

Protection for your Family

This leaflet is a guide to the benefits that are available to your family, dependants or a person nominated by you in the event of your death.

If you wish to let us know of any person who may be eligible for a benefit, as set out below, you can use our online nomination form available on www.gov.je/yourpension.

What benefits will be paid if I die in service?

Death in Service Lump Sum

If you die in service as a member of the Career Average Scheme a death in service lump sum of three times your pensionable earnings is paid at your date of death.

The lump sum is calculated by using the pensionable earnings paid over the best 365 consecutive days in the 3 years prior to the date of death. If you have been employed for less than 3 years it will be the best 365 days over the period during which you were employed. Where you have been employed for less than a year the pensionable earnings you have received over that period will be made up to a full year's equivalent earnings.

To ensure that the lump sum is paid to the correct individual of your choice, you will need to complete a Death in Service Lump Sum Nomination form. This will let us know who the lump sum is to be paid to and in what proportions.

Where no nomination has been made the Committee of Management, who govern the administration of the pension scheme, will determine who should receive the lump sum. Where there is no nomination, the lump sum will usually be paid to your surviving partner, where there is no surviving partner to a surviving child, where there are no surviving children to a surviving dependent and if there is no surviving dependant it will be paid into your estate.

If the Committee of Management has not made a decision on who to pay the lump sum to within two years from the date of your death, the lump sum will be paid into your estate.

A survivor's pension

A survivor pension is paid to a surviving partner or to a dependant. A surviving partner would be your spouse, registered civil partner or, subject to certain qualifying conditions, your co-habiting partner. After your death this pension is paid to the survivor(s) for the remainder of their life and will increase each year in line with the Jersey Retail Prices Index (RPI) (subject to the Scheme's ability to pay).

A survivor pension is equal to one-half of the pension you built up at the date of your death and one half of the pension you could have built up had you remained in employment to your Normal Pension Age (NPA), calculated using your notional pensionable earnings at the date of your death. If you chose to take a lump sum payment whilst in employment this will not be taken into account in the calculation of the survivor pension.

If your surviving partner is younger than you by more than 20 years then the surviving partner pension will face a reduction. The reduction to the survivor's pension will be 2.5% for each year by which the survivor's age exceeds your age by more than 20 years at the date of your death. An example is as follows

A member aged 50 dies leaving a surviving partner aged 20. As the surviving partner is 30 years younger than the member the survivor pension would face a reduction of 25%. This is due to the age gap between the member and the spouse being 10 years over the 20 year limit and as a result the 10 years attracts a 2.5% reduction per year.

Children's pension

A pension will be payable equal to one-half of the survivor pension for each child up to a maximum of two children, where there are more than two children the survivor's pension will be split evenly between each child. The child's pension will be doubled if there is no surviving partner or dependant. A child's pension is payable up to age 16 or, if they remain in fulltime education, up to their 23rd birthday

Where a survivor has had their pension reduced to take account of them being 20 or more years younger than the deceased member, the child's pension will be based on the reduced survivor pension.

What benefits will be paid if I die after retiring on pension?

If you die whilst in retirement the pension that you receive will no longer be payable. Your surviving partner, next-of-kin or person dealing with your Estate must immediately inform the Public Employees Pension Team (PEPT) of your date of death, otherwise an overpayment could occur.

A survivor's pension

If you die as a pensioner a survivor pension will be paid to a surviving partner. This pension is payable immediately after your death for the rest of the survivor's life and will increase every year in line with the Jersey Retail Prices Index (subject to the Scheme's ability to pay).

A survivor pension is equal to one-half of your pension at the date of your death. The survivor pension will be based on your full pension entitlement not taking into account any reduction due to taking a lump sum at retirement.

The reduction in survivor pension as shown in the section relating to death in service is also relevant for death of a pensioner.

Children's pension

The calculation of the child's benefit as shown in the section relating to death in service is also relevant for death of a pensioner.

What benefits will be paid if I die leaving a deferred pension?

If you die after you have left the scheme but you have deferred your benefits then your surviving partner or dependants and any eligible children would be entitled to survivor benefits.

A survivor's pension

A survivor pension will be paid to a surviving partner or to a dependant. This pension is payable immediately after your death for the rest of the survivors life and will increase every year in line with the Jersey Retail Prices Index (subject to the Scheme's ability to pay).

A survivor pension is equal to one-half of your deferred pension calculated when you left and including any pension increases up to the date of your death. The survivor pension will be based on your full pension entitlement not taking into account any reduction due to taking a lump sum whilst remaining in employment. The reduction in survivor pension as shown in the section relating to death in service is also relevant for death as a deferred member.

Children's pension

The calculation of the child's benefit as shown in the section relating to death in service is also relevant for death as a deferred member.

What conditions need to be met for a Cohabiting Partner's survivor pension to be payable?

For a co-habiting partner, of either same or opposite sex, to receive a survivor's pension on your death, all of the following conditions must apply to both you and your co-habiting partner and each condition must have applied for a continuous period of at least 2 years immediately before the date of you:

- both you and your co-habiting partner are, and have been, free to marry each other or enter into a civil partnership with each other, and
- you and your co-habiting partner have been living together as if you were husband and wife, or civil partners, and
- neither you or your co-habiting partner have been living with someone else as if you/they were husband and wife or civil partners, and
- either your co-habiting partner is, and has been, financially dependent on you or you are and have been financially interdependent on each other.

Your partner is financially dependent on you if you have the highest income. Financially interdependent means that you rely on your joint finances to support your standard of living.

A survivor's pension would only be paid to your co-habiting partner if your cohabiting partner meets above conditions for a continuous period of at least 2 years immediately prior to your death. The Committee reserves the right to determine if a survivor pension should be paid to a co-habiting partner.

Dependants Pension

A dependants pension is payable where the members has no spouse, cohabiting partner, civil partner or child to pay a pension to. A dependants pension is payable to a person who has been nominated by a member of the scheme as being dependant on the member for the ordinary necessities of life.

There is no guarantee that a pension will be paid to a nominated dependant. On the death of a member the dependant would have to prove to the Committee of Management (the governing body of the Public Employees Pension Fund) that they have been dependant on the member. It will be up to the discretion of the Committee as to whether they determine this to be a sufficient level of dependency to warrant paying a pension.