



Business Services
Organisation


HSC Pension Service

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your pension **CHOICE**

Important information

You need to read this leaflet if you are a member of the HSC Pension Scheme and joined before 1 April 2008*

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This leaflet tells you about an important decision you will be asked to make. This decision is called Your Pension Choice. This leaflet tells you:

- What Your Pension Choice is.
- When you should expect to receive Your Pension Choice Pack.
- What you need to do about Your Pension Choice.

* If you joined the HSC Pension Scheme on or after 1 April 2008, but were previously a member before 1 April 2008 you should also read this leaflet as it may still be relevant to you.

What is Your Pension Choice?

Following a review of the NHS and HSC Pension Schemes carried out in partnership by trades unions and employers' organisations, a new section of the HSC Pension Scheme was introduced on 1 April 2008 – known as the **2008 section**. If you were already a member of the HSC Pension Scheme on 31 March 2008 you are a member of the **1995 section** (even if you joined before 1995). The review partners also recommended that there should be an opportunity for all members of the 1995 section to join the 2008 section.

Your Pension Choice is an important decision. You need to decide whether to remain in the 1995 section or transfer to the 2008 section and move all your 1995 section benefits to the 2008 section. There are a number of differences between the two sections, including the age at which you can draw your pension without reduction, the way in which your pension builds up and the flexibility in drawing benefits. These differences could affect your future lifestyle and retirement options in different ways.


What happens next?

If you are eligible to move to the 2008 section you will be given Your Pension Choice Pack which will contain:

- **Your Pension Choice Statement** – to help you compare the pension benefits you could get from each section.
- **Your Pension Choice Guide** – to give you more detailed information.
- **Your Pension Choice Form** – this will be attached to Your Pension Choice Statement.

Do I need to do anything now?

No. HSC Pension Service will send Your Pension Choice Pack to your home address in the autumn. **Please make sure your employer has your current address.**



Keep this leaflet safe and look out for the posters in your workplace which will appear around the time you are due to receive Your Pension Choice Pack and keep an eye on the website <http://www.hscpensions.hscni.net/choice.htm> for more information.