



TRACK DOWN YOUR LOST PENSIONS

HARGREAVES
LANSDOWN



THERE'S £26.6 BILLION SAT IN UNCLAIMED PENSIONS. COULD SOME OF IT BE YOURS?

There's an estimated 2.8 million pension pots worth £26.6 billion – the equivalent of nearly £9,500 each – which have been lost or forgotten.

To make sure you don't lose out, it's important that you check the whereabouts of all your pensions and claim back any that you've lost touch with.

If you've moved jobs or changed address over the years, you could have an old pension waiting to be found.

This factsheet includes tips to help you find your pensions, and make the most out of them.

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As many as 1 in 20 people could have a pension they didn't know about.

IMPORTANT INFORMATION

The information on this factsheet isn't personal advice, if you're unsure what's suitable for your circumstances, please seek [advice](#). If you're thinking about transferring, please check for excessive exit fees first and that you won't lose valuable guarantees or benefits before you apply.



HOW TO FIND YOUR LOST PENSIONS

✓ Look through old paperwork

You can start at home by looking through your paperwork to find any annual pension statements or starter packs you received when you first joined.

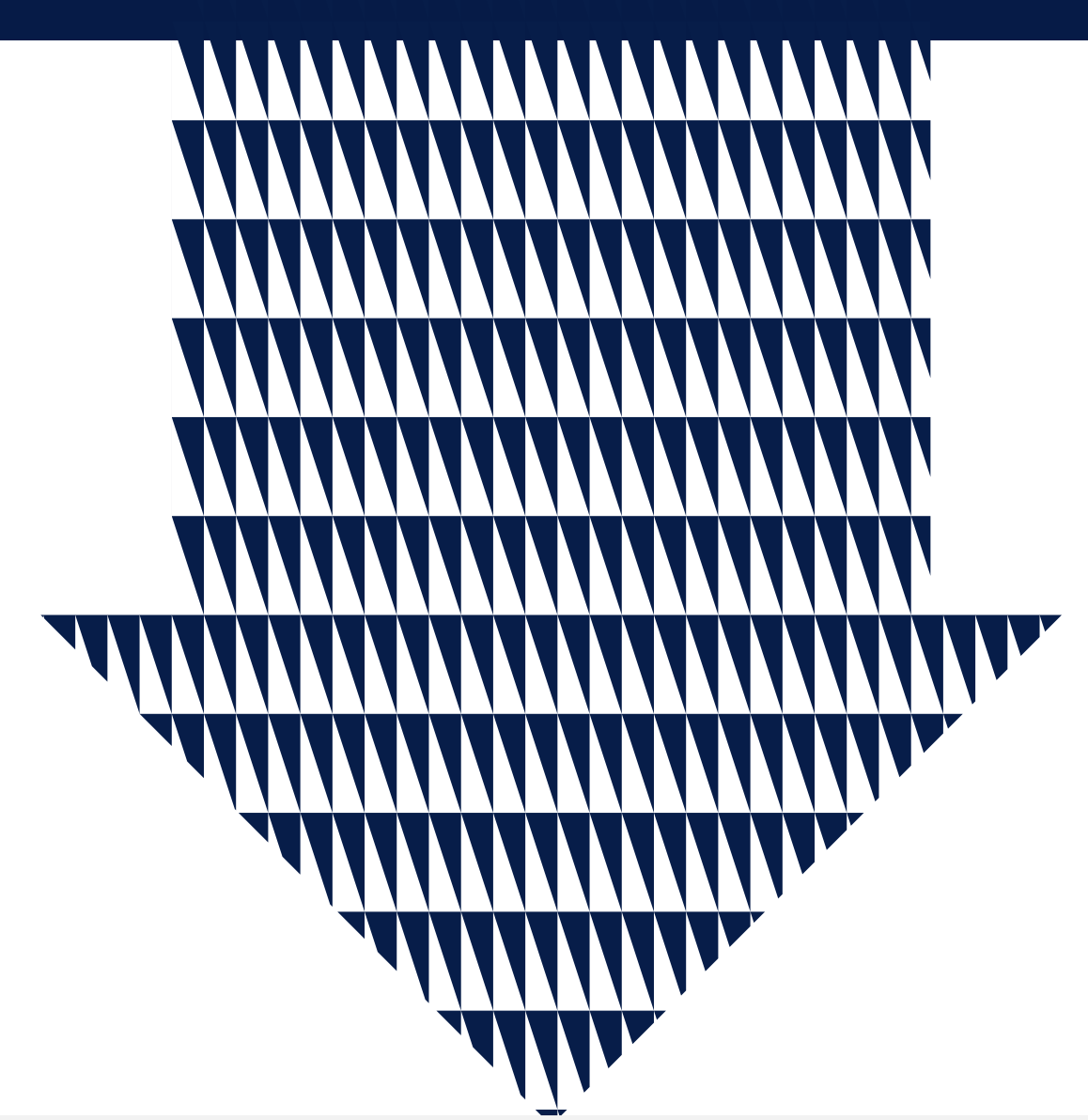
If you're not sure whether you had a pension with an old employer, you could look through your old employment contracts or pay slips for signs of pension contribution deductions.

Look for the name of the scheme administrator or the pension company holding your money.

✓ Contact your old employers

If you can't find old paperwork, or the pension provider's details aren't clear, get in touch with your old employer. Confirm when you worked for them and get the name of their pension provider at the time, and their contact details.

If your employer has changed name or contact details since you left, you can search Companies House to track down their new details.



Try the Pension Tracing Service

If you need a helping hand, try the government's free Pension Tracing Service. The service can help you find pension provider contact details for:

- Your own workplace or personal pension scheme
- Your civil service, NHS, teacher or armed forces pension
- Someone else's scheme, if you have their permission

**TRY THE PENSION
TRACING SERVICE**



NEXT STEPS ONCE YOU'VE FOUND YOUR PENSION

1

Re-connect with your provider

Once you've found out which provider holds your old pension pot, contact them to find out how much it's worth, and to update them with your new contact details.

They'll need to do some security checks to verify who you are too. Make sure you have your personal details such as your National Insurance Number, and your current and old addresses and names.

2

Get to know your pension

Once you find a long-forgotten pension pot, it's important to take a closer look. You should check:

- The fees you're paying. Are they competitive?
- Can you view your pension account online and see how much it's worth?
- What are the scheme rules around your retirement age?
- Is your pension invested alongside your risk attitude and values?
- Are you on track for the retirement you want?



NEXT STEPS ONCE YOU'VE FOUND YOUR PENSION

3

Consider combining pensions into one

If you're not satisfied with the service that the pension provider offers, it could make sense to transfer your pot to a different provider. Many pension savers find it more straightforward to consolidate all their pensions into one account.

Before consolidating, you should:

- check you won't lose valuable guarantees or benefits by transferring
- compare the services and fees of your current and new provider
- ensure your new provider won't charge any set up fees (HL doesn't)
- See what added benefits, tools and support your new provider will offer.

4

How to transfer

You'll need to complete an application with the provider you want to transfer to. Some providers (like HL) have an [online form](#), which can speed up the process. Other providers might need you to complete a paper form and return it in the post. Once submitted, your new provider will typically contact your old one to arrange the transfer.

CASH OR STOCK TRANSFER

You can normally choose to transfer your pension as cash or stock. If you transfer as cash, your investments are sold, meaning you'll miss out on any market rises or falls throughout the transfer. If you transfer as stock, you'll stay invested.

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