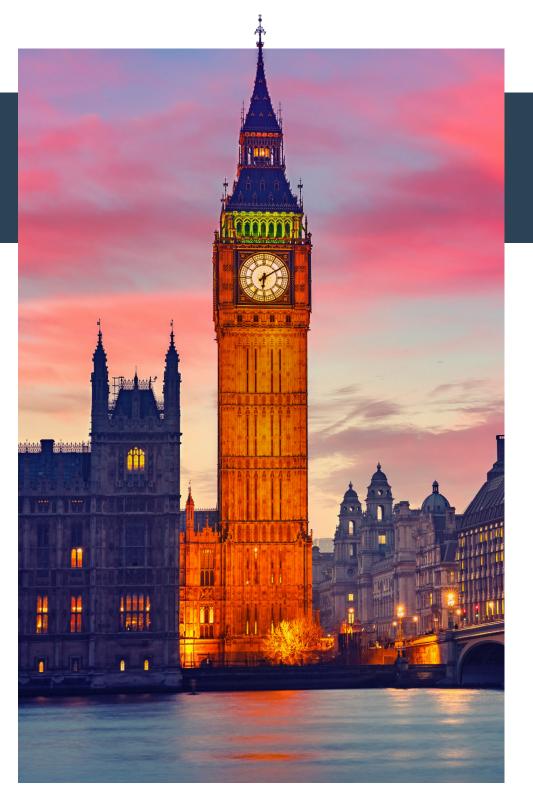
## INSIGHT

A WEALTH OF ADVICE









THE ECONOMIC AND MARKET IMPACT OF A CHANGE IN GOVERNMENT

SURVEY PROVIDES GREATER INSIGHT TO HELP BUSINESSES SUCCEED AND GROW

4 TAX SAVING TIPS FOR EMPLOYEES

TRANSFORM YOUR HOME IN 2024

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## WELCOME

### Welcome to our latest issue of Insight – A Wealth of Advice

As the new Labour Government takes charge, individuals and businesses may be considering potential changes in policies and taxes that will inevitably follow a change in Government. Justin Rourke, Armstrong Watson Financial Planning's Head of Advice, discusses what changes could be on the horizon and how you can make use of allowances and reliefs currently available, whilst ensuring your financial plan is well placed to adapt.

### Also included in this edition of Insight:

The economic and market impact of a change in government - The market response to Labour's election victory was limited, with both UK equities and gilts neutral to slightly positive in the week following the election. Where markets go from here will depend in part on the success Chancellor Rachel Reeves has in shaping the economy to her liking but also on wider factors, over which she has limited influence.

**Survey provides greater insight to help businesses succeed and grow -** Armstrong Watson's latest Family Owned, Privately Owned and Owner Managed Business Survey has given us a greater understanding of the challenges these businesses face, what their aspirations are and how they plan to achieve, which is crucial if we are to support their longevity, stability and continued economic and societal contribution.

We hope you enjoy this issue of our magazine. If there are any topics you would like us to cover in a future edition of Insight, please get in touch. If you would prefer to download a digital copy or subscribe to new issues electronically, please visit:

www.armstrongwatson.info/Insight





PAUL DICKSON

CHIEF EXECUTIVE AND
MANAGING PARTNER

ARMSTRONG WATSON LLP

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LEGISLATION LEGISLATION

## Financial planning under a Labour Government

The Labour Party's election victory was widely predicted by most commentators over the last 12 months and therefore has not come as a shock to the public or the markets.

### **Market perspective**

This expected result is good news from a market perspective, as one thing the markets don't like is surprises (conversely the current political flux in France may create some uncertainty).

Good financial planning consists of robust analysis of risk and capacity for loss, identifying the correct investment time frame and ensuring that this is reviewed on a regular basis. In this regard nothing has changed, investments are intended to be long term, and the change of government should have no major bearing on a well-established investment strategy.

### **Potential tax changes**

There remains a significant amount of speculation around changes in taxation allowances, exemptions and rates. It seems likely we may see changes to capital gains tax (CGT), which has been the subject of much crystal ball gazing, whilst Inheritance Tax (IHT) and associated reliefs are also potential areas of change.

At this time, nothing has yet changed. Labour's first Budget looks set to take place in the autumn and will map out the plans over the next tax years.

With eight months of the current tax year remaining, the message is simple, use the allowances you have now. It is a nuance of the political system that any party is elected without any clear plans on what they will implement, and even then it has to be ratified by Parliament - all of which adds up to an excellent opportunity to plan proactively and use the allowances and exemptions that are still available to you.

#### **Use pension allowances**

The current pension landscape remains very attractive with an annual allowance of £60,000, no Lifetime Allowance tax charge and income tax relief across each of the marginal rates of tax. Each of these points will come under review from the Labour Chancellor and her team. They may choose to make some changes or reductions, such as limiting tax relief on contributions to the basic rate of tax only. It is an unenviable task of balancing this against the need to encourage people to save for their retirement.

Again, it is important to use the allowances available to you now then your plan can be adapted in the future if changes in legislation come.



#### **ISAs**

In the recent past Labour have indicated that they would look to simplify the ISA landscape. I think this change would be welcomed, as the ISA is a key component to building a balanced financial plan.

ISAs have been over complicated by a number of variations/versions all of which do not mask the fact that there has been no increase in the annual allowance of £20,000 for several years.

Whilst I would welcome simplification, there is no guarantee that the allowance will increase or even remain at £20,000.

### **Navigating change**

In a world of social media and a plethora of 24-hour news outlets, it is easy to get lost in a mass of information and misinformation. The worst thing for an induvial financial plan at this time is 'paralysis by analysis.'

It may be that some of the current allowances reduce or disappear in due course. The new Government has a lot to do and some changes will take longer than others or may never materialise.

A good financial plan will be diversified across tax wrappers (ISA, Pension, General Investment Account, Onshore Bond) and will be well placed to adapt, and a good financial planning relationship will consist of regular contact and review meetings.

To find out more about the economic and market impact of a change in government, please refer to page 13.



Reach out to your financial planning consultant or if you don't have one, get in touch with the team at Armstrong Watson for a review of your financial plan and use the allowances, reliefs and exemptions that you do have (rather than worry about what you might not have in the future).

Call O8O8 144 5575 or email help@armstrongwatson.co.uk

**JUSTIN ROURKE** 

FINANCIAL PLANNING DIRECTOR & HEAD OF ADVICE - PENRITH

FINANCIAL PLANNING
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## 4 tax saving tips for employees

It can be easy to overlook tax opportunities that can save you money, but here are four little-known tax rules/reliefs that you may be able to take advantage of.

### 1. Tax relief on Mileage claims

You can claim tax relief if your employer pays a mileage rate less than the statutory rates for business trips in your own car (45p per mile up to 10,000 miles in the tax year, 25p thereafter).

For instance, if your employer pays 30p per mile and you have travelled 5,000 business miles, you can claim tax relief on 5,000 miles at 15p, (a total of £750). A basic rate tax payer would receive a refund from HMRC of £150 on this claim, a higher rate taxpayer £300. If you've travelled 10,000 miles you claim twice as much as this.

### 2. Tax relief for temporary workplace meal costs

You can claim tax relief on a fixed lunch allowance of £5 from HMRC if you attend a temporary workplace (some distance from your normal workplace) for a period of more than five hours and your employer does not pay you a lunch allowance / reimburse lunch costs.

For example, if you travel on business to meetings across the country 20 times a year, you could lodge a claim for relief for £5 x 20, i.e. £100 to HMRC. This would equate to a £20 tax refund for a basic rate taxpayer and £40 for a higher rate taxpayer.

"It may cost you less money to hand back the fuel card and pay for the fuel yourself and claim a mileage rate for business journeys"







### 3. Company car fuel cards and private usage

If your employer pays for all fuel (private and business miles) in your company car, and you suffer a significant fuel tax charge on your P11D, it may cost you less money to hand back the fuel card and pay for the fuel yourself and claim a mileage rate for business journeys.

If you drove 8,000 private miles a year in a car averaging 40mpg and the fuel costs £1.50 per litre, you would pay £1,193 at the pump. The fuel scale charge on an average car with CO2 emissions of 20% is £5,560 which equates to a tax charge of £2,224 for a higher rate taxpayer. Paying for fuel personally could therefore save around £1,000 per year.

### 4. Flat Rate Expenses for clothing and equipment

HMRC allows a Flat Rate Expense to be applied to your tax code to provide relief in respect of minor items of clothing or equipment you may need to do your job if you work in specific industries such as agriculture, construction, healthcare and heating. These Flat Rate Expenses are standardised and pre-approved for each qualifying industry sector.

For example, all agricultural employees can claim a Flat Rate Expense of £100. This equates to a tax saving of £20 a year for basic rate taxpayers and £40 a year for higher rate taxpayers.



While some of the reliefs are small gains, it is important to review your expenses, particularly if the examples above resonate with you, as it all adds up. For more information and advice, please get it touch.

Call O8O8 144 5575 or email help@armstrongwatson.co.uk

**BRIAN RUDKIN**EMPLOYMENT TAX PARTNER - CARLISLE

FINANCIAL PLANNING
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## Survey provides insight to help businesses succeed and grow

Understanding what makes family, privately owned, and owner-managed businesses successful, the challenges they face, what their aspirations are and how they plan to achieve them is crucial if we are to support their longevity, stability and continued economic and societal contribution.

Armstrong Watson's latest Family Owned, Privately Owned and Owner Managed Business Survey aimed to do just that and thanks to 300 business owners we now have an even greater insight to help businesses in this sector.

Respondents shared their views about the impact of recruitment challenges, how they are adapting to the evolving digital world and how they plan to innovate and grow. They also voiced their concerns about the impact of external pressures and the issues that will impact business growth over the next three years, as well as their plans for succession.

Here we look at some of the key challenges highlighted by survey respondents and consider suggestions for support.

### **Cashflow**

49% of business owners are worried about the impact of cashflow and not having enough to cover their outgoings. Working capital and invoice finance solutions remain the preferred method for many to help with monthly cashflow management, but we have seen an increase in those respondents considering bank loans, with 24% in 2024 compared with 15% in 2018 (our previous survey).

While banks and other lenders may address the immediate problem, it is important to ensure that you consider the risks that creates, such as how the debt will be repaid in event of a key employee's inability to perform their role due to illness or death.

Raising capital for investment in the business can be another challenge, again traditional lenders may be the solution (which exposes the business to similar risks to those above), but new investors may be an alternative. Alterations to shareholdings will require careful planning to ensure tax implications and ownership disputes are minimised in event of the death of a shareholder.

#### Recruitment

A third of all businesses said they find it 'very difficult to recruit'. This is up 8% from the last survey in 2018, despite 65% making changes to help with recruitment. With a lack of suitable candidates and inability to find people to carry out the roles listed as the key reasons, many (65%) have implemented changes to help encourage candidates to apply including 43% who have improved benefits packages such as better pensions or using schemes such as salary sacrifice.

Employee benefits were highlighted as a great tool in an employer's armoury to help with continuing recruitment issues, seeking professional and independent financial advice – both from an employer and employee perspective – is always recommended.



67%

of business owners plan to leave their business within the next 10 years.

#### Succession

Two thirds of business owners (67%) plan to leave their business within the next 10 years. When asked about their plans for exiting the business, 35% said they plan to pass it on to their children, 21% will cease trading, while 10% haven't considered how they will leave their business. Another 10% plan to sell to a third party who will carry on the ethos and values of the business while 9% would sell to the highest bidder. Meanwhile 22% of business owners said they do not consider their business to be structured correctly to maximise the return from a future sale and 33% do not know if this is the case. We can help you to shape your business to optimise value, find a suitable buyer and translate the proceeds into helping you achieve your goals, whatever they might be.

The succession or sale of a business requires careful consideration and planning to ensure it can be successful for many years to come. The sooner you prepare your business for succession, the better. The familiar phrase of 'failing to plan is planning to fail' could not be more relevant here. Decide what you want the transition to look like and what you want to do afterwards, then plan accordingly and ensure that any tax implications of changes are properly considered.



If you are looking for advice on any of the topics covered, please don't hesitate to get in touch.

To view the full report please visit www.armstrongwatson.info/survey24

**STEVEN CONCHIE**FINANCIAL PLANNING CONSULTANT - DUMFRIES

FEATURED ARTICLE
FEATURED ARTICLE

## Transform your home in 2024

Summer is often a time for making home improvements. The lighter evenings and the feeling of longer days can provide that extra encouragement to invest in our properties, whether that's for our own comfort and enjoyment, to help increase the value for a potential sale, or as part of continued maintenance and avoiding costly future replacement or repair.

Here we look at some of the current trends for those looking to invest in their homes:

### **Outdoor living spaces**

Outdoor living spaces are being transformed into luxurious extensions of the home. These spaces often feature state-of-the-art outdoor kitchens, bars, and comfortable seating areas. Other popular features include fire pits and outdoor fireplaces, water features, and beautifully landscaped gardens. These luxury home improvements not only enhance the aesthetic appeal of your home but also provide functional spaces for relaxation and entertainment, optimising your leisure time at home, particularly in the summer months.

### **Energy efficient upgrades**

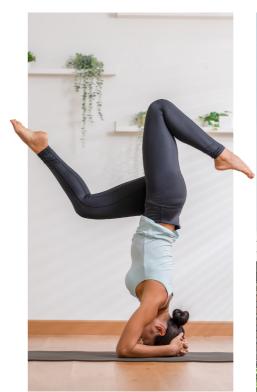
With rising energy costs and environmental concerns, as well as creating stylish spaces, energy efficiency is a top priority for many homeowners. Installing energy-efficient windows, programmable thermostats, LED lighting, and solar panels are some of the sought-after home improvements that not only reduce utility bills but also contribute to a greener planet. You might also consider integrating smart technology - smart switches and outlets - that can be controlled from a mobile app, or even smart water systems to monitor and optimise your water usage.

### Wellness spaces

With a focus on selfcare and physical and mental wellbeing, you may decide to invest in a space where you can relax and unwind or keep fit. Whether this is a home spa, a gym, a swimming pool or simply repurposing a room for yoga or meditation, creating a wellness space in your home will help you prioritise more time for you.

### **Practical upgrades**

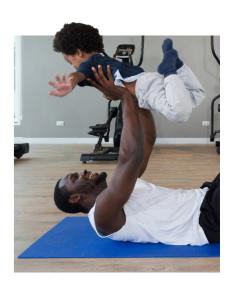
Following the pandemic, when thousands of workers could no longer make the commute to their workplace, remote working continues to be prevalent. Creating a dedicated and comfortable workspace at home is becoming a popular trend. Not only is having a well-equipped home office practical but it can improve productivity and create a better work-life balance – if you know when to leave the office.













PENSIONS PENSIONS



## Don't forget pensions when you divorce

NICK BIRTLE
FINANCIAL PLANNING CONSULTANT - PENRITH

Divorce is undoubtably one of the most difficult subjects to talk about when relationships come to an end. There are so many things to consider, with home and support naturally being the first area you should and would focus on. In fact, when you begin the process of separating a shared life the sheer number of things to deal with can seem overwhelming, and related to this is, the cost of divorce can have a lasting impact on your plans for later life.

Divorce is an emotional and stressful period for those who have to go through it, however it's important that people think of valuable assets, such as pensions, when considering how they split their money.



Offsetting - where the pension assets can be offset against other assets of the divorcing parties

**Pension sharing orders** - where pension assets are divided at the time of divorce and there is a clean financial break

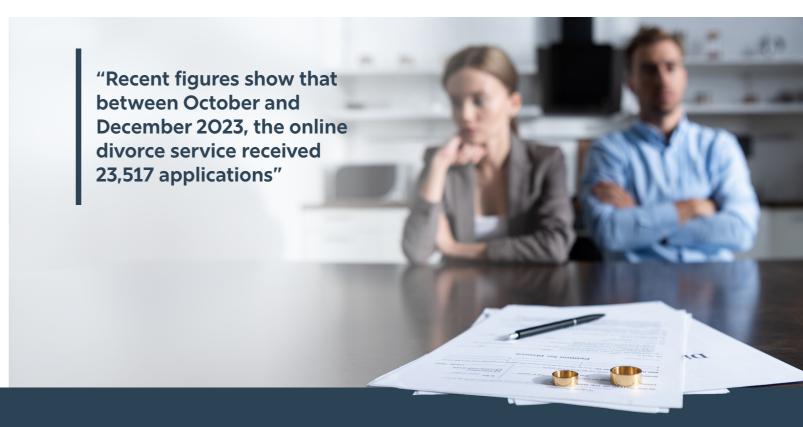
Pension attachment orders - also known as 'pension earmarking', where the pension provider of one party pays an agreed amount direct to the former spouse when the pension rights come into payment. This does not represent a clean financial break between the couple and risks the loss of future income for the former spouse if the person with the pension rights dies before retiring or the former spouse remarries

### A change in the process

Before April 2018 spouses had to submit divorce paperwork to the courts. Since then spouses have been able to complete the divorce application process online. This means that instead of posting paperwork, those wanting to file for divorce can complete applications, upload the documents needed and pay fees online. Recent figures show that between October and December 2023, the online divorce service received 23,517 applications. Filing a petition for divorce has also become much easier following the introduction of the 'no-fault' divorce law in April 2022. As women typically reach retirement with far less saved than men,due to gender pay differences and women taking career breaks, there is a danger that they will come off worse financially in a "Do it Yourself" divorce.

### You only get one chance to get it right!

Careful consideration and research are needed before deciding to "Do it Yourself". If it is looking to be complicated, then divorcees need to make sure they are receiving professional legal and also financial advice before, during and after any divorce case to ensure any settlement is fair for all parties involved. Whilst keeping the family home may seem the most important thing at the time of the divorce, a spouse's pension pot is likely to be one of the largest assets. It is very important that pensions are not ignored, as whilst they might not have an immediate impact, they will do so later on in someone's life.



### Why divorcees should think about retirement plans

By splitting your pension assets it could lower the potential income you may have in retirement. The Retirement Living Standards, based on independent research by Loughborough University, help to picture what kind of lifestyle you could have in retirement at three different levels – Minimum, Moderate and Comfortable – and what goods and services would cost for each level.

A single person will need about £14,400 a year to achieve the minimum living standard, £31,300 a year for moderate, and £43,100 a year for a comfortable lifestyle. For couples, it is £22,400, £43,100 and £59,000 respectively

- A 'minimum' lifestyle covers all your needs, with some left over for fun and social occasions. You could holiday in the UK, eat out about once a month and do some affordable leisure activities about twice a week.
- A 'moderate' lifestyle provides more financial security and more flexibility. You could have one foreign holiday a year and eat out a few times a month. You'd have the opportunity to do more of the things you want to do.

 A 'comfortable' lifestyle allows you to be more spontaneous with your money. You could have a subscription to a streaming service, regular beauty treatments and two foreign holidays a year.

It is also important to update any beneficiaries to pensions following divorce. This is an often overlooked but simple job to tell your pension providers who you would want to benefit from your pensions on death. If you have any questions regarding divorce or pensions in general please reach out for a free initial conversation.

At Armstrong Watson Financial Planning & Wealth Management, we work alongside you and your legal representatives to help build and support your retirement plans and regularly review these so you know if you will remain on track. Where appropriate, we can also use cashflow forecasting to allow you to better understand your plans and arrangements to help you make informed decisions.

Please get in touch if you would like to discuss your plans for retirement with a member of our financial planning team.

# The economic and market impact of a change in government

The UK has a new government. In the short term, the market response to this was limited, with both UK equities and gilts neutral to slightly positive in the week following the election. With a large Labour majority having been widely expected, this result had been 'priced in' by investors in the run-up to the vote, explaining the lack of big reaction.

Where markets go from here, however, will depend in part on the success Chancellor Rachel Reeves has in shaping the economy to her liking but also on wider factors, over which she has limited influence.



### **Outside the Chancellor's control**

The paths of inflation and interest rates stand out as critical factors affecting market sentiment and remain largely independent of the new government. In May, UK CPI declined to 2%, aligning with the Bank of England's inflation target for the first time since July 2O21. This raised hopes of an interest rate cut in the coming months, particularly as inflation is also falling in Europe and the US. However, as our experience over the past year has shown, interest rate expectations can shift rapidly. Inflation is forecast to rise again in the second half of 2O24, with high wage growth a major contributor to persistently high inflation in the services sector.

Furthermore, the UK economy has outpaced expectations this year, with Q1 data exceeding projections. Q2 also appears to be improving, with May's growth twice the expected rate, at 0.4%. Enhanced economic growth is undoubtedly a positive development, evident in the recent strength of the British pound. Meanwhile, individuals receiving pay raises above the inflation rate are unlikely to voice complaints. However, if these signs of strength lead the Bank of England to delay interest rate cuts, it could dampen the anticipated stimulatory effect on domestic equity and bond markets compared to what might have otherwise occurred.

### **Political stability**

Turning attention to the potential impact of the new government on markets, there are a few points to consider. The prime minister has a large parliamentary majority and has appointed a fiscally orthodox chancellor who, while in opposition, regularly consulted business leaders when shaping policy and it seems will likely continue to do so now she is in office. As such, it appears that the new government has the potential to deliver a period of political stability and believes a successful business environment is key to delivering higher economic growth.

The UK has faced challenges in maintaining political stability in recent years and this has impacted the UK's desirability as an investment destination. If the new government can foster a business-friendly environment for both domestic and international companies, then the UK economy as well as markets should face improved prospects.

### **Policy impact**

We will need to wait until a full Budget in the autumn to get a clear picture of the outlook for taxes and spending, but that doesn't stop the chancellor from making other announcements before then. In the days after the election she delivered a major speech on planning reform, with the aim to increase house building, while

she has also announced the launch of a £7.3bn National Wealth Fund focused on stimulating the green economy, unlocking much higher levels of private investment in the sectors. The launch of GB Energy will also be a way for the government to support a target industry.

These projects' full impact will unfold over several years and they are therefore unlikely to have a significant effect on economic figures in the short term. Nonetheless, it is positive that the government appears to prioritise productivity improvement. The chancellor may yet lose favour with investment markets, particularly if unfunded spending commitments or suffocating tax rises are enacted in the coming months. Yet, so far, markets view Rachel Reeves and her declaration that higher growth is a "national mission" favourably.

### An improving economy

Against this background, investors will anxiously await the Budget for further details on the government's fiscal policy, yet they have taken comfort from Rachel Reeves' early indications of support for the business community. This will be far from a cure for all the challenges faced by markets, but with lower inflation, improving economic growth and the potential for greater political stability, the UK economy is in an improving environment.



RICHARD COLE
FUND MANAGER
FUTURE MONEY LTD

### **Important Information**

Please note that the contents are based on the author's opinion and are not intended as investment advice. This information is aimed at professional advisers and should not be relied upon by any other persons.

Any research is for information only, does not constitute financial advice or necessarily reflect the views of the author and is subject to change.

It remains the responsibility of the financial adviser to verify the accuracy of the information and assess whether the fund is suitable and appropriate for their customer.

Past performance is not a reliable indicator of future performance. The value of investments and the income derived from them can fall as

Please note that the contents are based on well as rise and investors may get back less than the author's opinion and are not intended as they invested.

Important information about the funds can be found in the Supplementary Information Document and NURS-KII Document which are available on our website or on request.

For any information about the Future Money funds please contact the authorised corporate director, Margetts Fund Management Ltd, on O121 236 2380, admin@margetts.com or at 1 Sovereign Court, Graham Street, Birmingham B1 3JR. A copy of their Terms of Business which relates to investments into the funds can also be obtained using these contact details.

## Audit your NHS pension to identify costly errors

The prevalence of errors in NHS pension records is a pressing issue, with reports of nearly 20% of records containing mistakes. These errors can lead to significant financial consequences, from incorrect annual allowance tax charges to discrepancies in accrued pension benefits.

### **Protect your NHS pension**

Here are a few steps that might help in ensuring the accuracy of NHS pension records:

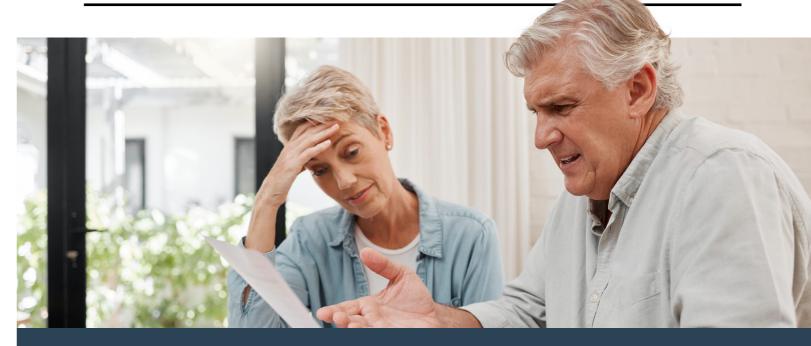
- 1. Regularly check pension statements: It's important to regularly check pension statements and understand them. If there are any discrepancies, they should be reported immediately.
- 2. Understand pensionable pay: Pensionable pay forms the basis of your pension benefits. It's crucial to understand what constitutes pensionable pay and ensure its reported correctly.
- 3. Keep track of annual allowance: It is important to ensure your annual allowance position is in order. It is your responsibility for this to be correct. Do you understand the impact of scheme pays charges on your benefits at retirement? Are you owed any tax back?

#### Example:

We recently reviewed a clients full annual allowance position, when accounting for the remedy period following the McCloud judgement, the client will see a reduction in the value of annual allowance tax charges by £26,000.

- 4. Personal pension contributions: Understand how your personal pension contributions or FSAVC contributions interact with your NHS pension. There are great planning opportunities for medics who hold a personal pension or FSAVCs alongside the NHS pension. It is important to understand how best to utilise these pots of money.
- 5. Seek professional advice: If you're unsure about anything, it's always a good idea to seek advice from a professional who specialises in NHS pensions as the intricacies of the schemes can be challenging to navigate.

As noted above it is important to understand what constitutes pensionable pay and where errors can arise from.



### Reasons to audit your pension record

You should consider completing an audit of your NHS pension record if the follow areas apply to you:

Have you worked part-time and has this been reported correctly?

### Example:

We spotted an error with how part-time pay had been reported, the issue stemmed from being reported as an hourly rate not a session rate, resulting in the reported pensionable pay being wildly inflated. As a result an annual allowance tax charge of £20,000 was wrongly paid. The client will be able to claim back the full amount.

- Are you on the correct pay increment? If you are a consultant, do you know how far up the consultant pay threshold you should be?
- Have you had a management responsibility? Should this have been reported as pensionable or non-pensionable?
- Have you received pay arrears payments? If so, your pension record should be adjusted so that the pay is credited to the correct year.
- Are you a General Practitioner? Do you know if your record is up to date, what could a missing Type 1 Annual Certificate mean for your pension record?

These example highlight several of the top culprits resulting in errors within NHS pension records, but due to the complexities of NHS pension schemes, this list is not exhaustive. What often look like small clerical errors can have a detrimental impact on your retirement.



There are a multitude of areas that can impact your NHS pension record which is why it is important to ensure it is accurate. For support and to help ensure no costly errors are impacting your pension, please get in touch.

Call O8O8 144 5575 or email help@armstrongwatson.co.uk

**BENJAMIN WALSH**FINANCIAL PLANNING CONSULTANT - LEEDS

## Meet the adviser – Barry Fitzsimmons

FINANCIAL PLANNING CONSULTANT - KENDAL

### Describe a typical working day

My typical day starts at 7am with a commute to the office in Kendal. I listen to the radio to stay updated on current affairs and any news that may be relevant for client meetings. I meet with my Financial Planning Assistant, Heather Fletcher, and we plan for the current day and the days ahead. This can include briefings for upcoming meetings as well as a debrief from the previous day's meetings.

Typically, a day could include two appointments, client phone calls, emails, and general administrative tasks such as report writing. Client meetings are either held at the clients' homes or at our office.

In a recent appointment I discussed cash flow planning with two clients who are approaching retirement. We reviewed their finances for the remainder of their lifetimes discussing scenarios such as income requirements for retirement, what would happen to their total investment holdings were they to move home, how much to put aside for annual holidays and placing funds into trusts for future inheritance. The clients left content, knowing that they had the funds to be able to retire and they could withstand market fluctuations.



### What do you enjoy most about providing financial advice?

I enjoy being a financial adviser because I have a passion for helping people. I love finding solutions to problems and assisting clients in achieving their personal and financial ambitions. I take a real interest in people, establishing their lifetime objectives and goals.

I truly enjoy helping clients, reviewing their situation and their investments, ensuring their money is invested in accordance with their attitude to risk and preferred investment strategy, and reviewing the performance of various funds. I strive to make advice accessible to everyone and aim to communicate my recommendations to clients in a straightforward manner that they can easily understand.



### What's the best piece of advice anyone has ever given you?

The best advice I have received is to brush your teeth twice a day. I recently lost a tooth, and fortunately, it is not in a prominent position, but I was looking in the mirror all weekend. So now I brush them three times a day!

## When you're not supporting and advising clients what do you enjoy doing in your spare time?

I really enjoy spending time with my wife and children. My wife and I always strive to put the children first. In the evenings, I am a full-time taxi driver, taking my son to football training and my daughters to dancing, Guides, and the youth club.

I am also fortunate (some might say) to have had two season tickets for Liverpool FC for more than 25 years. This is a real passion of mine, and I regularly take my children to the matches. I also enjoy running and recently completed the London Marathon. Additionally, I enjoy going to the pub with my friends, although I am sure drinking and running is not a great combination.

## You're about to retire on an unlimited budget what's the first thing you'd do?

If I had an unlimited budget, I would buy a new campervan and ideally spend the winter in the mountains skiing. In the summer, I would travel the world. However, as I have gotten older and wiser, my objective is to remain fit, active and healthy, and spend time with loved ones whilst having financial security.



### If there was one financial tip you could offer readers what would it be?

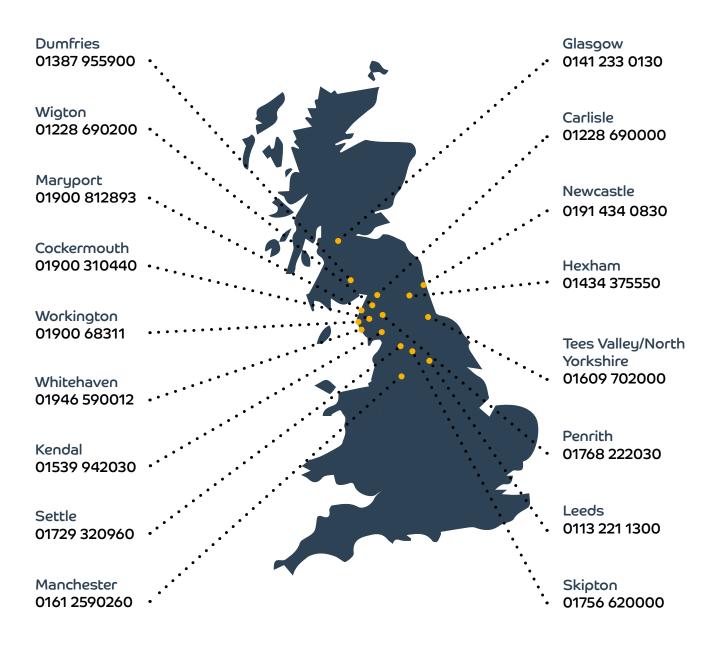
One financial tip I would give to anyone is to take the time to review your finances regularly. Don't delay, as making changes to your investments can have a significant impact on your financial situation, providing you with peace of mind and greater security. If it's not important to you it could well be to your family. There are investment strategies that can offer substantial benefits, and professional advice is worth the investment.



66

I am also fortunate (some might say) to have had two season tickets for Liverpool FC for more than 25 years. This is a real passion of mine, and I regularly take my children to the matches.

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