

## *Boosting your benefits*

You can "top up" your savings for life after work by adding Additional Voluntary Contributions (AVCs). You'll find out more about this and how to do it [here](#) on the AVC page on Insite.

# Cost and tax

## *What you pay*

You pay a charge based on your 'DB Chargeable Salary'. Your DB chargeable salary is based on your base salary before the 1 October 2018 changes, so they don't affect your pension charge.

You'll also get some tax relief in line with your local tax rules.

The charges will show on your payslip as 'RBSelect Pension'.

Some members also pay a separate contribution of 2% of DB Chargeable Salary. If this applies to you, you'll see it on your monthly payslip. These contributions benefit from tax but not National Insurance relief.

Some members also pay a separate contribution of 2½%

The total cost of your pension is much more than the cost to you. The Bank pays the rest of this overall cost, contributing

- 10% of your basic salary towards funding your pension; and
- at least 60% of your salary into the scheme to pay for the benefits you'll eventually receive.

## *Contribution examples*

[This guide](#) shows some examples of how contributions work for different tax bands. It shows you how much your contributions can cost you. This is just a guide – your figures might not match this exactly.

## *Tax limits*

The Government applies a limit called the **annual allowance** on the amount of pension you can build up tax-free in any one tax year. It doesn't limit how much you can actually save. But if you go over it, you will pay tax on the amount above the allowance.

You can get more information on the annual allowance on the [Government website](#).

If your pension increases by more than the standard annual allowance the scheme administrator will let you know, because you may need to pay some extra tax. We'll give you the details you'll need to include in your tax return.

There is also a **lifetime allowance** There is also a lifetime allowance for the value of the pension you can build up tax- free over your lifetime, currently £1,073,100. The Government is due to abolish this allowance from 6 April 2024. In the meantime, the **extra** tax charge for going over the allowance no longer applies.

The maximum tax-free cash sum you can receive is also still fixed for now at 25% of the old lifetime allowance, which comes to £268,275. The rules are different for people with protections and we recommend you take independent advice if these are relevant to you.

Read more on [the Government website](#).

## More info

### *Your options*

You have several options open to you for your pension.

1. Stay in the scheme.
2. Leave the scheme.
3. Pay Additional Voluntary Contributions (AVCs) to add to the amount of money you'll get when you take your benefits. To make or change AVC's you can contact WTW by Telephone on 01737 227 549 or email them at [GPFpensions@willistowerswatson.com](mailto:GPFpensions@willistowerswatson.com)

### *Leaving the scheme while still working here ('opting out')*

You can choose to leave the scheme at any time. If you choose to leave, you will stop paying the monthly charge.

You'll automatically join the Retirement Savings Plan, contributing 8% of your ValueAccount. But you can change the amount you contribute at any time. You'll have to pay separately for Life Cover and Disability Cover. You need to be actively at work on the date you opt out for Life Cover and Disability Cover to start.

You'll need to give a full month's notice to leave the scheme, so if you do so now it won't happen until the month after next. For example, if you opt out during April, your last day of active membership will be 31 May.

If you want to opt out you can do this on the Benefits Hub. If you change your mind during the notice period – let HR know by [clicking on Ask Archie on the Intranet page](#). If Archie can't help you, he'll pass your details to the team that can.

If you're out of the business, or on leave you can either:

- ask your manager to contact Archie for you; or
- you can email [hronline@natwest.com](mailto:hronline@natwest.com). This email address is **only** for colleagues who are out the business or on leave.

**Remember: if you leave, you can't re-join the scheme.**

The scheme is a valuable benefit, so opting out is a major step. You should take independent financial advice and think very carefully before you choose to leave.

For example, consider the people you want to get your pension benefits if you die. If you leave the scheme, those benefits will change. It's important to let them know if you decide to leave.

**If you opt out, your pension will be based on your service and pensionable salary only up to the point you leave.**

This will also apply to any ill-health pension you might receive, or that your dependants may get after you die.

You won't get any special early retirement terms or enhanced redundancy terms available to scheme members.

## *If you die*

The scheme pays out a lump sum to your partner, and any dependent children if they're under 18 (23 if they're in full time education).

To help us pay the money to the right people, go to the [WTW website](#) to make sure you've made your wishes clear. Remember to keep this up to date if your personal situation changes (for example, if you lose a partner or become a parent).

The amounts payable depend on:

- your salary;
- whether you're still a member of the scheme; and
- how long you've been a member of the scheme at the date you die.

The scheme will also pay a pension to your partner.

## *If you get too sick to work*

If you have to stop work due to ill health, you might get a pension from the scheme. It depends on your personal situation and what part of the scheme you're in.

If you've been sick for over 6 months, you may be able to get payments through our long term disability scheme. If you're eligible this would pay 55% of your ValueAccount for up to 5 years.

If you're still too sick to work, you may then be able to start your pension, even if you're below minimum retirement age.

## *If you leave the Bank*

If you stop working here, your monthly charge will stop and you won't build up any more pension.

We'll work out the pension you have built up at the date you leave – called your 'deferred' pension.

This pension will increase in line with inflation until you start to receive it.

# Help and documents

## *Financial advice*

We aim to give you general information and guidance about the scheme and your benefits. But we are not allowed to give you advice on your personal finances. For that you need to speak to an independent financial adviser.

It's important to make sure that any adviser you speak to is properly qualified and registered. There are always scammers in the pensions market. They'll often ask you to sign up for a 'free pension review', a 'one-off investment opportunity' or a 'legal loophole'.

So the best place to find out more about getting financial advice and avoiding scams is your local financial guidance website:

**Great Britain and Northern Ireland**

[www.moneyhelper.org.uk](http://www.moneyhelper.org.uk)  
[www.fca.org.uk](http://www.fca.org.uk)

<b>Jersey</b>	<a href="http://www.jerseyfsc.org">www.jerseyfsc.org</a>
<b>Guernsey</b>	<a href="http://www.gfsc.gg">www.gfsc.gg</a>
<b>Isle of Man</b>	<a href="http://www.iomfsa.im">www.iomfsa.im</a>
<b>Republic of Ireland</b>	<a href="http://www.pensionsauthority.ie">www.pensionsauthority.ie</a>
<b>Gibraltar</b>	<a href="http://www.cab.gi/money-advice">www.cab.gi/money-advice</a>

## *Pension Wise*

Pension Wise is a Government service that gives free, impartial advice about pensions. You can visit their [website](#) or call them on 030 0330 1001. They can arrange a call with MoneyHelper or a meeting with Citizens Advice.

Other websites you may find helpful:

- [Department for Work and Pensions](#)
- [HM Revenue and Customs](#)
- [The Pensions Regulator](#)
- [Information Commissioner's Office](#)

## *Further information*

You can also use the [WTW website](#) to:

- Read general information about how your pension scheme works;
- Check and update your personal details, and keep your beneficiaries up-to-date;
- See how much pension you've built up;
- Choose when and how you can take your benefits from the pension, with information that explains the choices available; and
- Model your pension to see what happens if you stay in the plan until you take your benefits or transfer the value out to another arrangement.



## How to contact Willis Towers Watson

Online	If you're logged into the Benefits Hub you can click here to access the <a href="#">WTW website</a> without a password. If you're not logged in you can go directly to <a href="https://epa.towerswatson.com/accounts/rbs">epa.towerswatson.com/accounts/rbs</a> but you'll need your log in details
By phone	Great Britain 01737 227549 Offshore 01737 828300
By email	Great Britain, Northern Ireland and Gibraltar: <a href="mailto:GPFpensions@willistowerswatson.com">GPFpensions@willistowerswatson.com</a> Jersey, Guernsey, Isle of Man: <a href="mailto:RBSOffshorepensions@willistowerswatson.com">RBSOffshorepensions@willistowerswatson.com</a>
By post	Great Britain, Northern Ireland, Jersey, Guernsey, Isle of Man, Gibraltar: PO BOX 545, Redhill, Surrey, RH1 1YX

## Terms and conditions

If you want a copy of the full terms and conditions you can find these on the [WTW website](#)

## Our documents

You can find a number of useful documents in the Plan Library section of the [WTW website](#), including the:

- Fund Booklet – that provides information on how your pension is invested
- Annual Newsletter – which keeps you updated with news about the Fund
- Annual Report & Accounts – sets out the financial contributions to the Fund

[Contribution examples – Northern Ireland](#)

## Our forms

All forms are available on the [WTW website](#)

These range from the forms you might need to tell us who you want to receive any death benefits from the scheme, or to apply to leave the scheme or retire early.

For anything else, contact WTW.

## NatWest Group Retirement Savings Plan

# How it works

The Retirement Savings Plan allows you to save money towards benefits in later life, through contributions from your monthly pay.

### *About this benefit*

The Retirement Savings Plan – or ‘the RSP’ - is a ‘tax-efficient’ way of saving money.

In other words, the effective cost of your contributions is less because they get Income Tax and National Insurance contribution relief. And you can receive some of your benefits tax-free too.

It’s also very flexible. It’s a ‘defined contribution’ plan, so you can choose how much to save, where to invest it, when to take it out, and what to do with it.

Some restrictions apply – more details are below and on ‘More info’.

It’s looked after by a Trustee Board that’s separate from the Bank. The Trustee and the Bank have appointed Legal & General as administrators and investment managers for the RSP.

### *We’ll have already placed you in the RSP*

Being a member of the RSP doesn’t necessarily mean you’re actually paying any money in.

You can see if you’re already a member on the Benefits Hub and how much you’re paying in.

You’ll be in the RSP unless you’re an active member of one of our defined benefit plans.

When you join the Bank we automatically set up contributions for you. You can find full details on this on “Cost and tax”.

You can start, stop or make changes to this benefit as follows:

	New joiner window	Annual election window	Anytime window	Change in circumstances
Permanent contract	✓	✓	✓	✓
Fixed-term contract	✓	✓	✓	✓

Your new joiner window lasts for 3 months, then closes at the end of the month you make your first choice.

Please note: If you’re on any kind of long-term leave – such as maternity leave, unpaid sick leave, or a career break – you cannot start or increase your contributions. You will be able to increase your choices when you come back from leave. For more details, please check the policy for the type of leave you’re on.

To start or increase your contributions, you must be ‘actively at work’. This means you’re working as usual, or just taking normal holiday.

### Taking your benefits

Most people wait until they stop work completely before taking their money, but you can start drawing benefits any time after you turn age 55. You’ve got some options for what to do with it.

This table shows you each option, along with a ‘Lifestyle’ investment fund that might help you save towards it. You can read more about investing and the different funds available in ‘More info’.

<b>Draw some of it down</b>	You can take money out of your savings when you want, and keep investing the rest.	Drawdown Lifestyle Fund
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<b>Take it as cash</b>	You can get some or all of your money as a lump sum.	Lump Sum Lifestyle Fund
<b>Buy a pension</b>	You can take your savings to an insurance company and buy a pension, or 'annuity'.	Annuity Lifestyle Fund
<b>Do a combination</b>	For example, you could take some of your savings as cash and invest the rest to draw down later.	

If you're not sure what you plan to do, don't worry. You can change your investments and your contributions to fit your plans as you go.

You can start with the 'default option', the Drawdown Lifestyle Fund, and check your decision when you get closer to retiring.

The 'default' option means the option we'd put you in automatically if you don't make a different choice yourself. The default option works by investing your savings in the Diversified Growth Fund (this aims to achieve long-term growth in excess of price inflation) until 7 years before your Target Retirement Age. When you're 7 years away from your Target Retirement Age, your Plan savings are gradually moved, over time, into the Income Drawdown Fund and the Cash Fund.

We can't give you financial advice about your investment choices, we can only explain your options. So if you've looked at the information about the RSP and you're still not sure about what to do, you might want to talk to an independent financial adviser.

## Cost and tax

When you first join, we automatically set your contribution at 8% of your monthly Value Account and that will continue unless you tell us otherwise.

You choose the amount you want to contribute each month. Contributions are a % of your monthly Value Account.

If you want to cap your annual contributions to £10,000 a year, you can select a monthly amount of £833.33 – this is the only cash amount that’s available as a contribution.

If you move country, or to another Company within NatWest Group, we’ll let you know if we need to set your contribution back to 8%.

## *Check if 8% is enough for your future needs.*

Everyone’s circumstances and needs are different - the amount of income you’ll need mostly depends on the lifestyle you hope to have when you’re older.

Go to the ‘Retirement living standards tool’ to see how much money you’ll need in retirement. Then see how you can achieve this by using the Retirement planner. You’ll find this on the Legal & General website under ‘manage my pension’. This will help you work out if you’re saving enough.

If you want to pay more, you’ll need to choose the amount you want along with your other benefit choices by the end of the month.

## *Save More Tomorrow*

The Save More Tomorrow option lets you automatically increase your retirement savings each April by either 1% or 2%.

At the end of February each year we’ll check your Save More Tomorrow preference and apply it in April (unless you’re on long-term leave).

If you’ve chosen Save More Tomorrow, we’ll always remind you ahead of April so you have time to decide if it’s still right for you.

If you receive a bonus in March or June, you can choose to pay some or all of it straight into the RSP. We’ll email you to remind you.

## *Making changes*

You can change what you pay at any time by choosing a new amount on the Benefits Hub. Your new contribution level will then start from the following month.

You won’t get any paperwork, but you’ll see the change on your next month’s payslip (or from April if you choose a Save More Tomorrow option), and on your confirmation statement.

You can also change your investment choices on the pension website (see ‘More info’ for details about this).

If you're logged into the Benefits Hub, you can access the Legal & General website without a password by clicking [here](#). If you're not logged in, you can go directly to <http://myaccount.landg.com> with your log in details. You can also change your Save More Tomorrow choice on the Benefits Hub. As long as you've done this by the end of February, it will start from April the same year.

## Rules for your contributions

If you joined the Bank on or after 1 October 2018, you can't reduce your contributions below 8% of your Value Account unless:

Situation	More info
1. You've reached the annual allowance for the year (including the Money Purchase Annual Allowance the "MPAA").	You can get more information on the annual allowance on the <a href="#">Government website</a>
2. You've got fixed protection	You can get more information on fixed protection allowance on the <a href="#">Government website</a> If you have fixed protection we'll need to see a copy of your certificate.
3. You've already saved more than the lifetime allowance in a pension plan	You can get more information on the annual allowance on the <a href="#">Government website</a> If you don't have a fixed protection certificate we'll need to see evidence of your pension savings being above the lifetime allowance
4. You don't pay income tax	If you're income is less than the personal income tax allowance and you're not paying tax, you wouldn't benefit from tax relief on the RSP.

If you want to save less than 8% of your Value Account and you're in one of these four situations, you'll need to contact HR to let us know. You can [click on Ask Archie on the Intranet page](#).

If any of situations 1 to 3 apply, you will have the option to receive an alternative cash payment through the payroll. This cash payment will be a lower amount than the equivalent value of the pension funding you would otherwise have

received. The cash payment will be lower by a value currently equivalent to 1.38% of your salary.

If situation 1 applies, we'll automatically opt you back into contributions from next April.

If situation 4 applies but you then begin to pay income tax at a later date, you need to re-start contributions at 8% or more of your Value Account.

We also have to place anyone outside the RSP back in automatically every three years, with contributions of 8% of Value Account. This is because of 'auto enrolment', a UK Government arrangement which aims to increase the amounts people save towards their pension. We'll get in touch if this applies to you. You can always opt out again if you want to.

If none of these situations apply to you, you can choose not to pay into the Retirement Savings Plan but you will not receive any alternative cash payment through the payroll.

## *How tax applies*

If you earn less than the UK income tax threshold you won't get tax relief on RSP contributions.

You could get tax relief on pension contributions of up to £2,880 though you'd have to do this through your own separate personal pension.

If you're unsure about what's best for you, please consider using a financial adviser.

There's more information on the [MoneyHelper website](#).

The tables below show some examples of how contributions might work out for each tax band. It's just a guide though – your figures might not match these exactly.

## *Basic rate*

You'll normally pay 20% Income Tax and 12% National Insurance contribution. So, if you choose to contribute £200 a month, you'll actually only pay £136 because of the Income Tax and National Insurance contribution relief.

Monthly contribution	Monthly actual cost
£100.00	£68.00
£200.00	£136.00
£300.00	£204.00
£400.00	£272.00
£500.00	£340.00
£1,000.00	£680.00

## Higher rate

You'll normally pay 40% Income Tax and 2% National Insurance contribution

Monthly contribution	Monthly actual cost
£100.00	£58.00
£200.00	£116.00
£300.00	£174.00
£400.00	£232.00
£500.00	£290.00
£1,000.00	£580.00



## Additional rate

You'll generally pay 45% Income Tax and 2% National Insurance contribution.

Monthly contribution	Monthly actual cost
£100.00	£53.00
£200.00	£106.00
£300.00	£159.00
£400.00	£212.00
£500.00	£265.00
£1000.00	£530.00

In Scotland, different rates of Income Tax apply and relief is currently granted at the highest rate that you pay Income Tax. This may change in future. More details on Scottish Rates of Income Tax (SRIT) are available on the [Government website](#).

## Tax limits

The Government applies a limit called the **annual allowance** on the amount of pension you can build up tax-free in any one tax year. It doesn't limit how much you can actually save. But if you go over it, you will pay Income Tax on the amount above the allowance.

You can get more information on the annual allowance on the [Government website](#).

If your pension increases by more than the standard annual allowance the scheme administrator will let you know, because you may need to pay some extra tax. We'll give you the details you'll need to include in your tax return.

There is also a **lifetime allowance** for the value of the pension you can build up tax-free over your lifetime, currently £1,073,100. The Government is due to

abolish this allowance from 6 April 2024. In the meantime, the **extra** tax charge for going over the allowance no longer applies. Instead, you would pay income tax at your highest rate on the excess.

The maximum tax-free cash sum you can receive is also still fixed for now at 25% of the old lifetime allowance, which comes to £268,275.

Read more on [the Government website](#)

**Remember though, these aren't limits on the amount you're allowed to save, just the amount that you can save tax free.**

## More info

### *Investing your money*

#### **Choosing your funds**

When you choose how much of your Value Account to pay into the RSP, you can also choose where you want to invest that money. We have several funds to pick from, based on how much risk you want to take, and when and how you want to take your savings.

Different funds have different levels of risk. So depending on your circumstances and how close you are to taking your benefits, you'll need to decide what kind of balance you want between growing your savings and protecting them from risk.

You can choose to invest in one fund or a mix of several. As a default when you join the RSP, we put 8% of your Value Account into the Drawdown Lifestyle fund.

The [RSP Investment Guide](#) explains the funds in more detail and has plenty of information about investing your RSP savings.

We can't give you financial advice about choosing your investment funds – we can only explain your options. So, if you've looked at the information about the RSP and are still not sure about what to do, you might want to talk to an independent financial adviser.

### *Your options*

With guidance from their advisers, the Trustees have chosen a range of investment funds that aim to cover most members' needs.

If you don't want to manage your own investments...	If you're comfortable or familiar with investing and want to be more 'hands-on'...
That's fine. You can sign up for one of our 'Lifestyle' options. It's a pre-set investment plan that we manage for you – a kind of 'autopilot' option.	You can choose your own individual fund – or mix of funds – from our 'Self-Select' range.

## Lifestyle options

If you choose a Lifestyle option, we invest your money in a mix of different investment funds. As you get closer to retirement, we gradually move your money from higher-risk funds that aim for high returns to lower-risk, more stable funds that better match the choices you're making.

There are three Lifestyle options that you can choose from, based on how you're planning to take your benefits.

- [Drawdown Lifestyle](#) – if you plan to use your RSP savings to take a flexible income at retirement, 'drawing down' whatever amounts you choose, whenever you want. This is the default investment meaning your contributions will be invested in this fund if you don't make an active choice.
- [Lump Sum Lifestyle](#) – if you plan to take all your RSP savings as a cash lump sum.
- [Annuity Lifestyle](#) – if you plan to use up to 25% of your RSP savings for a tax-free cash sum and the rest to buy an annuity (an income for life, similar to a pension).

When you're seven years from your target retirement age, Legal & General will write to you explaining where the Lifestyle will move your savings. You can confirm if you are comfortable with the ongoing funds, or make a new choice if you prefer.

## Target retirement age

You can set when you plan to take your money. This is especially important if you choose a 'Lifestyle' option, which makes sure your savings are in suitable funds at the time for your plans. The system automatically sets you up with a target retirement age of 65, but you can change it at any time on the pension website. (The earliest you can currently choose is 55.)

Unless you make a different choice, we will choose the [Drawdown Lifestyle](#) for you. This is known as the **default investment option**.

Up until 7 years before your target retirement age, we'll invest your savings in the Diversified Growth Fund (this aims to achieve long-term growth on top of inflation). When you reach 7 years from your target retirement age, we move your RSP savings gradually into the Income Drawdown Fund and the Cash Fund.

## Responsible investing

Responsible, or 'ESG', investment is an approach that takes account of the financial risks and opportunities to do with environmental, social and governance issues. It is not just about the ethics or morals about certain investments. Climate change, for example, is a high-profile part of ESG investing, but there is much more to it than that.

We now invest over £120 million of money in the Diversified Growth Fund (the main fund in the Plan's default investment option) in ESG equity funds (which invest in the shares of companies worldwide). These funds aim to reduce ESG risks, as well as encourage companies with poor ESG ratings to make improvements. As part of the default investment option, over 90% of RSP members will use them.

## Self-select funds

If you don't want to save in a Lifestyle option, you can choose your own fund, or mix of funds, from the following. (You can read more about each fund in the [RSP Investment Guide](#).)

Fund Name	Aim
UK Equity Tracker Fund	To perform in line with the FTSE All-Share Index (Midday Priced)
International Equity Tracker Fund	To perform in line with the FTSE All-World Developed (ex UK) Index (Midday Priced)
Emerging Markets Equity Tracker Fund	To perform in line with the FTSE Emerging Index.
Diversified Growth Fund	To produce an absolute return of CPI + 3% - 5% p.a. over the long term, with less risk than global developed equities.

Fund Name	Aim
Index-Linked Gilts Tracker Fund	To perform in line with the FTSE UK Gilts Index-Linked Over 5 Years Index.
UK Gilts Over 15 Year Tracker Fund	To perform in line with the FTSE UK Gilts Index-Linked Over 15 years Index.
Corporate Bond Fund	To outperform the BOA / Merrill Lynch Over 10 Year Eurosterling Index.
Cash Fund	To perform in line with Seven Day LIBID.
Property Fund	To outperform a composite of 70% AREF/IPD UK Quarterly Property All Balanced Funds Index and 30% FTSE EPRA/NAREIT Global Real Estate Total Return Index.
Annuity Pre-Retirement Fund	To perform in line with or broadly outperform the cost of buying an annuity whilst minimizing the volatility relative to changes in annuity.
Lump Sum Fund	To outperform cash by 1% pa over the medium term with less volatility than long dated gilts and investment grade UK corporate bonds.
Income Drawdown Fund	The investment objective of the Fund is to provide long-term investment growth up to and during retirement, and to facilitate the drawdown of retirement income.

We'll send you a statement each year to let you know how your funds are doing. You can also keep an eye on their overall performance on the pension website.

**Bear in mind the value of your investments can go down as well as up.**

There's always some risk involved in investing money, so the amount you get when you choose to take your money could be less than you invested.

## *If you leave the Bank*

We'll take a final contribution from your pay in the month you leave.

You can either keep investing your savings in your chosen funds until you retire or you can transfer them to another scheme.

## *If you die*

Your beneficiary will get a lump sum from your life cover and the value of your pension pot.

To help us pay the money to the right people, you'll need to fill a lump sum nomination form. You'll find this on the Legal & General website.

If you're logged into the Benefits Hub, you can access the Legal & General website without a password by clicking [here](#). If you're not logged in, you can go directly to <https://myaccount.landg.com> with your log in details.

# Help and documents

## *Financial advice*

We aim to give you general information and guidance about the scheme and your benefits. But we are not allowed to give you advice on your personal finances. For that you need to speak to an independent financial adviser.

It's important to make sure that any adviser you speak to is properly qualified and registered. There are always scammers in the pensions market. They'll often ask you to sign up for a 'free pension review', a 'one-off investment opportunity' or a 'legal loophole'.

So the best place to find out more about getting financial advice and avoiding scams is your local financial guidance website:

<b>Great Britain and Northern Ireland</b>	<a href="http://www.moneyhelper.org.uk">www.moneyhelper.org.uk</a> <a href="http://www.fca.org.uk">www.fca.org.uk</a>
<b>Jersey</b>	<a href="http://www.jerseyfsc.org">www.jerseyfsc.org</a>
<b>Guernsey</b>	<a href="http://www.gfsc.gg">www.gfsc.gg</a>
<b>Isle of Man</b>	<a href="http://www.iomfsa.im">www.iomfsa.im</a>

**Republic of Ireland**

[www.pensionsauthority.ie](http://www.pensionsauthority.ie)

**Gibraltar**

[www.cab.gi/money-advice](http://www.cab.gi/money-advice)

## *Pension Wise*

Pension Wise is a Government service that gives free, impartial advice about pensions. You can visit their [website](#) or call them on 030 0330 1001.

They can arrange a call with MoneyHelper or a meeting with Citizens Advice.

Other websites you may find helpful:

- [Department for Work and Pensions](#)
- [HM Revenue and Customs](#)
- [The Pensions Regulator](#)
- [Information Commissioner's Office](#)

## *Our documents*

The Trustee and the Bank have appointed Legal & General as administrators and investment managers for the RSP.

You can find a number of useful documents on the Legal & General website, including the:

- Fund Booklet – that provides information on how your pension is invested
- Annual Newsletter – which keeps you updated with news about the Fund
- Annual Report & Accounts – sets out the financial contributions to the Fund

## *Our forms*

All the forms you might need are available on the Legal & General website.

These include:

- Lump Sum Nomination Form
- Spouse/Partner Pension Nomination Form

- Opt Out from Active Membership Form
- Application for Pension Sharing (in Divorce proceedings)

If you're logged into the Benefits Hub, you can access the Legal & General website without a password by clicking [here](#). If you're not logged in, you can go directly to <http://myaccount.landg.com> but you'll need your log in details.

## *Further information*

You can also use the Legal & General website to:

- Read general information about how your pension scheme works;
- Check and update your personal details, and keep your beneficiaries up-to-date;
- See the current value of pension fund you've built up;
- Choose when and how you can take your benefits from the RSP, with information that explains the choices available
- Model your pension to see what happens if you stay in the plan until you take your benefits or transfer the value out to another arrangement

## *How to contact Legal & General*

<b>Online :</b>	If you're logged into the Benefits Hub, you can access the Legal & General website without a password by clicking <a href="#">here</a> . If you're not logged in, you can go directly to <a href="http://myaccount.landg.com">http://myaccount.landg.com</a> but you'll need your log in details.
<b>By phone :</b>	0345 072 0266
<b>By email :</b>	<a href="mailto:NatWestGroupRSP@landg.com">NatWestGroupRSP@landg.com</a>



**By post :**

Sue Gaikwad

Legal & General

6th Floor, Brunel House

2 Fitzalan Road,

Cardiff CF24 0EB

Please quote the following scheme number in all correspondence:  
GF62596001

## *Terms and conditions*

The RSP is set up under a trust, so you can find the full terms and conditions in the [trust's deed and rules](#).

# How it works

Life cover pays a cash lump sum if you die, that's normally tax free, as long as you're still working for the Bank.

## *About this benefit*

It could give you peace of mind, knowing that a tax free payment, could ease financial strain during a difficult time.

This benefit is payable if you die while working for the Bank.

If you're a member of the Retirement Savings Plan, you automatically have this benefit, whether or not you're actually paying anything into the RSP. It's a core benefit, meaning you cannot cancel this. See 'More info' for further details on this.

This benefit is **not** available:

- if you're a member of one of the Bank's Defined Benefit pension plans – you already have cover through that plan.
- after you turn 75.

*You can start, stop or make changes to this benefit as follows:*

	New joiner window	Annual election window	Anytime window	Change in circumstances
Permanent contract	✓	✓	✗	✓
Fixed-term contract	✓	✓	✗	✓

Your new joiner window lasts for up to 3 months, then closes at the end of the month you make your first choice.

Please note: If you're on any kind of long-term leave – such as maternity leave, unpaid sick leave, or a career break – you cannot start or increase this benefit. You may be able to change your choices when you come back from leave – if so, we'll write to let you know. For more details, please check the policy for the type of leave you're on.

To start or increase this benefit, you must be 'actively at work'. This means you're working as usual, or just taking normal holiday.

## *Telling us your wishes*

To help us pay the money to the right people, you name who you'd like to receive the payment on a 'nomination of beneficiaries' form.

If you've made a contribution to the Retirement Savings Plan you can do this on the [Pension Website](#).

If you've NOT made a contribution to the Retirement Savings Plan then you can fill in the [Lump Sum Nomination Form](#) here.

The scheme is managed through a Trust. The Pension Trustees will use your form to help decide who to make the payment to, but they have the final say. Making the payment through a Trust in this way means it doesn't become part of your estate – so it will usually be free of inheritance tax.

Remember to keep your form up to date if your personal situation changes (for example, if you lose a partner or become a parent).

## *Levels of cover*

You might want to increase your amount of cover.

During your new joiner window, you can choose cover between 3 and 9 times your annual Value Account.

Then at each annual election window, you can:

- keep the same level of cover;
- increase your cover in 'steps' of 1 x your Value Account; or
- lower your cover to any level, down to the minimum of 3 times your Value Account.

If you've opted out of the Defined Benefit Pension Plan, you'll get 3 times cover automatically. At the next annual election window you can only go up in cover by one level. You must be 'actively at work' when you opt out of the Defined Benefit Pension Plan for cover to start.

If your retirement savings and life cover together are likely to be more than £1,073,100, you might want to take 'Excepted Cover'. See 'More info' for further details.

## Cost and tax

*The charge depends on the cover you choose and how old you are.*

It's the same charge for Life Cover and Excepted Cover.

For standard life cover, you don't pay Income Tax or National Insurance contributions on the charge.

For Excepted cover, you'll pay Income Tax on the part of the charge above the cost of the minimum 3 times Value Account – but not National Insurance contributions. So, this cover has a slightly higher impact on your take-home pay. See more about this level of cover in 'More info'.

This table sets out the charges: As you move up through the age bands, you'll start paying the charge in the next row.

Your age on 30 September 2024	Monthly charge as a % of monthly Value Account						
	3x (minimum)	4x	5x	6x	7x	8x	9x
16 to 25	0.19%	0.21%	0.23%	0.25%	0.27%	0.29%	0.31%
26 to 30	0.19%	0.22%	0.24%	0.26%	0.29%	0.31%	0.33%
31 to 35	0.19%	0.22%	0.25%	0.28%	0.30%	0.33%	0.36%

Your age on 30 September 2024	Monthly charge as a % of monthly Value Account							
	0.19%	0.23%	0.27%	0.30%	0.34%	0.37%	0.41%	
36 to 40	0.19%	0.23%	0.27%	0.30%	0.34%	0.37%	0.41%	
41 to 45	0.19%	0.25%	0.30%	0.35%	0.40%	0.45%	0.50%	
46 to 50	0.19%	0.28%	0.36%	0.45%	0.53%	0.61%	0.70%	
51 to 55	0.19%	0.34%	0.48%	0.63%	0.77%	0.92%	1.06%	
56 to 60	0.19%	0.44%	0.68%	0.93%	1.17%	1.42%	1.66%	
61 to 65	0.19%	0.61%	1.02%	1.43%	1.85%	2.26%	2.68%	
66 to 70	0.19%	0.88%	1.57%	2.25%	2.94%	3.63%	4.31%	
71 to 75	0.19%	1.31%	2.42%	3.53%	4.65%	5.76%	6.88%	

The charge is based on your age at the end of the benefit year (October to September).

Your cover will renew automatically on 1 October each year. It will stop at the end of the benefit year before you turn 75. We'll contact you to let you know its stopping if you are approaching the age limit.

If you're a new joiner, we'll set cover up for you from your first day but you won't start paying until the following month. So, if you start work on 16 May, you'll be covered from this date but start paying from your June pay.

## Examples

We've used someone who is turning 43 at their next birthday, with a Value Account of £30,000.

**Minimum level of cover (3 times Value Account)**

Benefit is 3 times £30,000 = £90,000

Monthly pay is £30,000 divided by 12 = £2,500 a month.

Minimum cover for a 43-year old costs 0.19%.

So the monthly charge is 0.19% of £2,500 = **£4.75**.

**Higher level of cover (5 times Value Account)**

Benefit is 5 times £30,000 = £150,000

Monthly pay is £30,000 divided by 12 = £2,500 a month.

This level of cover for a 43-year old costs 0.30%.

So the monthly charge is 0.30% of £2,500 = **£7.50**.

## *If your Value Account changes*

Your monthly charge is based on your Value Account. So, if your Value Account changes, so will your monthly charge and the amount of your cover. We'll take care of this automatically and you'll see the new charge on your payslip.

# More info

## *Minimum level of cover*

We automatically set you up with cover (3 times your annual Value Account) and this cannot be cancelled.

It's a 'core' cover and is part of your employment contract.

## *Choosing your cover*

### **You might want to increase your cover so think carefully about how much cover you need**

Think about things like loans, mortgage, debts and the lifestyle you have, before you choose your cover level. And who'd need financial support if you weren't around. We can't give you advice on the right level of cover, for that you need to speak to an independent financial adviser

Talk it through with your family and make sure they know what cover you have.

### **Think about the pension benefits you might have inside and outside of the Bank**

If the value of your life cover, plus any pension benefits you have, comes to more than £1,073,100, your dependents may have to pay some tax on the benefits.

If you think this applies to you, you might want to consider choosing 'Excepted cover'.

## *Excepted Cover*

If your retirement savings and Life Cover together are likely to be more than £1,073,100, you might want to take 'Excepted Cover'.

This option is different to Life Cover as you will pay Income Tax on the monthly charges (if your cover is above 3 times Value Account), but it means if we ever need to make a payment to your beneficiaries it'll be tax free.

If you don't have this then if you die and a payment is made, your beneficiaries will need to pay tax on the payment.

You can choose this cover when making your choices during the annual election window. If you need to make a change at any other time of the year, just contact HR who'll be able to help you.

If you have Fixed Protection and we know about this, you'll automatically get Excepted Cover.

## *If your life cover is very high*

If the total of your life cover is more than £2.7 million, we'll get in touch to do some medical underwriting. (This means extra checks to make sure the insurer is happy to provide that much cover.) We'll send you some forms and let you know you what you need to do.

## *Proof of cover*

You won't receive any paperwork. Your proof of cover is your Confirmation Statement, this has your cover and the level noted on there.

## *Receiving the payment*

Following your death, the cash sum will be payable to your partner, or another dependant, or charity – depending on who you've named as beneficiaries.

Because it's paid through a Pension Trust, the Pension Trustees (and not the Bank) look after it. It's up to them to decide who should get the money and they'll start by looking at who you've nominated. So it's important your nominations get updated regularly to reflect any changes in your life.

Your family should get in touch with your line manager, who will make the necessary arrangements.

## *If you leave the Bank*

Your cover will stop at the end of the month you leave. We'll take a full monthly charge from your final month's pay.

### **Extended Life Cover**

If you're receiving Disability Cover payments up to State Pension Age, when you leave the Bank after 5 years on the scheme, you might qualify for the 'Extended Life Cover' scheme. This would allow you to keep your life cover after leaving the Bank. We'll write to you with details when you're approaching 5 years on the scheme.

# Help and documents

## *Financial advice*

We aim to give you general information and guidance about the benefit. But we are not allowed to give you advice on your personal finances. For that you need to speak to an independent financial adviser.

## *We've organised our life cover through Zurich.*

You can view their [privacy notice here](#).

Here's the 'lump sum nomination form' so you can help us pay the money to the right people. Only use this form if you've not made a contribution to the Retirement Savings Plan.

[Lump sum nomination form](#)

If you've made a contribution to the Retirement Savings Plan you can do this on the [Pension Website](#).

But if you need to speak to someone you'll need to contact HR. You can click on [Ask Archie](#) on the Intranet page. If Archie can't help you, he'll pass your details to the team that can.

If you're out of the business, or on leave you can ask your manager to contact Archie for you, or you can email [hronline@natwest.com](mailto:hronline@natwest.com)

This email address is only for colleagues who are out the business or on leave.



# How it works

Disability cover gives you peace of mind, paying you an income if you can't work because of illness or injury – and support to help you get back as quickly as possible.

## *About this benefit*

This benefit could pay you a monthly income if you're too unwell or injured to do, full or part-time either:

- your current job; or
- a similar job that might suit you.

It's the insurer's decision whether you are eligible to receive Disability Cover benefit. See 'More info' for further details on this.

If you're a member of Retirement Savings Plan, you automatically have this benefit, whether or not you're actually paying anything into the RSP. It's a core benefit, meaning you can not cancel this. See 'More info' for further details on this.

This benefit is **not** available:

- if you're a member of one of the Bank's Defined Benefit pension plans – you already have some cover through that plan.
- after you turn 70.

*You can start, stop or make changes to this benefit as follows:*

	New joiner window	Annual election window	Anytime window	Change in circumstances
Permanent contract	✓	✓	✗	✓

	New joiner window	Annual election window	Anytime window	Change in circumstances
Fixed-term contract	✓	✓	✗	✓

Your new joiner window lasts for up to 3 months, then closes at the end of the month you make your first choice.

Please note: If you're on any kind of long-term leave – such as maternity leave, unpaid sick leave, or a career break – you cannot start or increase this benefit. You may be able to change your choices when you come back from leave – if so, we'll write to let you know. For more details, please check the policy for the type of leave you're on.

To start or increase this benefit, you must be 'actively at work'. This means you're working as usual, or just taking normal holiday.

## Levels of cover

There are four levels of cover to choose from: You can choose either

- 50% or 75% of your Value Account,
- for five years, or up to your State Pension Age: (You can check your State Pension Age on the [Government website](#).)

	% of Value Account	Payment period
Level 1	50	5 years
Level 2	50	up to state Pension Age
Level 3	75	5 years
Level 4	75	Up to State Pension Age

If you've just joined the Bank, we'll automatically give you Level 2 cover, but you can change this in your new joiner window.

During the annual election window, you can generally change to any level you want – higher or lower – **apart from** increasing cover straight from Level 1 to Level 4.

If you increase your cover after returning from sick leave, your illness might be treated as a ‘pre-existing condition’. In other words, it would be an illness you knew about before making the change.

As a result, you would only be able to claim for it on your previous, lower level of cover – not the new, higher one. Please bear this in mind if you’re thinking of changing cover levels.

### **If you’re 61 or over...**

When you turn 61, we’ll automatically move you down a level if you’re at level 2 or 4. And if you join the scheme aged 64 or older, we’ll only give you level 1 cover. That’s because you’re better off financially if you have cover for 5 years instead of until you reach State Pension Age. You will reach your State Pension Age before the 5 years has passed, so you would be ending your cover early if we didn’t change your cover level for you.

### **If you’re 70 or over...**

We don’t offer Disability Cover for anyone over 70. Your disability cover will stop at the end of the policy year before you turn 70. We’ll contact you to let you know its stopping if you are approaching the age limit.

## **Cost and tax**

*The cost depends on what level of cover you choose, and how old you are.*

You don’t pay Income Tax for Level 1. For levels 2, 3 and 4, you’ll pay Income Tax on the extra charge above the Level 1 cost.

The monthly charges are for every £10,000 of cover

<b>Your age on your next birthday after 1 October 2023</b>	<b>Level 1 50% of Value Account for 5 years</b>	<b>Level 2 50% of Value Account to State Pension Age</b>	<b>Level 3 75% of Value Account for 5 years (charge on top of level 1)</b>	<b>Level 4 75% of Value Account to State Pension Age (charge on top of level 2)</b>
<b>up to 25</b>	£5.22	£5.82	£0.83	£1.43
<b>26-30</b>	£5.22	£6.75	£1.80	£3.33
<b>31-35</b>	£5.22	£7.92	£2.65	£5.35
<b>36-40</b>	£5.22	£9.59	£3.83	£8.20
<b>41-45</b>	£5.22	£11.86	£5.54	£12.18
<b>46-50</b>	£5.22	£15.04	£8.49	£18.31
<b>51-55</b>	£5.22	£18.83	£14.33	£27.94
<b>56-60</b>	£5.22	£17.57	£26.74	£39.10
<b>61-65</b>	£5.22	£5.92	£35.82	£36.52
<b>66-70</b>	£5.22	£5.22	£47.96	£47.96

When you move into the next age band, you'll start paying the charges in the new row in the table automatically.

During the window when you're making your choices, you can see what the different charges would be for you by looking at the different options on the Benefits Hub.

## Examples

In these examples, we've used someone turning 43 at their next birthday, with a Value Account of £30,000.

<b>Level 1 (50% of Value Account for 5 years)</b>	Benefit is: 50% of £30,000 = £15,000. Level 1 costs £5.22 for every £10,000. So the charge here is (£15,000 divided by £10,000) x £5.22 = <b>£7.83</b>
<b>Level 2 (50% of Value Account to State Pension Age)</b>	Benefit is: 50% of £30,000 = £15,000. Level 2 costs £11.86 for every £10,000. So the charge here is (£15,000 divided by £10,000) x £11.86 = <b>£17.79</b>
<b>Level 3 (75% of Value Account for 5 years)</b>	Benefit is 75% of £30,000 = £22,500. First 50% based on £15,000 = Level 1 charge: £7.83. Level 3 on remaining £7,500 costs £5.54 for every £10,000. This comes to (£7,500 divided by £10,000) x £5.54 = £4.16 So, the total charge here is £7.83 + £4.16 = <b>£11.99</b>
<b>Level 4 (75% of Value Account to State Pension Age)</b>	Benefit is 75% of £30,000 = £22,500. First 50% based on £15,000 = Level 2 charge: £11.86. Level 4 on remaining £7,500 costs £12.18 for every £10,000. This comes to (£7,500 divided by £10,000) x £12.18 = £9.14 So, the total charge here is £11.86 + £9.14 = <b>£21.00</b>

You'll need to pay Income tax and National Insurance contributions on any benefits you get through Disability Cover. We'll take these off for you automatically through payroll.

## More info

### *Minimum level of cover*

We automatically set you up with cover Level 2 (50% to SPA). You can change your cover to a different level.

The minimum cover is level 1 (50% for 5 years). The cover cannot be cancelled. It's a 'core' cover and is part of your employment contract.

## *Proof of cover*

You won't receive any paperwork. Your proof of cover is your Confirmation Statement, this has your cover and the level noted on there.

## *Making a claim*

If you're off sick for a long time, your line manager will handle this for you – you don't need to do anything to start the claim.

Part of the claim process will be an assessment– this will consider your health, your job and whether you meet the eligibility conditions of the cover.

You can see the full policy information [here](#).

As a rule of thumb, the claim process will start when you've been off for 12 weeks running, but payments won't start until after 26 weeks (as long as the insurer accepts your claim).

We'll stay in touch and help you throughout.

## *Want to know more?*

- 1. See the Disability cover policy on Insite for full information about the claims process and what to expect when you're on the scheme.  
Go to Insite > Human Resources > Absence > Disability cover
- 2. You can find more details in the full [policy](#) and the [policy summary](#).

It's important to know that the provider has an exact meaning for 'incapacity'. It means 'if an illness or injury prevents you from doing all jobs which are appropriate to your experience, training or education.'

## *Benefit limits*

You can get cover up to £425,000 a year.

If you need cover of more than £150,000, you'll have to go through some extra checks. This is called 'medical underwriting'. It will apply to you if:

- your Value Account is between £200,000 and £300,000 a year and you want 75% cover, or
- your Value Account is £300,000 a year or more (whatever cover you choose).

Mercer are the company that carries out medical underwriting for the Bank, so they'll be in touch if that's the case for you. While you go through medical underwriting, your cover will stay at £150,000.

## *After 5 years...*

After you've been on the Disability Cover scheme for 4.5 years, your manager will arrange a meeting to discuss next steps. Ideally, we'll be able to help you come back to work.

If not, we may dismiss you at this meeting and your employment will end when you've had Disability Cover for 5 years.

However:

- If you chose cover to State Pension Age and the 5 years end before then, the insurer will offer to pay you directly after your employment. The insurer will then be your contact for Disability Cover.
- We'll also give you the opportunity to join the Extended Life Cover scheme. This provides you with ongoing life cover after leaving the Bank, for as long as you still receive Disability Cover payments. We'll write to you at the time and let you know how much it will cost.

## *If you leave the Bank*

Your cover will stop at the end of the month you leave. We'll take a full monthly charge from your final pay.

# Help and documents

## *Financial advice*

We aim to give you general information and guidance about the scheme. But we are not allowed to give you advice on your personal finances. For that you need to speak to an independent financial adviser.

## *We've organised our Disability Cover through Legal and General (L&G).*

Here are the documents for this benefit.

[Disability cover full policy](#)

## [Disability cover policy summary](#)

But if you need to speak to someone please contact HR in the first instance. You can click on [Ask Archie](#) on the Intranet page. If Archie can't help you, he'll pass your details to the team that can.

If you're out of the business, or on leave you can ask your manager to contact Archie for you, or you can email [hronline@natwest.com](mailto:hronline@natwest.com)

This email address is only for colleagues who are out the business or on leave.



# How it works

Life assurance pays you a tax-free cash sum if your partner dies while you're working for us.

## *About this benefit*

Because you work for the bank you've already got life cover in place for you. This is a similar, optional benefit for your partner.

It could give you peace of mind knowing that the tax-free payment could ease financial strain during a difficult time, if your partner passed away.

This [video](#) will tell you more about the benefit.

*You can start, stop or make changes to this benefit as follows:*

	New joiner window	Annual election window	Anytime window	Change in circumstances
<b>Permanent contract</b>	✓	✓	✗	✓
<b>Fixed-term contract</b>	✓	✓	✗	✓

Your new joiner window lasts for up to 3 months, then closes at the end of the month you make your first choice.

Please note: If you're on any kind of long-term leave – such as maternity leave, unpaid sick leave, or a career break – you cannot start or increase this benefit. You may be able to change your choices when you come back from leave – if so, we'll write to let you know. For more details, please check the policy for the type of leave you're on.

To start or increase this benefit, you must be 'actively at work'. This means you're working as usual, or just taking normal holiday.

## Levels of cover

You can choose between £25,000 and £250,000, in 'steps' of £25,000.

You'll be able to see your cover options on the Benefits Hub.

# Cost and tax

## The cost depends on:

- the value of cover you choose
- the age of your partner

The table below sets out the charges.

As your partner moves up through the age bands, you'll start paying the charge in the next row.

The age of your partner on their next birthday following 30 September 2023	Monthly charge for every £25,000
Up to 30	£0.37
31 – 35	£0.48
36 – 40	£0.70
41 – 45	£1.15
46 – 50	£1.82
51 – 55	£3.01
56 – 60	£5.14

The age of your partner on their next birthday following 30 September 2023	Monthly charge for every £25,000
61 – 65	£8.92
66 – 70	£15.64
71 – 75	£27.33

We'll stop your partner's cover at the annual election window **before** their 75th birthday.

## Example

Your partner is turning 37 on their next birthday. You've chosen £125,000 worth of cover for them.

Number of £25,000 'steps' in £125,000 = 5.

Monthly charge for one £25,000 step, for someone turning 37 = £0.70.

So, the monthly charge for £125,000 is  $5 \times £0.70 = £3.50$

You'll pay Income Tax on the monthly charge but not National Insurance contributions.

# More info

## Details of the cover

You'll find all the detailed terms and conditions and cover information in the [policy summary](#) and the [full policy booklet](#).

## Special feature

**Bereavement Helpline:** This service offers emotional support and practical guidance from qualified bereavement counsellors. Read more about this in the [Bereavement Helpline Leaflet](#).

## Health questions

There are some questions the provider uses to check whether your partner qualifies for cover.

You'll be shown these on the Benefits Hub when you select this benefit and that is where you'll confirm the answers.

Here are the questions you'll be shown

1. In the last three years, has your partner seen a doctor or any other medical professional or had, or been told to have, any operation, x-ray, check-up, or any other investigation or test. (There's no need to mention colds, flu, minor joint or muscle injuries, contraception, routine inoculations/ uncomplicated pregnancy.)
2. In the last three years, have they taken (or been taking) prescribed medication, counselling, therapy or any other form of treatment? (There's no need to mention contraception, simple painkillers, cold remedies, and antihistamines for hay fever.)
3. Have they suffered from heart disease or disorder, stroke or brain hemorrhage, diabetes, cancer, liver or kidney disease, multiple sclerosis, or mental illness requiring hospital attendance?
4. Have they had any application for life, critical illness or health insurance declined, accepted at non-standard terms, or have withdrawn an application?
5. Have they ever tested positive for HIV/AIDS or hepatitis B or C, or are awaiting the results of such a test?

**If the answer is “no” to all the questions,** they qualify automatically.

**If you have any “yes” answers,** you'll need to ask your partner to fill out a [Health Declaration form](#).

You'll need to download this [Health Declaration form](#), ask your partner to complete it then email it back to [gpmrceradmin@aviva.com](mailto:gpmrceradmin@aviva.com)

The outcome of this may be that your partner's cover is accepted or it may be declined.

## Confirming your cover

You'll see your partner's level of cover and the monthly charge on your Confirmation Statement on the Benefits Hub.

If you answered yes to the medical questions **and** your cover is shown on your Confirmation Statement as 'pending approval', this means cover isn't in place

yet. Your partner's cover – and the monthly charge – will **only start** once you get a decision letter from Aviva confirming they've accepted the cover. It's the same if you increase their cover level and it needs underwriting. Your partner's current cover will carry on until Aviva write to confirm they've accepted the higher cover.

## *Making a claim*

If your partner passes away please contact HR by using Ask Archie and say you need to talk about your partner's life assurance. We'll tell you what to do and give you any paperwork you need. There's a form to fill out and you might need to supply some original documents to Aviva.

If you're out of the business, or on leave, you can ask your manager to contact Archie for you, or you can email [hronline@natwest.com](mailto:hronline@natwest.com).

## *Stopping cover*

You can usually only stop your cover at the annual election window.

But if you separate from your partner, they may no longer qualify for cover, so you can remove them. If they don't meet the benefit's conditions for being a 'partner', then the cover may not be in place, even if you keep paying the charge. You can find a definition for partner on the [full policy](#).

To remove the cover outside of the annual election window, contact HR by using Ask Archie.

## *If you leave the Bank*

Your partner's cover will stop on the date you leave. We'll take a full monthly charge from your final month's pay.

You can't keep the cover going after you leave.

# Help and documents

## *Financial advice*

We aim to give you general information and guidance about the scheme. But we are not allowed to give you advice on your personal finances. For that you need to speak to an independent financial adviser.

## *We've organised this benefit through Aviva.*

If you need to speak to someone or make a claim you'll need to contact HR. You can click on [Ask Archie](#) on the Intranet page. If Archie can't help you, he'll pass your details to the team that can.

If you're out of the business, or on leave, you can ask your manager to contact Archie for you, or you can email [hronline@natwest.com](mailto:hronline@natwest.com).

This email address is only for colleagues who are out the business or on leave.

## *Here are the documents for this benefit*

[Policy summary](#)

[Full policy booklet](#)

[Health Declaration form](#)

[Information on the Bereavement Helpline Leaflet](#)

# How it works

Critical illness insurance pays you a tax-free cash sum if you're diagnosed with a life-changing illness covered by the plan.

## *About this benefit*

You can choose a plan for just you, or both you and your partner.

You can't choose cover for anyone over 70. If you or your partner turn 70 during the benefit year (October to September), the cover will last until the end of September.

The plan covers your children automatically until they're 18 (or under 22 if they're in full time education, including adopted and step children).

Your confirmation statement on the Benefits Hub is your record of cover. (You won't receive any other policy documents.)

*You can start, stop or make changes to this benefit as follows:*

	New joiner window	Annual election window	Anytime window	Change in circumstances
<b>Permanent contract</b>	✓	✓	✗	✓
<b>Fixed-term contract</b>	✓	✓	✗	✓

Your new joiner window lasts for up to 3 months, then closes at the end of the month you make your first choice.

To start or increase this benefit, you must be 'actively at work'. This means you're working as usual, or just taking normal holiday.

Please note: If you're on any kind of long-term leave – such as maternity leave, unpaid sick leave, or a career break – you cannot start or increase this benefit. You can only reduce or stop it, when the annual election window comes round. You may be able to change your choices when you come back from leave – if so, we'll write to let you know. For more details, please check the policy for the type of leave you're on.

## *Levels of cover*

You can choose from two levels of cover: Silver or Gold.

When you first elect this benefit you can choose cover of up to £350,000.

You can then change your cover in 'steps' of £25,000 during the annual election window.

You can increase cover 4 'steps' each benefit year.

For example, you could:

- increase your cover by £100,000 in one policy year (4 steps)
- or switch from Silver to Gold cover and increase the cover by £75,000 in one policy year (switching silver to gold = 1 step).

Please note there's a waiting period before the new level of cover starts, see the exclusions section in the [Members Guide to Terms & Conditions](#).

Read the [Members Guide to Terms & Conditions](#) for full details of the scheme and what's covered.

**We have removed the cap that restricts cover to four times your ValueAccount and the restriction to only increase cover 1 step at a time.**

## *Children's cover*

Children are covered for 25% of your cover up to £20,000 for each child. So, if you have £50,000 worth of cover, they'll get £12,500 of cover. But if you have £100,000, they'll get the maximum £20,000, not £25,000.

You can cover any number of children as long as they're:

- under 18 (or under 22 if they're in full time education) on the date they're diagnosed
- unmarried

We'll stop their cover if:

- your cover stops



- they make a successful claim (they can only make one)
- they reach 18 (or 22 if they're in full time education)

## Partner's cover

You can cover your partner for up to £150,000, or up to your level of cover, if lower.

We'll stop their cover if:

- your cover stops
- they make a successful second claim (they can only make two)
- they'll turn 70 in the 12 months following the annual election window

If you and your partner both work for the Bank and want cover, either one of you can cover the other person, or you can choose this benefit separately. Either way, you can only be covered once on the scheme.

However, even if you both have your own separate cover, only one of you can claim for your children.

## Cost and tax

The cost depends on the level and amount of cover you choose:

Age you or your partner will be as at 30/09/2024	<u>Silver cover</u> Monthly charge each for every £25, 000	<u>Gold cover</u> Monthly charge each for every £25, 000
Up to 30	£1.26	£1.36
31-35	£2.18	£2.34
36-40	£3.18	£3.45
41-45	£5.20	£5.61
46-50	£8.15	£8.80
51-55	£12.82	£13.88

Age you or your partner will be as at 30/09/2024	<u>Silver cover</u> Monthly charge each for every £25, 000	<u>Gold cover</u> Monthly charge each for every £25, 000
56-60	£20.22	£21.85
61-65	£32.22	£34.85
66-70	£48.55	£52.48

For example:

- You're 40 and your partner's 41.
- You want Gold cover for both of you up to £75,000 – that's 3 'steps' of £25,000.
- For you, that's 3 x £3.45 = £10.35 a month.
- For your partner, that's 3 x £5.61 = £16.83 a month.
- So your total charge is £10.35 + £16.83 = £27.18 a month.

Your monthly charge will increase as you get older and move through the age brackets. It's not a fixed charge.

You pay Income Tax on this benefit but not National Insurance contributions.

## More info

### *Example illnesses*

Here are some of the illnesses the benefit covers:

Silver cover	Gold cover (On top of what's covered by Silver)
Alzheimer's Disease	Aorta graft
Cancer	Blindness
Dementia	Liver failure
Heart Attack	Loss of speech

Silver cover	Gold cover (On top of what's covered by Silver)
Multiple Sclerosis	Systemic Lupus
Parkinson Disease	Terminal illness
Stroke	Traumatic brain injury
Cardiac Arrest	Balloon Valvuloplasty
	Pulmonary Artery Surgery
	Primary Pulmonary Arterial Hypertension
	Encephalitis

Full lists of what's covered – as well as what's not covered - are in the [Critical Illness Guide to Cover](#) and the [Members Guide to Terms & Conditions](#).

You don't need to have a medical before starting or changing cover. But bear in mind that you can't claim for a 'pre-existing condition' – that is, an illness you already know you have at the time you choose the benefit.

You're free to spend the money you receive on whatever you like.

## *Second Medical Opinion*

This service offers second opinions on diagnoses and treatments for almost any condition. It draws on support from over 50,000 leading consultants to make sure you're getting the best medical advice available. Your immediate family can also use it at no extra cost. You can find out about it in the [Second Medical Opinion](#) pack.

## *Making a claim*

You **must claim within 90 days** of getting your diagnosis. If you don't, you might not get your money.

- Contact HR as soon as possible after you decide to claim. They'll ask you some questions and send you a claim form.
- Fill in the form and send to the provider, Canada Life.

If you are out of the business, your manager can contact HR on your behalf and we will get in touch with you. But if the claim's for your child, you still need to contact HR directly.

Canada Life will get back to you within a couple of weeks about what to do next. They'll manage everything from that point.

**Remember:** Canada Life need to **receive your claim** within 90 days. You don't have 90 days to make first contact with HR so contact HR as soon as possible.

You can find the contact details in 'Help and documents'

## *You'll get access to the Personal Nurse Service*

A serious health condition can mean a worrying time for you and your family. [The Personal Nurse Service](#) is free with this benefit to support you at a difficult time, bridging the gap sometimes missed by NHS services.

They can help you with coming to terms with medical news, making sense of test results and deciding what to do next. Emotional support will be offered to you and your immediate family.

You won't need to take any action, the team will contact you as part of the claims process.

## *After you claim*

Your cover continues as normal, whether or not your claim is successful.

So, if you're diagnosed with another condition, you can claim again – although please check the [Critical Illness Guide to Cover](#) for any rules that may apply.

Please bear in mind that the benefit does not pay out if:

- You're diagnosed with the same condition again.
- you die within 14 days of getting a diagnosis or having surgery for the condition.

## *If you leave the Bank*

We'll charge you for a full month in your final pay.

This means you'll still be able to claim until the end of the month you leave. So, if you leave on 9 May you can make a claim right up to 31 May.

# Help and documents

## *Financial advice*

We aim to give you general information and guidance about the scheme. But we are not allowed to give you advice on your personal finances. For that you need to speak to an independent financial adviser.

## *If you need to speak to someone or make a claim, contact HR.*

You can click on [Ask Archie](#) on the Intranet page. If Archie can't help you, he'll pass your details to the team that can.

If you're out of the business, or on leave you can either:

- ask your manager to contact Archie for you; or
- email [hronline@natwest.com](mailto:hronline@natwest.com). This email address is only for colleagues who are out the business or on leave.

[Members Guide to Terms & Conditions](#)

[Critical Illness Guide to Cover](#)

[The Personal Nurse Service](#)

[Key contacts list](#)

# How it works

Personal accident insurance pays you a tax free lump sum if you're injured in an accident the policy covers.

## *About this benefit*

The insurance covers you wherever you are, 24/7, worldwide.

The lump sum amount depends on the injury and your level of cover.

It typically pays out if the accident results in permanent disability, death, a fracture or a hospital stay. It includes extreme sports – apart from flying activities, such as hang-gliding and sky-diving.

Read more in the policy document for your region under 'Help and documents'.

You can choose this benefit for just you, or for you and your partner. It automatically includes your children, until they turn 21 (or 25 if in full time education).

*You can start, stop or make changes to this benefit as follows:*

	New joiner window	Annual election window	Anytime window	Change in circumstances
Permanent contract	✓	✓	✗	✓
Fixed-term contract	✓	✓	✗	✓

Your new joiner window lasts for up to 3 months, then closes at the end of the month you make your first choice.

To start or increase this benefit, you must be ‘actively at work’. This means you’re working as usual, or just taking normal holiday.

Please note: If you’re on any kind of long-term leave – such as maternity leave, unpaid sick leave, or a career break – you cannot start or increase this benefit. You can only reduce or stop it when the annual election window comes round. You may be able to change your choices when you come back from leave – if so, we’ll write to let you know. For more details, please check the policy for the type of leave you’re on.

## *Levels of cover*

You can choose cover between £25,000 and £500,000, in ‘steps’ of £25,000.

The more cover you choose, the higher the amount you can receive. But check the [policy](#) and [summary](#) because the exact amount will depend on your injury. You can have this benefit up to age 75, as long as you first chose it before your 70th birthday. You can only cover your partner until they reach age 70.

# Cost and tax

## *You can choose from two types of cover:*

- Just you, which costs £0.31 a month for every £25,000 ‘step’ of cover;
- You and your partner, which costs £0.62 a month for every £25,000 ‘step’ of cover.

Remember the cover automatically includes your children.

## *To work out how much you’ll pay*

Just multiply the monthly charge by the number of £25,000 steps you choose.

### **For example**

If you choose £100,000 (4 steps of £25,000) of cover for yourself.

That’s  $£0.31 \times 4 = £1.24$  a month.

Or, if you choose £100,000 (4 steps of £25,000) of cover for yourself and your partner.

That’s  $£0.62 \times 4 = £2.48$  a month.

The charge includes insurance premium tax.

You'll pay Income Tax on the monthly charge but you won't pay National Insurance contributions.

## More info

### *After you choose this benefit*

You'll get a welcome letter from AIG the month after you choose the benefit.

You can also make a claim from the 1st of the following month. So if you choose the benefit in September, you can claim from 1 October.

### *Making a claim*

1	Call AIG as soon as the accident happens: UK and Offshore 0800 731 6396 Republic of Ireland: 01-2081400 You'll need your individual policy number, so if you don't know this, ask for it when you call.
2	Fill in the <a href="#">Claim form</a> . Your doctor will need to fill in some of it.
3	Send the completed form to AIG (the address is on the form).
4	AIG will confirm they've received your form within ten working days.
5	AIG will let you know if they need more information from you to check your claim.
6	You'll receive your payment as soon as AIG approve your claim.

### *You can also use Virtual Medical Care which offers:*

- GPs available for consultations and medical advice – 24 hours a day, 365 days a year
- Appointments online, by app (GP consultation only) or by phone



- Support from leading experts for complex medical cases or second opinions

## *Injuries not covered*

Here are some things your cover doesn't include

- war, declared or not;
- deliberate self-harm, suicide or attempted suicide;
- taking part in any flying activities, unless as a paying passenger on a commercial flight;
- a gradually operating cause, post-traumatic stress disorder or other anxiety disorder, any mental disorder or any disease of the nervous system; or
- any fracture after finding out you have osteoporosis.

Please read the [policy document](#) for full details of any cover limits, 'exclusions' (accidents or injuries the benefit doesn't cover) and other conditions for paying out.

## *When cover stops*

Here are some typical situations when cover wouldn't apply:

- If you leave the Bank
- When you turn 75
- If AIG pays out to the highest amount of cover you've chosen
- If AIG makes a payment for death, permanent total disability and other serious injuries as in the policy document
- If you no longer live in England, Scotland, Wales, Northern Ireland, Channel Islands, Isle of Man or Gibraltar
- When the cover period ends, or payment of the charge stops
- For your partner only – when they turn 70 (if they're older than you) or they're no longer your partner
- For your children – if they marry or when they turn 21 (or 25 in full-time education)

## *Hopefully you'll never need to complain.*

But if you do please follow the steps in the [policy document](#).

## *If you leave the Bank*

We'll charge you for the full month. But you can still claim until the end of the month that you leave. So, if you leave on the 9 May you can make a claim right up until 31 May.

# Help and documents

## *Financial advice*

We aim to give you general information and guidance about the scheme. But we are not allowed to give you advice on your personal finances. For that you need to speak to an independent financial adviser.

## *Most of the time you'll raise queries with the benefit provider*

This will be for things like help with claims and policy queries.

You can see the [contact details here](#).

To make a claim follow the process on the 'More info' tab'.

If you need to contact HR about your pay you can click on [Ask Archie](#) on the Intranet page. If Archie can't help you, he'll pass your details to the team that can.

If you're out of the business, or on leave you can either:

- ask your manager to contact Archie for you; or  
email [hronline@natwest.com](mailto:hronline@natwest.com). This email address is **only** for colleagues who are out the business or on leave.

[Key contacts list](#)

[Virtual Medical Care](#)

[Policy summary](#)

[Policy Document](#)

[Claim Form](#)

We've organised our Personal Accident Insurance through American International Group UK Limited (AIG). AIG is authorised by the Prudential Regulation Authority and regulated by the Financial Conduct Authority and the Prudential Regulation Authority (FRN 781109).

# How it works

Private medical cover pays for the cost of private medical treatment. We've got different options to help you choose the kind of cover you want.

## *About this benefit*

It can give you:

- more choice over the kind of care you receive;
- shorter waiting times; and
- specialist support and treatment that you might not be able to get on the NHS.

Having this cover doesn't stop you from getting treatment from the NHS, it supplements it.

In most cases, your cover will be cheaper than if you arranged it yourself. You don't need a health assessment, and we don't take your medical history into account.

You can add your partner and children to this benefit.

## *Acute and chronic conditions*

It covers acute conditions and acute aspects of chronic conditions.

Generally an acute illness starts suddenly, lasts a short period of time and responds to treatment, like a respiratory infection, or broken bone.

A chronic illness lasts a long time, and may be incurable – like diabetes, or multiple sclerosis.

*You can start, stop or make changes to this benefit as follows:*

	New joiner window	Annual election window	Anytime window	Change in circumstances
<b>Permanent contract</b>	✓	✓	✗	✓
<b>Fixed-term contract</b>	✓	✓	✗	✓

Your new joiner window lasts for 3 months, then closes at the end of the month you make your first choice.

To start or increase this benefit, you must be ‘actively at work’. This means you’re working as usual, or just taking normal holiday.

Please note: If you’re on any kind of long-term leave – such as maternity leave, unpaid sick leave, or a career break – you cannot start or increase this benefit. You can only reduce or stop it, when the annual election window comes round (as long as the 2-year lock-in period is over). You may be able to change your choices when you come back from leave – if so, we’ll write to let you know. For more details, please check the policy for the type of leave you’re on.

This benefit has a 2-year ‘lock-in’ period. This means that you can’t reduce or stop your cover within two years of choosing it. However, you can still increase your cover, or add people to it, at each annual election window, as the table shows.

*Levels of cover*

There are three levels of cover through the NatWest Healthcare Trust: Bronze, Silver and Gold. These are managed for us by Aviva.

Our highest level of cover, Platinum, is through Bupa.

The higher the level you choose, the broader the range of cover. See the guidebooks in ‘Help and documents’ for more details.

If you are Grade Level C and above and you don’t already have private medical cover, we’ll automatically give you Silver level cover the following month.

If you'd like a higher level of cover, you can choose it at the next annual election window (you can't choose lower than Silver).

You can choose to opt out of cover. This means you'll have no cover but still pay the monthly charge. This is because you receive benefit funding towards private medical cover – there is no option to receive the cash instead. The cover charges go into the Healthcare Trust to keep costs down for everyone.

## Which level is right for you?

You'll find full details of each level of cover in the member guidebooks, or by contacting Aviva or Bupa directly if you have further questions.

You can check out this [cover level guide](#) for a summary of the main differences. You can find all this information under 'Help and documents'.

Make sure you check what you will and won't get, so there aren't any surprises if you try to make a claim. If you need to speak to someone or make a claim you'll get the details on the key contacts list.

Please read all the terms and conditions before making your choice.

You must get approval from Aviva/Bupa **before** arranging any consultations or treatment. Otherwise you might end up paying for the private care you receive yourself.

# Cost and tax

*Here are the charges for each level.*

Monthly charges	Bronze	Silver	Gold	Platinum (up to and including age 65)	Platinum (age 66 and over)
For you	£27.67	£52.33	£183.33	£427.21	£1,025.33
For you and your partner	£62.25	£117.75	£412.50	£854.44	£2,050.66

Monthly charges	Bronze	Silver	Gold	Platinum (up to and including age 65)	Platinum (age 66 and over)
For you and your children (however many you have)	£41.50	£78.50	£275.00	£640.83	£2,050.66
For you and your family (partner and children)	£76.08	£143.92	£504.17	£1,068.05	£2,050.66

You pay Income Tax and National Insurance contributions on this benefit.

## *Platinum charges*

When you turn 65 your charge won't change until the end of the current scheme year.

It will increase from the following October, after you've turned 65. It's then fixed for the whole year.

Remember that if you include your partner, their charge is based on your age, not theirs.

## *Excess charges*

If you make a claim, you may have to pay an 'excess charge' of £100 for that renewal year. (The renewal year runs from 1 October to 30 September.)

However, there's no excess on:

- Mental health support
- Fast Track Physio
- Neurodevelopmental support
- Digital GP
- Gold cover
- Platinum cover but not dental claims.

Dental treatment on Platinum cover has a £50 excess charge.

It doesn't matter how many times you claim in that year, you'll only pay once. But bear in mind that if your treatment goes across two renewal years, you'll pay a new excess charge for making a claim in a new treatment year.

Excess charges help keep the general cover charges down for everyone – this means people who claim pay more into the overall pot than those who don't.

## More info

### *Special features for Bronze, Silver and Gold cover*

#### **Fast Track Physio**

You don't need to get a GP referral first. Just contact Aviva and then Fast Track Physio allows you to call a physiotherapist directly, who'll talk you through your options. You won't have to pay any excess if you only need physiotherapy.

#### **Neurodevelopmental support - *New from October 2023***

This is support for Attention Deficit Hyperactivity Disorder (ADHD), Autism Spectrum Disorder (ASD) and Tourette's syndrome for adults and children over 7 years old.

You don't need to get a GP referral first. Just contact Aviva and the team will pass your case to a specialist on the Neurodevelopmental Pathway.

They'll work with you to help define your clinical needs and support programme. You won't have to pay any excess.

Read more in the Neurodevelopmental pathway [summary](#) and FAQs.

#### **Mental health support**

There's no need for a GP referral to get treatment for your mental health. After Aviva accept your claim, they'll arrange for you to have a clinical assessment with a specialist who'll talk you through your options.

You can get treatment for both addictive and chronic conditions if appropriate, with no need to pay any excess.

#### **Digital GP**

With the Digital GP app, you can arrange free GP consultations at the touch of a button. It includes video, chat features, pharmacy services and repeat NHS prescriptions with free delivery. The service is available 24 hours a day, and there is no limit on the number of consultations.

See the [Digital GP summary](#) for an overview of the service.



Read more in the [Digital GP user guide](#) and [FAQs](#) for help and troubleshooting.  
September 2023 – Use the code 712398 to register for the Digital GP.  
From 1st October 2023 – Use the new code 583777 to register.

Already got the app? You don't need to re-register with the new code.

### **Chronic care**

While the **Silver** and **Gold** levels do not include treatment for chronic conditions, there is some cover available for chronic care (up to certain limits, see the policy guidebook for full details). This could be annual check-ups of chronic conditions or injections for pain management, for example. Always speak to Aviva before arranging any treatments or appointments to make sure the scheme includes them.

### **Get Active**

Get Active helps you and your family stay fit and healthy with:

- discounts on online workouts;
- use of over 3,000 health and fitness clubs nationwide; and
- money off a variety of products and services.

To find out more and get the discounts and offers available, visit [getactive.aviva.co.uk](https://getactive.aviva.co.uk). Use the code “HCGLRG” to log in. The Get Active website also includes terms and conditions.

### **Gender Identity**

Aviva's gender identity support service for Silver and Gold includes:

- Faster access to talking therapies (the NHS waiting time is currently over 24 months)
- Specialist assessment and mental health support with no need for a GP referral
- 'Shared care' arrangement with NHS – this means they will take over your support if you leave the Bank
- Cover for gender dysphoria
- Cover for safe hormone treatment if applicable

If you have Bronze level cover: You can still claim the fast access to talking therapies and get broader mental health support, but there are no outpatient benefits.

## *Platinum features*

**Platinum** cover is a more comprehensive cover.

It covers a broader range of health conditions, including assisted fertility and chronic care in full. Read the Platinum member guide for details.

Read more in the Assisted Fertility FAQs.

## *Adding a new child to your cover*

If you've just become a parent, you can add your child to your cover, as long as you already have cover yourself. There's no need to wait for the annual election window.

There's no limit to how many children you can add.

To add your child, contact HR through Ask Archie within 30 days of the birth or adoption. The cover will update from the 1st day of the following month.

If you don't put them on your cover within 30 days:

- you'll have to wait until your 'Return to work' election window. We'll send you a letter in the post to remind you about this
- or you'll have to wait until the next annual election window, after you've returned from leave.

## *Making a claim*

For Platinum level, contact Bupa directly on 0345 266 8824. The scheme number is 55313308585.

For other levels, contact Aviva directly on 0800 158 3338, or use MyAviva.

### **MyAviva**

MyAviva lets you make claims and track their progress at any time

Register at [MyAviva](#) by entering the NWG policy number (980033) and your membership number together. For example, if your membership number is 000123100 you would enter 980033123100

You can also download the MyAviva app using the same log in details to manage your policy on the go.

And if you have any other insurance policies, savings accounts or investments with Aviva, MyAviva will show you these too in one secure, user-friendly portal.

## *If you leave the Bank*

Your cover ends at the end of the month you leave the Bank. This means any treatment you're receiving will also stop. You'll no longer be able to use the Digital GP service. We'll take a normal monthly charge from your final pay.

If you still want cover after you leave, please get in touch directly with your provider:

- For cover levels other than Platinum, call Aviva on 0800 056 3008.

- For Platinum cover, call Mercer (our broker) on 0800 011 3136 in the UK, or 0117 988 7533 if you're elsewhere.

If you do this within 60 days (or 30 days for Platinum), so there is no break in your cover, you'll get a better deal. Bear in mind that the cost of your cover is likely to go up, because you won't be able to get company rates any more.

## *Finding out more*

See 'Help and documents' for plan guidebooks, along with further useful documents.

# Help and documents

*Most of the time you'll raise queries with the provider directly.*

This will be for things like policy queries, approval for treatment and claims.

[Key contacts list](#)

If you need to contact HR about your pay, click on Ask Archie on the Intranet page. If Archie can't help you, he'll pass your details to the team that can.

If you're out of the business, or on leave, you can:

- ask your manager to contact Archie for you; or
- email [hronline@natwest.com](mailto:hronline@natwest.com) yourself. This email address is only for colleagues who are out of the business or on leave.

## *Documents for Bronze, Silver and Gold*

Here are the documents for our Bronze, Silver and Gold cover managed through AVIVA

[Bronze Member Guidebook](#)

[Silver Member Guidebook](#)

[Gold Member Guidebook](#)

[Additional benefits for colleagues who live on the Isle of Man](#)

[Additional benefits for colleagues who live on the Channel Islands](#)

[Guide to differences between Bronze, Silver and Gold cover levels](#)

[Digital GP summary](#)

[Digital GP user guide](#)

[Digital GP FAQs](#)

[Neurodevelopmental pathway summary](#)

[Neurodevelopmental pathway FAQs](#)

[How Aviva protects your data](#)

## *Documents for platinum cover*

Check the [hospital list](#) for where you can have treatment: “EXT” is for Gold level hospitals, “KEY” for the rest. Hospital lists are regularly updated so please take these details as a guide only.

Here are the documents for our platinum cover managed through Bupa

[How Aviva and NatWest Healthcare Trust manage your data](#)

[Platinum Private Medical Cover Plan](#)

[Assisted Fertility FAQs](#)

## *Before seeking treatment*

Please either:

- contact the Aviva Customer Service Helpline on 0800 158 3338; or
- visit [MyAviva](#) to start your claim. The scheme number is 980033.

For Platinum cover, please read the [Platinum Private Medical Cover Plan](#). You can call Bupa on 0345 266 8824. The scheme number is 55313308585.

# How it works

Dental insurance allows you and your family to claim money back for any necessary dental treatment. It covers routine check-ups and scaling, through to major work such as crowns, bridges and dentures.

## About this benefit

This benefit gives you money back towards dental expenses, especially if you go private. You pay your dentist as usual and then send in your claim.

How much you get back depends on the level of cover you choose.

You can choose a plan that covers just you, or you can add your partner, children, or both. The benefit covers children up to age 30 (or up to age 25 for orthodontic treatment).

You can also add up to four parents, including your in-laws & step-parents, up to age 80.

You can see the [policy summary](#) here. We've organised our Dental Cover through Unum Dental, who are underwritten by Unum Limited.

*You can start, stop or make changes to this benefit as follows:*

	New joiner window	Annual election window	Anytime window	Change in circumstances
Permanent contract	✓	✓	✗	✓
Fixed-term contract	✓	✓	✗	✓

Your new joiner window lasts for up to 3 months, then closes at the end of the month you make your first choice.

To start or increase this benefit, you must be ‘actively at work’. This means you’re working as usual, or just taking normal holiday.

Please note: If you’re on any kind of long-term leave – such as maternity leave, unpaid sick leave, or a career break – you cannot start or increase this benefit. You can only reduce or stop it when the annual election window comes round. You may be able to change your choices when you come back from leave – if so, we’ll write to let you know. For more details, please check the policy for the type of leave you’re on.

### Levels of cover

There are four levels to choose from: Clear 1, 2, 3 or 5. (There isn't a Clear 4.) The amounts you get back will depend on the level you choose.

For example, with Clear 1 you get back 100% of any NHS costs. So, it’s more suitable for NHS patients. You can still choose Clear 1 and get private treatment, but you’d only be able to claim back the amount it would’ve cost on the NHS.

Clear 2, 3 & 5 levels of cover are more suitable if you go private. They pay refunds in line with a [benefit schedule](#) – see ‘More info’.

Make sure you also read the terms and conditions before choosing your cover.

When you join the plan you’ll get a welcome letter in the post to confirm your cover. It’ll tell you how to:

- register on the provider’s portal;
- reach your documents; and
- [make a claim](#).

## Cost and tax

*Here are the charges for each level.*

Cover level	Monthly Charge			
	Just you	You and your partner or you and your children	You, your partner and your children	Extra charge for each parent
Clear 1	£4.31	£8.62	£12.93	£5.39

Cover level	Monthly Charge			
	Just you	You and your partner or you and your children	You, your partner and your children	Extra charge for each parent
Clear 2	£7.26	£14.52	£21.78	£9.08
Clear 3	£11.00	£22.00	£33.00	£13.75
Clear 5	£22.49	£44.98	£67.47	£28.11

For example, if you've got Clear 1 for you and two parents, your monthly charge will be  $£4.31 + (£5.39 \times 2) = £15.09$ .

You won't pay National Insurance contributions on the monthly charge but you will pay Income Tax.

## More info

### *Deciding on your cover*

Each cover level has a 'benefit list' (or 'benefit schedule') that shows you the treatments it includes and the amount available - or 'limit' - for each one. These limits apply to each person on your cover – not to everyone overall.

How much you get back depends on the cover level you choose and the dental care you actually receive. This means if you don't choose the right level for you, you might not get the full cost of each treatment back.

Before you decide, try to estimate your household's normal dental charges in a year. Most dentists publish their price lists online. Get an idea of what your routine appointments will cost, and perhaps any special treatment you might need.

Then compare these prices to the different levels of cover on the benefit lists. You should start to get an idea of the most suitable cover level for you.

## *There are some dental costs the benefit doesn't cover.*

Among other things, the plans do **not** cover:

- reimbursement of travel costs for treatment;
- cosmetic treatments; or
- adult orthodontics.

So please check the [benefit schedule](#) before you have any treatment.

## *Making a claim*

You can [make a claim](#) from the 1st of the month after you choose this benefit.

So, if you choose it in September you can claim from 1 October.

You must claim within 12 months of your treatment finishing.

Have your treatment receipt handy as you'll need this to send in your claim.

If you need treatment while abroad, get a receipt (in English) and send in your claim in the usual way. You'll receive the normal refund in line with the benefits list, using the exchange rate that applied when you were treated.

Unum Dental will pay the amount straight into your bank account within 5-10 working days or send you a cheque.

## *How to claim*

**The easiest and quickest way to claim is to use Unum's online portal.**

If you've already joined the plan you can click [here to access the portal](#).

Here's a [video](#) to show you how to claim.

Call Unum Dental on 0207 265 7111 or email [dental@unum.co.uk](mailto:dental@unum.co.uk) if you need any more help.

## *If you leave the Bank*

We'll charge you for a full month in your final pay.

This means you'll still be able to claim until the end of the month you leave. So, if you leave on 9 May you can make a claim right up to 31 May.

If you still want cover after you leave, go to the [Unum website](#) and apply to continue your cover within 30 days of leaving the Bank.

Read more in the [Policy Document](#).



# Help and documents

*Most of the time you'll raise queries with the benefit provider directly.*

This will be for things like claims and policy queries. You can see the [contact details here](#).

Or you can access Unum's online portal.

If you need to contact HR about your pay you can click on [Ask Archie](#) on the Intranet page. If Archie can't help you, he'll pass your details to the team that can.

If you're out of the business, or on leave you can either:

- ask your manager to contact Archie for you; or
- email [hronline@natwest.com](mailto:hronline@natwest.com). This email address is **only** for colleagues who are out the business or on leave.

[Key contacts list](#)

[Benefits schedule](#)

[Policy Document](#)

[Make a claim](#)

# How it works

This assessment of your health and lifestyle includes a medical and fitness test, carried out by a doctor or physiologist.

## *About this benefit*

The Health Assessment can help you become a healthier version of you.

The provider, Nuffield Health, will design a special personal health assessment to suit your needs. (They call this ‘PATH’, which stands for Personalised Assessment for Tailored Health.)

You can choose this benefit if you’re over 18. You can add one for your partner too.

*You can start, stop or make changes to this benefit as follows:*

	New joiner window	Annual election window	Anytime window	Change in circumstances
Permanent contract	✓	✓	✓	✗
Fixed-term contract	✓	✓	✓	✗

Your new joiner window lasts for up to 3 months, then closes at the end of the month you make your first choice.

To start or increase this benefit, you must be ‘actively at work’. This means you’re working as usual, or just taking normal holiday.

Please note: If you’re on any kind of long-term leave – such as maternity leave, unpaid sick leave, or a career break – you cannot start or increase this benefit.

You may be able to change your choices when you come back from leave – if so, we'll write to let you know. For more details, please check the policy for the type of leave you're on.

If you're an Executive, we'll choose this benefit for you automatically at each annual election window. But it's flexible, so if you don't want it, you can opt out by 30 September. If you change your mind later, you can choose it at any time during the year.

### Options available

There are four PATH options available: 'Life 2', 'Life 3', 'Pro 3' and 'Pro 4'. The 'Life' options focus on either lifestyle or medical issues, while the 'Pro' options give you the flexibility to look at both.

All four options include a free pass at one of Nuffield's Fitness & Wellbeing clubs, for 30 days following your health assessment.

Around payday in the month after choosing the benefit, you'll receive an email link to Nuffield's online tool, Trium®. It will ask you a series of questions, then create an individual health assessment for you, based on your answers. You can then book your assessment.

You'll normally have your assessment at one of [Nuffield Health's centres](#) across the UK, including onsite at Gogarburn. So, it might be worth booking your assessment there if you're nearby or visiting.

The health assessments do **not** include or cover reimbursement of travel costs. If you need to travel you will need to pay for this.

## Cost and tax

You spread the cost over twelve months.

Here are the costs for each option for you or your partner:

Your options	Monthly charge	Annual charge
Life 2	£9.91	£118.92

Your options	Monthly charge	Annual charge
Life 3	£15.21	£182.52
Pro 3	£38.91	£466.92
Pro 4	£50.41	£604.92

You don't get any Income Tax savings but you will get National Insurance contribution savings on this benefit.

## More info

### *PATH options*

Here you can compare some of the features of each PATH option. You can read the provider's summary for each benefit and take a look at the [comparison summary](#) to help you work out what's the right PATH for you

**Life 2** ... tells you about your current state of health. If you get any 'high risk' results, you'll receive support to set goals and realistic action plans.

Read the [Life 2 summary](#) for details of what is included in the assessment.

**Life 3** ... builds on Life 2 with extra focus on how you manage your health. It looks at your lifestyle as well as your medical condition, making the assessment truly individual.

Read the [Life 3 summary](#) for details of what is included in this assessment.

**Pro 3** ... is a significantly longer assessment, looking at your individual health in more depth and providing detailed steps for you to improve in those areas most important to you.

Read the [Pro 3 summary](#) for details of what is included in this assessment.

**Pro 4** ... is the most detailed, thorough assessment Nuffield offers. It includes the most wide-ranging examination of your health, with personal online support (your 'digital health hub').

Read the [Pro 4 summary](#) showing what is included in this assessment.

Mammograms are offered under all four PATH options.

You'll be offered one if you're female, aged 40 and over and have not had a mammogram within the last 12 months. It may need to be done at a different location to your assessment. Please check this when you book your assessment.

## How the modules work

This table shows how the assessment for each option is made up. As you can see, for Life 3 and above you have Physiologist 'modules'. For Pro 3 and above you have Doctor 'modules'.

These are 30-minute sections of your health assessment that focus on a particular area. You'll get follow-up coaching support, whatever option you choose.

Options	Finger prick analysis	Full blood analysis	Key body measurements (30 min)	Physiologist module (30 min)	Doctor module (30 min)	2 follow up coaching calls	Total assessment duration
<b>Life 2</b>	Included					Included	30 mins
<b>Life 3</b>	Included		Included	1 module		Included	60 mins
<b>Pro 3</b>		Included	Included	1 module	2 modules	Included	120 mins
<b>Pro 4</b>		Included	Included	2 modules	2 modules	Included	150 mins

There are two kinds of module to choose from: physiologist or doctor. Generally, the physiologist modules focus more on fitness and lifestyle.

## Modules available

There's more about the modules in the [FAQs](#), on the [Nuffield Health website](#) and in the summaries below.

- [Physiologist modules summary](#)
- [Doctor modules summary](#)

Make sure you read these carefully to help decide which health assessment you would like. Once you choose, you cannot change your assessment level.

Physiologist modules	Doctor modules	Doctor and physiologist modules
Cancer risk reduction	Bone health	
Energy and sleep health	Bowel cancer screen	
Healthy weight loss		
Stress and resilience management		
Back and posture health	Alcohol review	Cardiovascular performance
Diabetes prevention	Sexual function	Routine heart check
Fitness	General health and blood checks	
Lifestyle management for healthy hearts	Sexually transmitted infection screen	

## Trium<sup>®</sup> in more detail

Nuffield's online tool Trium<sup>®</sup> works in three steps:

1. It asks you questions, then analyses your answers. Using detailed clinical information, it works your lifetime risk of developing certain diseases.
2. It will then suggest the most suitable modules based on what it's learnt about you. You can accept these choices or dismiss them and choose others if you prefer.
3. The doctor or physiologist you see for your assessment will then try to resolve any issues and recommend the next steps.

Trium® stores your details on a safe and secure portal, keeping your health and wellbeing personal and private. The results help Nuffield Health to identify your health risks and point you to more useful online content, information and services.

If you need help deciding what modules are right for you, Nuffield's specialist team are on hand to talk you through the modules and discuss any changes you might want to make.

## *Booking your appointment*

You can book your assessment after you've used the Trium® portal and worked out which specific modules you want.

Call Nuffield Health to book on 03452 30 20 40.

## *Cancelling your appointment*

Call Nuffield Health directly to let them know on 03452 30 20 40.

You must give three full working days' notice – including your appointment date – to cancel your booking. So to cancel or rearrange a 2pm appointment on a Tuesday, you'll need to call before 2pm on Thursday the previous week.

If you cancel later than this, you will still have to pay half of the charge.

If you arrive very late without letting Nuffield Health know, or you don't turn up at all, you'll have to pay the full fee.

Contact Nuffield Health to find out more about their cancellation policy.

## *If you leave the Bank*

If you've still got payments to make, we'll charge you for the full month as usual. We'll then take the rest of your payments in one lump sum from your final pay after tax.

So, you won't benefit from National Insurance contribution savings on the remaining payments.

If you haven't had the assessment by the time you leave, you'll have 12 months from the time you chose the benefit to take it.

Call Nuffield Health to book on 03452 30 20 40.

You won't get a refund if you decide not to have the assessment after you leave. So it's best to take advantage of it.

# Help and documents

*Most of the time you'll raise queries with the benefit provider directly.*

Take a look at the [FAQs](#) or you can contact Nuffield Health directly on 03452 30 20 40.

If you need to contact HR you can click on [Ask Archie](#) on the Intranet page. If Archie can't help you, he'll pass your details to the team that can.

If you're out of the business, or on leave you can either:

- ask your manager to contact Archie for you; or
- email [hronline@natwest.com](mailto:hronline@natwest.com). This email address is **only** for colleagues who are out the business or on leave

[Nuffield Health's centres](#)

[Comparison summary](#)

[Life 2 summary](#)

[Life 3 summary](#)

[Pro 3 summary](#)

[Pro 4 summary](#)



[Physiologist modules summary](#)

[Doctor modules summary](#)

[FAQs](#)

# How it works

If you want to get more holidays off work next year; you can buy up to 35 hours – as long as your line manager agrees.

## *About this benefit*

Holiday Buy is a way to increase your time off next year.

The amount of hours you can buy depends on how many hours you work each week:

- Full time: you can buy up to 35 hours.
- Part-time: the hours you can buy are scaled down in line with your working pattern. For example, if you work three out of five days a week, you can buy up to 21 hours (which is 3/5ths of 35).

You pay the cost in 12 equal monthly amounts from October.

You can use your extra holiday once the leave year starts in the following January.

It doesn't matter if you're permanent or on a fixed term contract – you can buy extra holiday if you get your manager's agreement that you can.

It's your responsibility to make sure they've approved your request before you submit it. Once they've agreed, you can make your choices on the Benefits Hub

You can start this benefit as follows:

	New joiner window	Annual election window	Anytime window	Change in circumstances
Permanent contract	×	✓	×	×
Fixed-term contract	×	✓	×	×

You'll only be able to buy holidays once a year during the annual election window in September.

If you miss the annual election window you can't buy extra holiday through the Benefits Hub at a later date. You can't amend or cancel this benefit outside of the annual election window.

Please note: If you're on any kind of long-term leave – such as maternity leave, unpaid sick leave, or a career break – you cannot start this benefit.

To start this benefit, you must be 'actively at work'. This means you're working as usual, or just taking normal holiday.

## Cost and tax

Your monthly charge depends on your salary (including any benefit funding) and how many hours you want to buy. You'll be able to see the charge when you're making your choices during the annual election window.

Here are some examples.

If you work 35 hours a week, with a salary of £40,000 and benefit funding of £4,000:

For 35 hours extra holiday, the cost is £70.51 a month.

Here's how we work that out:

- 35 hours a week is 1,820 hours a year.
- Salary £40,000 + benefit funding £4,000 = £44,000.
- Hourly rate is £24.17 (that's £44,000 divided by 1,820 hours).
- So the total cost of 35 hours' holiday is 35 x £24.17 = £846.15.
- Divide by 12 to get a monthly charge of £70.51.

If you work 21 hours a week, with a salary of £19,250 and benefit funding of £1,925:

For 14 hours extra holiday, the cost is £22.62 a month.

Here's how we work that out:

- 21 hours a week is 1,092 hours a year.
- Salary £19,250 + benefit funding £1,925 = £21,175.
- Hourly rate is £19.39 (that's £21,175 divided by 1,092 hours).
- So the total cost of 14 hours' holiday is 14 x £19.39 = £271.47.
- Divide by 12 to get a monthly charge of £22.62.

The cost comes out of your salary before tax.

# More info

## *After choosing this benefit*

Bear in mind that you can't change this benefit after you've made your choice.

When the next annual election window comes round, your extra holiday goes back to zero – your choice doesn't 'roll over'. So, if you want to buy extra holiday every year, you must get approval and choose it again, each time.

## *Using your holiday*

We load your bought holidays into Workday for the following year for you.

You can then book and use your extra holiday in the same way as your standard days.

## *If your pay changes*

Your monthly charge is based on your pay on 1 October, it's then fixed for the year. So it'll stay the same even if your salary or hours change during the year.

The only exception is if you receive a pay change back dated before 1 October.

## *If you leave the Bank*

We'll take a scaled-down charge from your pay in the month you leave, in line with the part of the month you actually work.

You should aim to use up any holidays you have left before you leave.

If you can't use all your holidays before you leave, you'll get a payment to cover any days you have left – including any extra days you've bought.

If you leave before the start of the holiday year in January, you'll need to contact HR to ask for a refund for the charges.

# Help and documents

If you need to contact HR you can click on [Ask Archie](#) on the Intranet page. If Archie can't help you, he'll pass your details to the team that can.

If you're out of the business, or on leave you can:

- ask your manager to contact Archie for you, or
- email [hronline@natwest.com](mailto:hronline@natwest.com). This email address is only for colleagues who are out the business or on leave.

# How it works

It's a way of getting an ultra low emission or fully electric car of your choice.

## *About this benefit*

You won't own the car, but you'll use it like your own. The monthly charge covers everything except fuel or electricity.

The provider of this benefit is [Novuna Vehicle Solutions](#).

You can take part in the scheme if:

- you work in the Great Britain and Northern Ireland; and
- you are Grade level C, D, E or F

If you work in another role that may mean you qualify for a company car, we'll let you know.

## *If this benefit isn't for you or you need a second car?*

Take a look at the Colleague Car scheme. It's open to all Great Britain and Northern Ireland colleagues. You can get a new or used car, or arrange finance on a car. See this [comparison guide](#) for a quick summary on the schemes.

See '[NatWest Group Exclusives](#)' for more details.

## *Your options*

You can choose:

- How long you want the car for (the 'term'): 2, 3 or 4 years; and
- Your mileage limit for each year: 8,000, 12,000 or 15,000 miles a year.

If you go over your mileage limit, you'll pay an extra charge at the end of the term.

Please see the Car Policy and Car Insurance Guide on the intranet in the HR pages under 'Working here' for full details.

# Cost and tax

*The cost depends on the car you choose and how much tax you pay.*

You can get a quote and see how much it'll cost you after Income Tax on [Novuna's website](#).

There are two parts to the charge:

1. We'll take a charge from your pay each month. You won't pay any tax or National Insurance on this charge.
2. But you do pay tax on the 'taxable value' of the car. The taxable value takes account of the list price of the car including any extras and the delivery cost. We'll tell you what this is before you order it. This is called 'Benefit in Kind' and will appear on your P11D.

We'll take the first charge from your pay the month **after** Novuna deliver your car, then each month for the rest of the term. You'll then pay a full month charge in the last month of the term (even if the car goes back mid-month) to allow for those 'free' days at the start.

## More info

### *What's on offer*

You can choose from a range of ultra low emission cars or fully electric vehicles. You can have the car delivered to work or home.

Your monthly charge covers:

- Delivery and collection (apart from Tesla cars – you have to pick those up from a Tesla store.)
- Road tax
- Fully comprehensive insurance – details are in the Car Policy on the HR intranet pages under 'Working here'
- All routine servicing and maintenance, including MOT
- Replacement tyres, batteries and exhaust

- Breakdown & Recovery Accident management

Please see the Car Policy and Car Insurance Guide on the intranet in the HR pages under ‘Working here’ for full details.

## Getting your car

<b>Learn about going electric</b>	Head to the <a href="#">EV Hub website</a> to find out why you should make the switch to electric – and get help finding the right electric car for you and your lifestyle.
<b>Work out what car you want</b>	We suggest you start by looking around a few showrooms, as we can’t arrange test drives for you. Head to the “Getting a quote” section on the <a href="#">EV Hub website</a> . It’s easy to see how much extras will cost, like metallic paint or alloy wheels. You can also compare quotes for different cars.
<b>Place your order</b>	It’s best to do this online at the <a href="#">Novuna website</a> . Otherwise, you can speak to a Novuna adviser by calling 0343 351 9110. They’ll tell you how long they expect it’ll take for your car to come in. The lead time for electric vehicles is currently up to 18 months for some makes and models. Novuna can’t change this as the car manufacturers supply the new vehicles. Bear this in mind when making your choice.
<b>Take delivery</b>	When the car’s ready, Novuna will let you know. They will ask you if you want the car delivered to your home or work address and they’ll let the car dealer know.

## Taking care of the car

You must carry out basic upkeep and make sure any repairs are done as soon as possible.

When you return the car, Novuna will check its condition. If it needs any repairs over £250, you’ll need to pay this charge.

If you commit a motoring offence that leads to a fine, such as speeding or driving in bus lanes, Novuna will give the relevant authority your details, then tell you



what you need to do. You'll then have to pay the fine, as well as an admin fee to Novuna.

## *Canceling or ending the term early*

You can only cancel the car if you give Novuna enough notice before delivery. The fee for cancelling will depend on what stage the order has reached. Once you have the car and the term starts, you might be able to return the car early if your situation changes. Again, you'll have to pay a charge to do this. Speak with Novuna on 0343 351 9110 for details.

## *If you leave the Bank*

You must return the car before your last day. We'll take a full monthly charge from your final pay.

# Help and documents

*Most of the time you can ask the benefit provider any questions directly.*

This will be for things like ordering the car, arranging service or any queries on your lease.

You can see the [contact details here](#).

[Key contacts](#)

Here is the scheme comparison guide

[Car comparison guide](#)

If you need to contact HR about your pay you can click on [Ask Archie](#) on the Intranet page. If Archie can't help you, he'll pass your details to the team that can.

If you're out of the business, or on leave you can either:

- ask your manager to contact Archie for you; or
- you can email [hronline@natwest.com](mailto:hronline@natwest.com). This email address is only for colleagues who are out the business or on leave.

# How it works

If you're a parent or guardian, this is a way to save money when paying towards registered childcare.

## *About this benefit*

Childcare Vouchers are a way to pay your childcare costs and save money.

This benefit is closed to new participants.

But you might be able to join the Government's Tax Free childcare scheme. See 'More info'.

*You can start, stop or make changes to this benefit as follows:*

	New joiner window	Annual election window	Anytime window	Change in circumstances
<b>Permanent contract</b>	✗	✓	✓	✓

If you're already taking part in this benefit, you can change the amount you take every month – more when you need them, less when you don't.

As long as you change the amount on the Benefits Hub by the last working day of the month, you'll see the change in next month's pay.

To stay in the scheme, you must buy £10 of vouchers, at least once every 12 months.

## *Using the vouchers*

The vouchers are valid for children up to age 15, or 16 if they have a disability.

They can be used to pay for a wide range of childcare including:

- Home based care such as childminders, nannies and au pairs.

- Pre-school care such as nursery schools, play schools and crèches.
- Care for older children such as out of school clubs (breakfast clubs, afterschool clubs) and holiday clubs.

They must be registered with the Local Health and Social Services Trusts.

For more information, look on the [Edenred Childcare Vouchers website](#).

You're not able to get a refund on the vouchers so make sure you only get what you need.

## Cost and tax

There are two ways to save:

- Tax and National Insurance
- Discount

### *Tax and National Insurance savings*

The Income Tax and National Insurance contributions you save depends on what year you joined the scheme. There was a change to the tax rules for the scheme in 2011.

If you joined the scheme:

- after 5 April 2011, you're in the '**new**' scheme.
- before 5 April 2011, you're in the '**old**' scheme.

New (joined after 5 April 2011)	Old (joined before 5 April 2011)
<p>You don't pay any Income Tax or National Insurance contributions up to these monthly amounts:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• If you pay basic rate (20%) tax: it's £243</li> <li>• If you pay higher rate (40%) tax, it's £124</li> <li>• If you pay additional rate (45%) tax, it's £110</li> </ul> <p>You'll pay Income Tax and National Insurance contributions on any extra vouchers you take above the limit for your tax band. (You can take up to £3,000 of vouchers a month.)</p>	<p>You don't pay any Income Tax or National Insurance contributions on your vouchers up to £243 a month, whatever your tax band.</p> <p>You'll pay Income Tax and National Insurance contributions on any extra vouchers you take above the £243 limit. (You can take up to £3,000 of vouchers a month.)</p>

If you currently get Working Tax Credit for help with childcare taking childcare vouchers might affect how much tax credit you can claim. To find out how you might be affected, call your local Working Tax Credit office or use [Government online calculator](#).

## 10% discount

You also get the vouchers up to your **tax-free limit** for 10% less than their face value. We pay that for you.

So if you get £124 vouchers tax free, the highest discount you can get is £12.40 a month.

# More info

## Special features

With this benefit, you can also:

- use Edenred's free Childcare Advice Line;
- sign-up to their monthly 'Parent Hub' emails; and
- join the Working Parents Zone on their [website](#).

Full details of these and are on [Edenred's website](#).

## *Managing your vouchers*

You receive your vouchers around payday each month as electronic credits into an online account, like a bank account.

You use those credits to make payments to your childcare providers. The vouchers don't expire, so you can save them up and use them whenever suits you.

Remember, you're not able to get a refund on the vouchers so make sure you only get what you need or what you will be able to use.

## *Registering your provider*

You should check directly with any childcare provider you use if they're on Edenred's system.

If yes, they'll give you their Edenred account number, which will start with the letter P. You need this account number to make payments to them.

If not, they can register quickly and simply in the Childcare Providers section of Edenred's site by choosing the 'Start accepting vouchers' option under ['Accepting Edenred Childcare Vouchers'](#). Once registered, your carer will be able to give you their account number.

## *If you leave the scheme*

Pausing your vouchers is different to leaving the scheme.

You opt out of the scheme if you specifically tell us you want to opt out, or if you don't buy vouchers for 12 months.

If you decide to opt out of the childcare voucher scheme, **you can't rejoin** – but you might be able to join the Government's Tax-Free Childcare scheme (see below).

## *If you leave the Bank*

You only get the vouchers if you work a full month. For example, if you leave on 15 June you won't get – or pay for – any vouchers that month.

You can still use any vouchers you've got in your Edenred account after you leave.

## *Tax-Free Childcare (TFC)*

Tax-Free Childcare (TFC) is the Government's current form of childcare funding support for working parents.

You might be better off with TFC than with our childcare voucher scheme. You should compare the savings you can make and decide what's right for you and your family using this Government [childcare calculator](#).

Key facts about TFC:

- You can't be in both our scheme and the Government's TFC scheme at the same time.
- Some will be better off staying in our scheme, while others will be better off with TFC.
- Remember that you **can't rejoin** our scheme if you leave to join TFC. (If you decide to leave, you can do this anytime on the Benefits Hub.)
- You have to apply directly to [HMRC online](#)
- TFC is run by the Government, not us. If you register for TFC, you'll pay money into a new, separate account which you then use to pay your childcare providers.

## Help and documents

*We've organised our Childcare Vouchers through Edenred.*

You can get help from Edenred through your online account, call them on 0333 400 0402 or email [helpdesk-uk-vbr@edenred.com](mailto:helpdesk-uk-vbr@edenred.com).

You can log into your account with your membership details. If you can't remember these, you can ask for a PIN re-set from Edenred.

If you need to contact HR you can click on [Ask Archie](#) on the Intranet page. If Archie can't help you, he'll pass your details to the team that can.

If you're out of the business, or on leave you can ask your manager to contact Archie for you, or you can email [hronline@natwest.com](mailto:hronline@natwest.com). This email address is only for colleagues who are out the business or on leave

# How it works

Choose a bike for your journey to work – get a discount and spread the cost over 12 months.

*There are different rules if you made the Bike for Work election before September 2022.*

Please see this [guidance](#) for the rules on the old scheme. Keep reading for the new scheme rules.

## *About the new scheme*

This benefit allows you to hire a new bike – and extra kit, such as safety equipment, if you want any – worth between £150 and £3,000.

The main purpose of the bike must be for commuting to work.

This means that you must use the bike at least 50% of the time travelling to or from your home and another workplace, and/or between two workplaces.

Once you choose the amount you want to spend, it has to cover the bike and safety equipment. You can't add to it later and get a more expensive bike.

You get a 5% discount on the bike and equipment, and you'll also make Income Tax savings. Halfords provide a [calculator on their website](#) to help you understand what this will mean for you.

You spread the amount you choose over twelve months. We'll show you what the monthly cost will be before you make your choice.

Around payday in the month after choosing the benefit, you'll receive your 'letter of collection'. This is your voucher for the amount you've chosen to spend. If you don't receive it by the 20th of the following month, call Halfords directly on 0345 504 6444

*You can start, stop or make changes to this benefit as follows:*

	New joiner window	Annual election window	Anytime window	Change in circumstances
<b>Permanent contract</b>	✓	✓	✓	✗
<b>Fixed-term contract</b>	✓	✓	✓	✗

Your new joiner window lasts for up to 3 months, then closes at the end of the month you make your first choice.

Please note: If you're on any kind of long-term leave – such as maternity leave, unpaid sick leave, or a career break – you cannot start or increase this benefit. You may be able to change your choices when you come back from leave – if so, we'll write to let you know. For more details, please check the policy for the type of leave you're on.

To start or increase this benefit, you must be 'actively at work'. This means you're working as usual, or just taking normal holiday.

## *Choosing the bike*

Firstly you'll need to pick the bike you want.

You can visit a store or website to see what's available from Halfords, Tredz or other independent stores – visit [cycle2work](#) for a list of shops taking part. Then have a think about what safety equipment you might need such as a helmet, reflective lights and a bell.

Have a look at the suggested bundles if you're not sure.

You can't get these as "bundles" from the stores. This is to give you an idea of the type of additional equipment you might need. The prices quoted are subject to change.

Click here to see bundles on [E-Bikes](#), [folding bikes](#), [hybrid bikes](#) and [road bikes](#). When you've picked the bike and any additional equipment you might need, you can now place your order.



You can find full terms and conditions on “More info”.

# Cost and tax

*You get a 5% discount on the amount you choose.*

For example, if you get a letter of collection for £1,000, the repayment will be £950, spread over 12 months.

And you’ll actually pay less than this. Because tax relief applies to this benefit, you’ll make a further saving, depending on your Income Tax band – so the actual cost to you is lower.

There’s a [calculator on the Halfords website](#) which will show you your savings.

## *Additional costs*

You might pay additional costs if:

- you leave the bank
- you move to another country
- you select the option at the end of the hire period that incurs an additional cost

See ‘More info’ for details on this.

# More info

## *Terms and conditions*

There are documents & terms you’ll need to read and agree to

1. The [Halfords pre-contract information](#)
2. Agree to use the bike at least 50% of the time travelling to or from home to work
3. Enter into a hire agreement with Halfords

Your personalised Halfords hire agreement will be generated as part of the election process and you can print or save a copy for your own records.

## *Placing the order*

You need to order your “letter of collection” and choose the full amount you want to get. So if the bike and accessories cost £1,500, this is the amount you need to ask for.

## *Getting the bike*

You’ll be sent the “letter of collection” by email the month after you requested it. You can spend this straight away and arrange to get the bike.

You can do this a few ways. Have your paperwork and bike details ready.

**In shop** you’ll also need some photo I.D

**Going online** at [www.halfords.com](http://www.halfords.com) or [www.tredz.co.uk](http://www.tredz.co.uk)

**Calling** Halfords on 0345 504 6444 or your local branch directly

## *During the hire period*

Halfords own the bike over the 12-month repayment period.

You can’t leave the scheme before the 12 months are up.

Near the end of the hire period, Halfords will get in touch with your options:

1. Enter into an extended hire agreement with Halfords at no cost
2. Return the cycling equipment to your local Halfords store
3. Purchase the cycling equipment at fair market value

You choose your option on the Halfords website and they’ll get back to you directly and support you on the next steps.

You can read more about this on the [Halfords website](#) in the FAQs.

## *New bikes*

You can get another bike when you finish the 12-month hire period. You can’t hire more than one bike at once.

## *Cancelling the benefit*

You’ve got the right to cancel your letter of collection up to 14 days after receiving it.

To do this, contact HR by [clicking on Archie on the Intranet page](#). If Archie can’t help you, he’ll pass your details to the team that can.

## *Buying a bike*

If you buy a bike outside this scheme, you don't get the discount or Income Tax savings it offers.

However, it may be worth checking NatWest Group Offers to see what other discounts are available. We update them regularly.

## *If you leave the Bank*

You'll need to pay the outstanding repayment for the bike. We'll take the rest of your payments in one lump sum from your final pay, after tax (so the usual savings won't apply).

If you transfer to the Channel Islands, Republic of Ireland or another country, you will need to leave the Bike for Work scheme. We'll take any remaining charges from your pay at the time you transfer. The bike will then belong to you.

# Help and documents

## *The provider of this benefit is Halfords*

Most of the time you'll raise queries with the benefit provider directly. This will be for things like if your letter of collection hasn't arrived or you've misplaced it. Halfords can be contacted on 0345 504 6444.

If you need to contact HR about your pay or to cancel your letter of collection, you can click on [Ask Archie](#) on the Intranet page. If Archie can't help you, he'll pass your details to the team that can.

If you're out of the business, or on leave you can ask your manager to contact Archie for you, or you can email [hronline@natwest.com](mailto:hronline@natwest.com).

This email address is only for colleagues who are out the business or on leave.

### [Key contacts lists](#)

## *Here's the information for the new scheme*

[Copy of the standard Halfords pre-contract information.](#)

[Your personal one will be generated if you choose this benefit](#)

[E-Bikes bundle](#)

[Folding bikes bundle](#)

[Hybrid bikes bundle](#)

[Road bikes bundle](#)

## Shopping Card

# How it works

The Shopping Card is a prepaid card offering cashback at a range of leading shops & restaurants. You can top it up with regular monthly amounts from your ValueAccount or from your bank account by debit card.

The bYond card is the latest version of our Shopping Card benefit.

The Shopping Card saves you money at over 70 shops taking part (including Boots, John Lewis, M&S, Primark, Sainsbury's and Pizza Express).

It's a 'pre-paid' card – you load the money on the card before you use it. When you buy something you'll get up to 15% back onto your card as 'cashback'.

## About this benefit

You can choose this benefit for yourself and you can order an extra card for someone in your family.

You can start, stop or make changes to this benefit as follows:

	New joiner window	Annual election window	Anytime window	Change in circumstances
Permanent contract	✓	✓	✓	✓
Fixed-term contract	✓	✓	✓	✓

When you choose this benefit for the first time:

- You'll receive an email invite in the following month to register on the bYond website. (It'll arrive around payday.)
- Use the account number in the email and your employee ID to register.
- You'll receive your card by post in three to five working days after you've registered.

- When it arrives, log into your bYond account and activate your card. You'll then be able to get your PIN number online through the app or the website. You'll receive full instructions on what to do.

You can use the card in-store (and with some retailers, online) like you would use a debit card. However, it will only work for those shops taking part.

## *Shops taking part*

You can find the list of shops currently taking part and the cashback amounts [here](#), on the app or on the website, when you log into your account. Shops and offers change from time to time, so check the list regularly to see what's available.

## *Choosing your top-up amount*

You can top up your card with any amount between £10 and £2,000, up to £20,000 overall.

You can:

- **Top up every month:** We'll add the amount you've chosen in the Benefits Hub around payday the following month. This means if you choose £200 in May it will go on your card around June payday.
- **Make one-off top-ups at any time:** This could be especially useful if you need to buy anything unexpected. (Read more in 'Further details'.)

Once you're up and running you can change the amount you pay as often as you like. Just make the change before the last working day of any month and it'll apply from the following month.

If you don't want to top up one month, change the amount to zero.

# Cost and tax

You can earn cashback on your everyday shopping. You don't get any Income Tax or National Insurance contribution savings on this benefit.

You pay a fee of £0.75 a month to have the card, whether you use it or not.

## *Additional costs*

If you don't use the card to make a purchase in a 6 month period you may get an additional £2 per month 'dormancy fee' applied to your card.

There are some other charges you may have to pay in other situations.

Full details are in the [terms and conditions](#) in the 'fees and charges' section. Some of the fee's on our scheme are different to the ones listed in the terms and conditions.

We have a £5 fee for an extra partner card (T&Cs say up to £10) and additional top ups are free (T&Cs say £2 per top up).

# More info

## *How to top up*

There are a few ways to top up.

It doesn't cost you anything (the [terms and conditions](#) show a £2 fee per top up but this doesn't apply to you).

### On the website:

- Go to the [bYond card website](#)
- Select 'Top Up' from the home screen on the left-hand side.
- Enter the amount you want to add
- Add the details of the debit card you want to use to pay for the top up.
- Confirm 'Top up'

**\*Important** – The addresses for your online account and debit card need to match, or the top up will reject. Once you've topped up once, you can save your card details to use again. This will help you top up faster in future.

### On the App:

You must have a debit card, and topped up at least once on the website first for this to work.

- Download the App, called 'bYond'.
- Log-in and click the + sign at the top of the screen (next to card balance) to top up on the app.
- Enter the amount you want to top up
- You'll see the debit card you have saved from topping up on the website. Enter the CVV security code from the back of that card and press 'Continue'
- You'll receive a message to say that the top up was successful
- Your new amount will show up in your balance

### By text:

If you've saved a debit card on the website when topping up, you can also top up by text.

Text 0748 133 9960 with TOPUP, followed by the amount you want to top up by, and the 3-digit security code from the back of your card.

For example, if you wanted to top up £100 using your card with the security code 123, you would text "TOPUP 100 123".

We suggest you save the phone number to your contacts so you can use it quickly and easily.

## *Extra card*

You can get an extra card for someone in your family, as long as they are over 16. There's a one-off charge of £5.

It'll be linked to yours and show exactly the same balance and payment information. But they can't make top up payments to the card – you'll need to manage that.

Order the extra card [on the bYond card website](#) or call 0344 879 1064 Monday to Sunday, 8-8pm. You'll need your nine digit ID number from your own card, and your registration password.

## *Tracking your cashback*

You'll receive the cashback onto your card 30 days after spending. This 30-day window allows for any shop return policies.



In the meantime you can keep track of what's coming in on the app or the website. To begin with, the payment will show as 'calculating' and the cashback amount will appear in grey. After 30 days, when the cashback becomes available to spend, it will turn to pink.

## How to...

Freeze your card	If you need to freeze your card – for example, if you lose it – you can do so on the app or your online account. If it's gone for good, you must call cardholder services to cancel it and order a new one.
Get money back from your card	If you need to take some money back from the card, you can do so at any time by calling the provider direct. There's a charge of £10.
Update your personal details	You must let the provider know if your details change, especially if you move house. To update your address, log on to your online account, or call the provider on 0344 879 1064.
Cancel the card	You can cancel the card at any time. Change your top-up amount to £0.00, then call the provider and tell them you want to cancel.  Remember to do this the month before you want your payments to stop. For example, if you want to stop in time for payday in June, you need to cancel before the last day of May.

## If you leave the Bank

No money will go onto the card in the month you leave unless you work a full month.

Once you leave the Bank, you won't be able to top up the card any more.

You can keep the card and spend the remaining amount. You'll no longer receive cashback, and the monthly charge will be £2.00 instead of £0.75.

Or you can take the money back from the card as cash into your bank account, and pay the one-off £10 charge.

# Help and documents

[Key contacts list](#)

[Retailer list](#)

[Terms and conditions](#)

## *Terms and conditions*

Please check out the [terms and conditions](#) for more information.

The provider of this benefit is Hawk Incentives.

Most of the time you'll raise queries with the provider directly. This will be for things like help with card, transaction queries and how to use the website/app.

You can see the [contact details here](#).

Email [support@beyondcard.co.uk](mailto:support@beyondcard.co.uk)

Call 0344 879 1064 Monday to Sunday, 8am-8pm.

If you need to contact HR about your pay click on [Ask Archie](#) on the Intranet page. If Archie can't help you, he'll pass your details to the team that can.

If you're out of the business, or on leave, you can:

- ask your manager to contact Archie for you; or
- email [hronline@natwest.com](mailto:hronline@natwest.com) yourself. This email address is only for colleagues who are out of the business or on leave.

# How it works

Payroll giving is an easy way to donate to a charity of your choice.

## *About this benefit*

Payroll Giving is an Income Tax free, easy way to donate to charity directly from your pay. The Bank picks up all the admin fees so that all the money you donate goes to charity.

This benefit gives you access to an online account called a ‘My Giving Account’

You can choose to pay into your My Giving Account monthly, or make one off payments.

You can then make donations to the charity of your choice from your My Giving Account.

When you join this benefit, you’ll receive a welcome pack from the provider, Charities Trust, telling you how to log into and use your account.

## *You can start, stop or make changes to this benefit as follows:*

	New joiner window	Annual election window	Anytime window	Change in circumstances
<b>Permanent contract</b>	✓	✓	✓	✓
<b>Fixed-term contract</b>	✓	✓	✓	✓

Your new joiner window lasts for up to 3 months, then closes at the end of the month you make your first choice.

Please note: If you’re on any kind of long-term leave – such as maternity leave, unpaid sick leave, or a career break – you cannot start or increase this benefit. You may be able to change your choices when you come back from leave – if so,

we'll write to let you know. For more details, please check the policy for the type of leave you're on.

To start or increase this benefit, you must be 'actively at work'. This means you're working as usual, or just taking normal holiday.

## Cost and tax

You can either pay monthly or as a one-off into your My Giving Account.

There's no upper limit on your payments into your My Giving Account (as long as it's not higher than your pay that month).

Income Tax relief applies to your payments in line with your tax band. You don't get any National Insurance contribution savings on this benefit.

So, a payment of £10 actually costs you:

Basic rate (you pay tax at 20%)	£8.00
Higher rate (40%)	£6.00
Additional rate (45%)	£5.50

The tax rates in Scotland are slightly different and you can find more details [here on the Government website](#).

## More info

### *Payment into your My Giving Account*

Once you've chosen a payment amount, it will:

- come out of your pay the following month; then
- go into your [My Giving Account](#) about a week after that.

So if you choose to donate £50 in May, it will come out of your June pay and then go into your [My Giving Account](#) about a week after payday.

Your welcome pack will arrive, by email, on or near the payday your first payment comes out.

You can change the amount from your pay at any time on the Benefits Hub. The new amount will start from the following month.

## *Donating to charity*

You can then use your [My Giving Account](#) to:

- make a regular donation to the charity or charities of your choice
- build up a balance on your account and make a one-off donation to charity
- make donations to a colleague's 'Sponsor Me' fundraising page

Sponsor Me is an online fundraising tool, similar to JustGiving. It's managed by Charities Trust and you can find full details on [the Sponsor Me intranet page](#).

You pick the charity or charities you want to support and arrange your donations online from your [My Giving Account](#). The welcome pack explains how to do this.

## *If you leave the Bank*

We'll take any monthly amount you're paying from your final month's pay.

You can't make any more payments after you leave the Bank, but you can donate what's left in your [My Giving Account](#) to charity.

# Help and documents

If you're logged in to the NatWest Group network, you can read more about [Payroll Giving on the intranet](#).

If you have any specific questions about your existing Payroll Giving donations or [My Giving Account](#), please contact Charities Trust by email: [natwest@charitiestrust.org](mailto:natwest@charitiestrust.org) or by phone: 0151 286 5129.