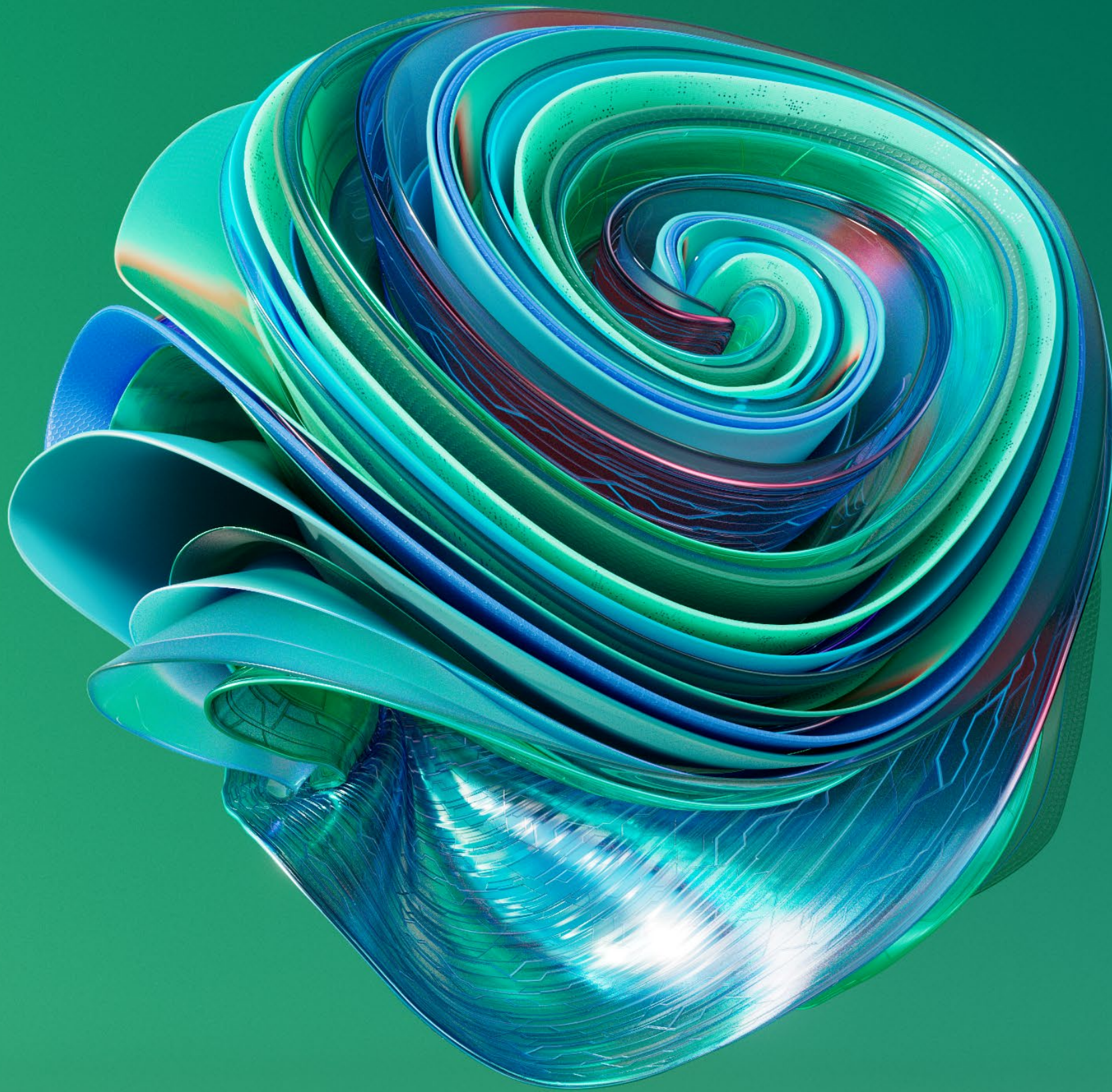


The newsletter for Unisys Payment Services Limited
Pension Scheme members (iPSL Section)

Pensions Update



Hello

from the Trustee

I am pleased to welcome you to the 2024 edition of *Pensions Update*, the annual newsletter for members of the iPSL Section of the Unisys Payment Services Limited Pension Scheme.

Last year saw some exciting developments for the Section, namely the purchase of an insurance policy (commonly known as a buy-in policy) with Standard Life in December, which you can read more about on **page 6**. These uncertain times have significantly underlined the importance of bringing greater security to members' benefits, and the Trustee sees this policy as a very positive step for the Section.

This year's *Pensions Update* contains the usual summary of the Section Report and Accounts on **page 3**, detailing money going into and out of the Section over the past year, and you'll find an overview of the Section's investments on **page 4**. Don't forget to also take a look at the noticeboard on **page 6**, where you will find an update on the upcoming pensions dashboards, as well as some important advice on pension scams and cyber security.

Every three years, the Scheme actuary carries out a formal investigation of the Scheme's financial position, known as an actuarial valuation. This valuation compares the value of the Scheme's assets with that of its liabilities (the benefits due to members) to give an overall funding level. The valuation for 2023 is now complete, and you will find alongside this update the Summary Funding Statement, which summarises the funding position of the Section.

It will only take a few minutes to read this newsletter, and it contains important information for all members. I hope it offers reassurance and understanding about how the Section is funded. If there is a particular topic you would like to see us cover in future, or if you have any questions or queries, please get in touch using the contact details on the **back page**.

Hetal Kotecha, Chair of Trustee
Unisys UK Pension Trustee Limited

Inside



Membership

As at 31 March 2024, the Unisys Payment Services Limited Pension Scheme (iPSL Section) had 2,294 members.

 Pensioners **1,729**

 Deferred members **565**

Total membership 2,294

Pensioners: members who are receiving a pension from the Scheme.

Deferred members: members who are no longer actively accruing benefits in the Scheme.

Section finances

The information on this page is a summary of the Trustee's formal Report & Accounts for the year to 31 March 2024.

If you would like to see a full copy of this report, you can request one from the Scheme administrator using the details on the **back page**.

	As at 31 March 2024 (£'000)	As at 31 March 2023 (£'000)
Section value at start of period	319,648	433,033
Income		
Employer contributions	31	8
Employee contributions	-	-
Other income	-	1
Total income	31	9
Expenditure		
Benefits paid	(13,399)	(11,969)
Transfer values paid	(84)	(789)
Other payments	(32)	(26)
Total expenditure	(13,515)	(12,784)
Net increase/(decrease) on investments	(34,831)	(100,610)
Section value at end of period	271,333	319,648

Section investments

The Trustee is responsible for setting the overall investment strategy for the Section, but it delegated day-to-day decision making (including the appointment of individual fund managers) to its investment managers.

Following the successful purchase of the buy-in policy, whereby the majority of the Section's assets were invested in an insurance policy, the Trustee took the decision that it no longer needed the services of a fiduciary manager. However, Mercer still provide investment advisory services to the Trustee as and when needed.



Investment performance

You may recall that we usually share with you the Section's investment performance over the one, three and five-year periods.

As the Trustee purchased a buy-in policy during the Scheme year, the majority of the assets are now held within this policy, with a small cash holding for any Section expenses. With this being the case, there are no investment performance figures to report at this time.

The Trustee's stewardship priorities

The Trustee believes it's important to manage the Section's assets sustainably.

This is done in a number of ways. Firstly, the fiduciary manager integrates ESG (environmental, social and governance) issues such as climate change and workforce treatment into its investment decisions. It then uses influencing tools – such as meeting with the companies it invests in, or publicly expressing dissatisfaction through voting at annual general meetings – to persuade companies to improve their behaviour on these ESG issues. This influencing work is called 'stewardship'.

The Trustee's current stewardship priorities are:



Noticeboard

Standard Life buy-in: data verification



We wrote to you in December 2023 to let you know that the iPSL Section of the Unisys Payment Services Limited Pension Scheme had entered into an insurance contract (buy-in policy) with Standard Life to secure the future payment of benefits to members.

Under the terms of this contract, Standard Life will make monthly payments to the Scheme to cover the Section's pensions in payment. They will also provide the required funds to settle any benefits due in future (for example, when deferred members choose to start drawing a pension from the Section).

As part of this insurance contract, we will soon be contacting members asking them to complete a data verification form. This ensures that the data we hold about you is accurate and up to date. Once you have received this form, please make sure you complete it carefully.

Trustee Director steps down

One of the Scheme's Trustee Directors, Justin Lilley, resigned with effect from 31 October 2024. The Chair of the Trustee would like to thank Justin for his considerable service on the board and wish him all the best for the future.



GMP equalisation

In last year's newsletter, we told you about a High Court ruling on Guaranteed Minimum Pensions (GMPs). These GMPs were accrued at different rates for men and women and were payable at different ages, reflecting the State pension ages for men and women at the time. The High Court found that there should be no discrimination between male and female members in calculating their GMPs. This may affect you if you were an active member of the Section before 5 April 1997.

This is a significant and complex exercise and will take a while to complete, and work is still under way. You do not need to take any action, as we will contact you if this affects you.

An update on pensions dashboards



Last year it was announced that the timetable for launching pensions dashboards would be pushed back to give the pensions industry more time to get ready for this major project.

Since then, the Department for Work and Pensions has published new guidance setting out a staged timetable for pension schemes to connect to the pensions dashboards ecosystem. The timetable highlights that the earliest staging dates for larger personal pension or stakeholder schemes would be 30 April 2025.

When launched, the dashboards will provide a single place where you can get information about all your pension savings across all schemes, as well as track down any lost pension pots.

The deadline for all schemes to connect to the dashboards is October 2026, but a launch date for the public is yet to be announced.

Pension and cyber scam awareness

With pension scams and cybercrime on the rise, we want to remind you how you can protect yourself against fraudsters.

Scammers can be articulate and financially knowledgeable, with credible websites, testimonials and materials that are hard to distinguish from the real thing. They design attractive offers to persuade you to hand over your personal details or even transfer your pension to them.

Pension scam tactics include:

- contact out of the blue
- promises of high or guaranteed returns
- free pension reviews
- access to your pension before age 55
- pressure to act quickly.

To protect yourself even further from scammers who might approach you online, it is important that you:

- use strong passwords for all your online accounts (tip: use three random words to create a single password that is difficult to crack)
- do not share your password with anyone
- install the latest security updates to your browser software and personal computing devices
- check that any links look correct before you click on them
- be suspicious of anyone who asks for your bank account or credit card details.

You can find more information about pension scams and how to avoid them at www.fca.org.uk/scamsmart

Alternatively, if you think you have been a victim of fraud you should report it to Action Fraud, the UK's national fraud and internet crime reporting centre, on 0300 123 2040.

Cyber security and the Section

As part of its commitment to the security of the Section, the Trustee recently received specialised training from a cyber-security expert. This helped the Trustee implement a new cyber-security policy, as well as an incident-response plan which was tested in a 'war game' scenario. As part of its ongoing work, the Trustee will soon be assessing the cyber strength of its third-party providers.

The Trustee and its advisers

Nine Trustee Directors manage the Scheme: five are appointed by the Company (including the Chair) and four have been nominated by the Scheme's members.

Your Trustee Directors

Independent Trustee Services Ltd (represented by Hetal Kotecha – Chair)

David Buddery

Ros Constantine

Justin Lilley (resigned 31 October 2024)

Robin McCarthy*

Steve Pink*

Neil Southworth*

Ema Urlic

Dave Watling*

*member-nominated Directors

Advisers to the Trustee

Scheme actuary	Mercer Ltd
Independent auditor	Cooper Parry Group Ltd
Administrator	Hymans Robertson LLP
Investment consultant	Mercer Ltd
Covenant adviser	Cardano Advisory
Legal advisers	Gowling WLG (UK) LLP
Secretary to the Trustee	Pi Consulting Ltd

Pensions Management Institute (PMI) Trustee accreditation

Trustee Directors aren't required to be pensions experts when they join the Board, and they receive a lot of support from the Scheme's advisers, but it's important that all our Trustee Directors quickly develop the relevant skills and expertise to perform their role to a consistently high standard.

For this reason, we seek to achieve full PMI accreditation for each of our Trustee Directors. The PMI is the UK's leading professional body dedicated to supporting and developing experts who manage UK pension schemes.

Directors must complete 15 hours of approved training a year, which includes attending conferences, seminars and other educational courses or training programmes. This helps our Directors to demonstrate their commitment to improving their knowledge and positions them as the best people to run our Scheme.

Keeping in contact

If you have any questions about your benefits, you can get in touch with the Scheme administrator, Hymans Robertson.

Please remember to let us know if you change your address, otherwise we may be unable to contact you about your benefits.

You can update your details online using Hymans Robertson's online portal, PRISM. To log in, visit <https://secure.upslpensionscheme.co.uk>

If you'd like to contact Hymans Robertson directly, you can do so using the details below:

Email: unisys@hymans.co.uk

Telephone: 0207 082 6031

Address: Hymans Robertson LLP
1 London Wall
London EC2Y 5EA

For further information, you can contact the Secretary to the Trustee:

Email: UUPTL.client@pipg.co.uk

Address: Pi Consulting
2nd Floor
Tuition House
27-37 St George's Road
Wimbledon
London SW19 4EU

