

Retirement Options

When deciding on how you wish to draw your retirement benefits it is important to take into consideration all the factors that may affect your income in retirement. This is especially true if you have multiple pension arrangements subject to different rules and regulations or if the accumulated value of your pension arrangement is fairly large and you wish to consider alternatives to a conventional annuity purchase. Furthermore, you may have other non pension assets which could be used to provide an income in retirement.

For many people the decision to draw retirement benefits is a key life-changing point. In this context, 'retirement' can be a notional term as more people are choosing to take their retirement benefits whilst continuing to work.

Whatever your circumstances there are some key questions to ask yourself before selecting your retirement benefits, such as:

"Do you want guaranteed income in retirement?"

"Do you wish to draw all or just a part of your retirement benefits?"

"Do you need an income at this stage or just access to a lump sum?"

"Would you like a hands on approach to looking after your pension investments up to age seventy five?"

"What is your attitude to taking financial risks with your retirement benefits?"

CASE STUDY

Our client's retirement was forced due to ill health. He had sold his company, including the main commercial property which had been a pension scheme asset, and required an income from his pension scheme.

We had a clear idea of our client's retirement options and preferences; he preferred security of income over protection of capital. The client's medical history was severe enough to qualify for enhanced ill health annuity rates producing an income over 20% higher than offered by a standard annuity.

Our client preferred to meet our fee via a commission payment from the annuity insurer.

The retirement market has a large variety of products and service providers to suit nearly all circumstances. This ranges from conventional annuity providers, to providers of unit linked and with profits annuities, phased retirement products, income drawdown products and third way annuity products to name a few.

Don't worry if the choice appears confusing because through our Retirement Options Advisory Service we can advise you on all aspects of retirement benefits and guide you through the options available.

A key element of this advisory process is to ensure we understand your current and future needs, attitude to financial risk and financial position. It is only once these factors have been quantified that we can draw conclusions and make suitable recommendations.



For further information

Or to discuss how we may be able to help you, please contact your usual Barnett Waddingham contact or email:

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