



THE LIFE & WEALTH SERIES

Planning Retirement in the Next 10–15 Years.

The decisions you make now can shape the retirement you enjoy later.

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Retirement is closer than you think.

When retirement is 10 to 15 years away, it can feel tempting to leave serious planning for later.

But this period can offer something valuable: time.

Time to review pensions. Time to reduce debt. Time to strengthen savings. Time to consider investment risk. Time to adjust your expectations. Time to think about what work, family, health and lifestyle may look like when your routine changes.

A retirement plan does not need to predict your whole future. It should help you create more choice within it.

A CHANCE TO

- *Review pensions built up during your career*
- *Check whether retirement contributions still reflect your income*
- *Reduce mortgage or other borrowing commitments*
- *Build savings for flexibility and unexpected costs*
- *Consider longer-term investments where appropriate*
- *Plan around family support and future responsibilities*
- *Think more clearly about retirement lifestyle and income needs*
- *Make decisions before they become urgent*



What should you be thinking about now?

Retirement timing

You may want to retire fully, reduce your hours, move into consultancy, run a smaller business, work part time or create more flexibility over your time. The important question is: What level of work and freedom would feel right for me?

Pensions

You may have pensions from several employers, a personal pension, older schemes or benefits you have not reviewed in years. Knowing what you have is often a useful starting point.

Lifestyle goals

You may want to travel, spend time with grandchildren, maintain your current home, move somewhere different, pursue a hobby, support a cause, continue working in a different way or simply have more time for yourself.

Investments

Investments may support longer-term goals and future flexibility, but their suitability depends on your timescale, goals, attitude to risk and ability to cope with changes in value.

Income planning

This could include workplace pensions, personal pensions, State Pension, savings, investments, property income, business income or part-time work. Understanding how these could work together can help make retirement feel more real.

Debt reduction

Many people want lower financial commitments by the time they retire. This may include mortgage planning, loans, credit commitments or business borrowing.

Retirement planning is not one question. It is a series of connected choices about the life you want later.

A CLEARER PICTURE CAN MAKE FUTURE DECISIONS
FEEL FAR LESS OVERWHELMING



A CLEARER PICTURE CAN MAKE FUTURE DECISIONS FEEL 04
FAR LESS OVERWHELMING

Bring your retirement picture together.

Over a working life, it is easy for financial arrangements to build up in different places. Bringing these elements together can help you understand what progress you have already made.

PENSIONS

Workplace pensions, personal pensions, defined benefit benefits, older plans and any features or guarantees that need careful consideration.

PROPERTY AND BORROWING

Your home, mortgage balance, expected repayment date, property plans and any borrowing that could continue into retirement.

FAMILY RESPONSIBILITIES

Support for children, parents, a partner, grandchildren or others who may depend on you financially or practically.

FUTURE LIFESTYLE GOALS

Travel, hobbies, home improvements, work flexibility, volunteering, family time, relocation or the freedom to choose how you spend your time.

SAVINGS AND INVESTMENTS

Cash savings, ISAs, investment portfolios, shares, bonds or other assets that may support future flexibility.

INCOME

Employment income, business income, bonuses, dividends, rental income and any other sources that may influence your ability to prepare.

PROTECTION AND RESILIENCE

Life insurance, income protection, critical illness cover, workplace benefits and accessible savings.

A retirement plan should not only answer "How much do I have?" It should help answer "What could this make possible?"

Defining what retirement means to you.

Many people say they want to retire. But retirement can mean very different things. A meaningful plan begins with understanding what you want the next chapter to feel like.

Retirement is not one fixed destination. It is the freedom to shape your time around what matters most.

WORK

You may want to continue working because you enjoy it, or because it gives you structure. You may prefer part-time work, consultancy, mentoring, running a small business or taking on projects selectively.

PURPOSE

Work can provide routine, identity, friendships, challenge and purpose. Thinking about what could replace or reshape those things can be just as important as planning your pension income.

TRAVEL

You may want to travel more in the earlier years of retirement, visit family abroad, or spend longer periods away. Travel goals can affect the level and timing of income you may need.

FAMILY

You may want more time with children or grandchildren, the ability to support family when needed or the flexibility to provide care to loved ones.

FLEXIBILITY

It could mean being able to leave a demanding job, reduce hours, move home, change lifestyle or respond calmly if life changes unexpectedly.

Understanding your retirement position.

One of the most common questions people ask is: "Am I on track?" The honest answer is that this depends on more than the value of a pension pot. Understanding your position means looking at the whole picture.

INCOME NEEDS

Think about what life may cost when work becomes less central. This can include essential spending such as housing, food, utilities, insurance, transport and regular commitments – as well as the things that make retirement enjoyable.

PENSIONS

Check the pensions you have, how they work, the benefits they provide and what income they may potentially support. Older pension arrangements may include features or guarantees that should be understood.

INVESTMENTS

Investments may provide longer-term growth or future flexibility. However, they can rise and fall in value, and the right approach will depend on your goals, timescale and tolerance for risk.

ASSETS

Your wider position may include property, savings, investments, business interests and other assets. These may all play a role in your future choices.

The value of investments and pensions, and the income they produce, can fall as well as rise, and you may get back less than you invested.

Retirement planning is not a pass-or-fail test. It is an opportunity to understand what may need adjusting while you still have time to act.



Bridging the gap between today and retirement.

- 01

Additional saving

You may decide to build more accessible savings for future flexibility, unexpected costs or lifestyle goals. Saving can help create breathing room before and during retirement.
- 02

Pension contributions

Reviewing contributions may be one way to strengthen planning. The right level depends on affordability, existing arrangements, goals, income and wider financial commitments.
- 03

Investment planning

Investments may play a role for longer-term goals where you have sufficient cash reserves and can accept the possibility of changes in value. The purpose of investments should be clear.

Tax rules and pension allowances can change, and their impact depends on individual circumstances.

RETIREMENT FORECASTING

What happens if you retire earlier or later?

What if you increase pension contributions?

What if your mortgage continues into retirement?

What if spending is higher in the first years of retirement?

What if you continue working part time?

What if you need to support your family?

The purpose of forecasting is not to predict the future perfectly. It is to help you make better decisions before the future arrives.

Common retirement planning mistakes.



Leaving it too late

Retirement planning can feel easier to delay when work is busy and retirement is not immediate. But the closer retirement becomes, the less time there may be to change contributions, reduce debt or rethink plans.



Ignoring inflation

Inflation can reduce the purchasing power of money over time. A retirement income that feels comfortable today may need to increase in future to maintain the same lifestyle.



Treating retirement as a single date

Retirement may be a gradual transition. You may reduce your hours, take on consultancy, work part time, sell a business, move home or change lifestyle over several years.



Underestimating spending

Many people focus on essential bills but underestimate lifestyle spending. Travel, hobbies, home improvements, gifts, family support and social life can all be part of retirement.



Not reviewing pensions

Older pensions may have different charges, benefits, investment approaches or retirement options. Reviewing means understanding what you have before decisions need to be made.

"The most expensive retirement mistakes are often the ones made because there was not enough time left to think."

Creating sustainable retirement income.

Retirement income may come from several sources: Pensions, State Pension, Savings, Investments, Rental income, Business income, Part-time work and other assets. The challenge is creating income that remains sustainable, flexible and connected to the life you want.

ESSENTIAL SPENDING

The costs that need to be covered regularly, such as housing, utilities, food, insurance, transport and other commitments.

SHORT-TERM FLEXIBILITY

Accessible savings may help cover unexpected costs or planned spending without needing to make rushed decisions.

CHANGING NEEDS

Spending may not be the same in every stage. You may spend more in the earlier years on travel, then have different priorities later.

LIFESTYLE SPENDING

Travel, hobbies, gifts, family support, social activities and the experiences that make retirement enjoyable.

LONGER-TERM GROWTH

Retirement may last many years. In some circumstances, investments may remain important for future growth and inflation protection.

The value of investments and pensions, and the income they produce, can fall as well as rise. You may get back less than you invested.

A good retirement income plan is not only designed to pay bills. It is designed to support life.



Retirement is more than a financial event.

Retirement planning is often discussed in numbers: Pension values, income projections, mortgage balances. These things matter, but retirement also changes how you see yourself.

A successful retirement is not only about having enough money.

It is about having enough choice to live in a way that feels meaningful to you.

PURPOSE

Work may have provided challenge, routine, recognition, friendships and a sense of purpose. Thinking about what you want to do with your time can help make the transition feel more positive.

RELATIONSHIPS

Retirement can change household routines and family relationships. You may spend more time with a partner, support children or grandchildren differently, or reconnect with friends.

LIFESTYLE

You may want more time at home, more travel, a new hobby, a move closer to family, volunteering, learning, sport, community involvement or a different pace of life.

IDENTITY

For some people, stepping back from work can be exciting. For others, it can feel unfamiliar. It is worth considering what you want the next chapter to mean personally.



The retirement planning process.

1

START WITH YOUR LIFE

We discuss what retirement means to you. When would you like more freedom? What does a good future look like? What do you want your money to make possible?

2

BUILD THE FINANCIAL PICTURE

We bring together the areas that may be relevant: pensions, savings, investments, property, mortgages, income, protection, family support and future plans.

3

UNDERSTAND THE GAP

We explore where you are today, what you may need later and which assumptions deserve testing, including timing and expected spending.

4

EXPLORE YOUR OPTIONS

We consider the possible routes available, involving pension planning, investment planning, mortgage decisions, protection or savings.

5

BUILD A PRACTICAL ROADMAP

The aim is to create a clearer route forward, with practical next steps and enough flexibility to adapt when circumstances change.

6

REVIEW AS LIFE DEVELOPS

Retirement plans should evolve. Career changes, family responsibilities, market conditions and personal goals can all affect the plan over time.

Your retirement roadmap should not tell you how to live. It should help give you more confidence in the choices ahead.



START A CONVERSATION

The years ahead can create more options than you think.

Tell us what you want retirement to look like, what you would like more freedom to do and where you would like more clarity. Together, we can explore the options available and build a roadmap that fits your life. We help clients bring together pensions, investments, protection, mortgage planning, retirement income and wider financial goals where relevant.

SPEAK TO US

EMAIL

team@roxtonwealth.com

PHONE

02039 172650

WHATSAPP

+44 7949 690059

WEBSITE

www.roxtonwealth.com

OUR OFFICES

London — Head Office

Roxton Wealth, ER76, The Link Business Centre,
49 Effra Road, London, SW2 1BZ

Cardiff — Wales Office

Roxton Wealth, Sophia House,
28 Cathedral Road, Cardiff, CF11 9LJ

Edinburgh — Scotland Office

Roxton Wealth, Westpoint, 4 Redheughs Rigg,
South Gyle, Edinburgh, EH12 9DQ

Remote — UK-Wide

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FINANCE THAT FITS YOU

Important information.



SCOPE & RISK WARNINGS

This guide is for general information and education only. It does not constitute personal financial, pension, investment, mortgage, protection, tax or legal advice.

Any personal recommendation will be based on your individual circumstances, needs and objectives following a full assessment where required.

Retirement planning involves assumptions about future income, spending, investment returns, inflation, tax treatment, life expectancy and other personal circumstances. Outcomes cannot be guaranteed. Tax treatment depends on individual circumstances and may change in the future.

The value of investments and pensions, and the income they produce, can fall as well as rise. You may get back less than you invested. Your home may be repossessed if you do not keep up repayments on your mortgage. Insurance policies are subject to terms, conditions, exclusions and underwriting.

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Plan with clarity. Build with purpose.

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