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This third edition of the monthly newsletter includes an introduction to the USS Investment Builder, a new section being added to the scheme from 1 October 2016 to offer you more flexibility in how you save for retirement. It also includes an important message to help keep your personal information safe and an update on USS’s money purchase AVCs with Prudential, which may affect you.

Remember, you can visit www.uss.co.uk for regularly updated resources to help you understand and get the most from USS.

1. Introducing the USS Investment Builder

From 1 October 2016, the new defined contribution section, the USS Investment Builder, will launch. If you earn over a threshold – initially £55,000 a year - you’ll automatically join the USS Investment Builder, and you and your employer will make contributions to that section in respect of salary above the threshold. All members will have the option to pay additional contributions through the USS Investment Builder. If you pay an additional 1% of your salary, your employer will match this 1%. You can choose to pay more, although your employer’s contribution is capped at 1%. You can find out more about the USS Investment Builder here.

We’ll also be providing you with the following resources over the coming months to help you understand your choices:
- A summary of the USS Investment Builder, which will be sent to you in June;
- Seminars to explain how the two sections of the scheme work together, organised through your employer;
- A guide explaining the investment options in the USS Investment Builder;
- Modelling tools to help you see how the USS Investment Builder can help boost your income in retirement; and
- Example member scenarios to help you make decisions by showing common circumstances.

2. Keeping you protected

It’s important that we keep your information secure. To help us do so, please do not send any personal information by email to USS. If you need to provide USS with personal data (such as your address, date of birth, National Insurance number or bank details), this should be done by post or telephone.

3. An update on USS’s money purchase AVCs with Prudential

If you pay additional contributions through USS’s money purchase AVC arrangement with Prudential, or if you have in the past, you need to read this update about how this arrangement will be changing. You can read more about the changes here.

IMPORTANT DATES

If you wish to transfer benefits into the USS Retirement Income Builder from another private pension scheme, you’ll need to apply to do so by 20 May – more information is available here. Different rules apply to transfers from Public Sector Transfer Club schemes – you can find more information here.

From late June, member seminars will be run to help you understand when the changes to the scheme will start. You’ll receive details of specific dates and how to sign up for seminars/webinars in advance of this time.

If you wish to transfer benefits from a non-club private pension scheme into the USS Retirement Income Builder, USS will need to receive a transfer statement from that scheme by 15 July, more information is available here.

What to expect next month

- More details about upcoming member seminars
- Information about how the scheme is run and the security of your retirement savings with USS

Read previous updates here.

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