



Notice of the Default DC Pension Scheme Selected by the ITB Pension Funds Trustee

18 November 2024



Following information contained in the May 2024 Members Newsletter about changes to the ITB Defined Contribution (DC) Scheme, the Trustee is now setting out below further information about the future of the scheme, where the funds will be transferred to and the options available to members.

Please review the information contained in this notice and consider the options you may want to take regarding your pension pot built-up to the date of transfer that is planned for September 2025. You have until May 2025 to decide what you want to do about your pot built-up to date.

WHICH SCHEME HAS THE TRUSTEE SELECTED?

On 8 November 2024, following a rigorous selection process the Trustee of the ITB Pension Funds finalised its selection of a default DC scheme to which the Trustee intends to transfer the ITB Pension Funds DC Section in September 2025. **The Trustee has selected the Legal & General WorkSave Mastertrust (L&G Mastertrust).**

Currently your pension fund is invested in the ITB Pension Funds Open Fund DC Section Master Trust (ITB DC Scheme), for which L&G already provides administration and investment services and the website and app where you can see information about your ITB DC pension. As a result, the Trustee expects that transferring to the L&G Mastertrust should be a smooth process.

FURTHER GUIDANCE

The plan to transfer the ITB DC Scheme was previously communicated to you in the May 2024 Members Newsletter. In addition, if you work for one of the participating employers you will have participated in a consultation during May and June 2024, when information was given out about the transfer plans and there was an opportunity for you to ask questions about the process.

If you wish to obtain further guidance about the transfer, please contact your employer's HR department or the ITB DC Scheme (see contact details at the end of this letter). Further information about the transfer will be included in the next Members Newsletter due to be issued in December 2024. Your employer and the ITB DC Scheme Funds Office can give you information but not advice. If you wish you may obtain further guidance from the MoneyHelper website or contact an independent financial adviser through the website [unbiased.co.uk](https://www.unbiased.co.uk).

MEMBER OPTIONS

If you are an **active member** (i.e. you are employed by one of the participating employers and are making contributions to the ITB DC Scheme) and **do not make a choice** your pension pot built-up to the date of transfer will be transferred to either the L&G Mastertrust or a scheme that may be chosen by your employer (see Employer Option below). Your contributions after the transfer date will be made to the L&G Mastertrust or the scheme chosen by your employer.

If you are a **deferred member** (i.e. you are not employed anymore by one of the participating employers and are not making any contributions to the ITB DC Scheme) and **do not make a choice** your pension pot built-up to the date of transfer will be transferred to the L&G Mastertrust.

You have the following options to consider:

(1) Your accrued rights and benefits

Your pension pot built-up to the date of transfer in September 2025 will be transferred to either:

- The scheme selected by the Trustee i.e. L&G Mastertrust or, if you are an active member and your employer chooses a different scheme, the scheme selected by your employer, or
- Your own choice of scheme, which must be a Master Trust (authorised by The Pensions Regulator) or a personal pension scheme.

Alternatively, if you are 55 years of age or over you also have the right to require the cash equivalent of your pension pot built-up to date to be used to buy one or more annuity policies from one or more insurers authorised by the Financial Conduct Authority for carrying on long-term insurance business in the United Kingdom.

(2) Future contributions

Active members making contributions after the transfer date in September 2025 will be enrolled into either the Trustee selected scheme i.e. L&G Mastertrust, or if your employer chooses a different scheme, you will be enrolled into that scheme.

EMPLOYER OPTION

Now the Trustee has selected L&G Mastertrust as its default DC Scheme, your employer can either accept the choice of the Trustee default DC Scheme or opt to nominate an alternative scheme for active members. If your employer selects its own scheme it will tell you which it is by 20 January 2025.

ACTION TO TAKE

Review the information contained in this notice and decide on the option you want to take by May 2025 regarding your pension pot built-up to the date of transfer. If unsure of which option to take you may need to take independent financial advice.



FUTURE COMMUNICATIONS

By 20 January 2025

Your employer will let you know whether it has chosen a different default DC Scheme to that chosen by the Trustee.

Following 18 February 2025

The ITB DC Scheme will confirm the default DC Scheme to which your pension pot built-up to the date of transfer will be transferred if you don't opt for your own scheme. Your future contributions made after the transfer date will be made to the default DC Scheme. The Funds will also remind you that you can make your own choice of DC Scheme where your pension pot built-up to the date of transfer can be transferred. This scheme must be a Master Trust or a personal pension scheme. If you are considering this option you should take advice from an independent financial adviser as to whether the scheme meets the requirements. You will have up to 25 May 2025 to let us know whether you have taken this option and to let us know about the scheme you have chosen.

Following 25 May 2025

If you opt to transfer your pot to your own choice of scheme we are required to notify you of the cash equivalent value of your pot. However, the amount actually transferred may be different due to investment market movements and any contributions being made up to the transfer date.

PROPOSED TRANSFER DATE

The transfer out from the ITB DC Scheme to the default DC scheme is planned for early September 2025. You will be notified of the exact transfer date nearer the time.

ITB DC SCHEME CONTACT DETAILS

Email us: pensions@itbpen.com

Phone us: 01923 226264

Write to us: ITB Pension Funds, 23 King St, Watford, Herts, WD18 0BJ