

Group life and death in service pension

In the event of your death while an employee, a lump sum payment will be made. In addition, a death in service pension may be payable to one or more eligible dependents. Your employer will be able to tell you the benefits available to you.

This leaflet is intended to provide factual information about the life assurance cover available as part of your employer's scheme and not the suitability of the cover for any particular member.

How does it work?

Your employer will inform you whether you are eligible for cover. Once you meet the eligibility conditions you are covered for life assurance and you will not normally be asked to provide medical information. If, for example, your level of benefit is very high, you do not meet the eligibility conditions or you do not join the scheme when you are first able to do so, Ellipse will ask you to complete an online questionnaire about your health and lifestyle. Based on your responses, and sometimes on additional evidence or medical tests we might require, we will decide if cover can be provided and, if so, on what terms.

The life assurance is provided through a trust. In the event of your death while a member of the scheme, any lump sum benefit will be paid to the trustees, who have absolute discretion as to whom benefits are paid, but who will usually pay the benefit to any beneficiaries you have nominated. You can nominate your beneficiaries by completing a Nomination of Beneficiary form. Any death in service pension benefit will be paid direct by us according to the trustees' instructions.

How long does the cover last?

You will have cover for as long as you remain a member of the scheme. If you are absent from work due to illness or injury you will continue to be covered until you reach the age cover ceases as stated in the policy schedule. If you are absent due to maternity, paternity or adoption leave, cover will continue while you remain eligible for membership of the scheme. If you remain an employee after you reach the age cover ceases and you continue to meet the eligibility conditions, you will be required to complete a medical assessment before cover can continue. In any event cover cannot continue beyond your 75th birthday.

Life cover under this policy ceases on the day you leave employment.

What is not covered?

There are no standard exclusions under this policy. However, there is a maximum limit to the policy as a whole which will be applied in the event of one or more deaths occurring as a result of a single event or whilst travelling together on works business.

Making a claim

Your employer (on behalf of the trustees of the scheme) is responsible for making claims under this policy. Lump sums will be paid to the trustees who will decide to whom payments are made, taking into account your wishes as set out in your nomination of beneficiaries form. Where death in service pension benefits are provided (check with your employer if you are unsure) these will normally be paid direct by us to your surviving spouse, partner and/or dependants, according to the trustees' instructions.

Taxation

For registered group life schemes, lump sum benefits will count towards your lifetime allowance. Lump sum payments are normally tax free unless your lifetime allowance is exceeded. Death in service pension payments do not count towards your lifetime allowance, but the recipients are subject to income tax on the payments they receive.

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