

# New questions: Example scheme return 2022

## Defined contribution (DC) schemes

Trustees of some (mainly larger) DC schemes need to complete the scheme return in two parts this year. These are the example questions for part 1 of the two-part process.

To view all the questions in part 2 of the scheme return, please see the [Exchange example scheme return](#) (opens in new tab).

### New questions for 2022

We will ask you to provide, where applicable:

- information about the more detailed value for members (VFM) assessment
- the website address where extracts from the chair's statement have been published
- the website addresses where the scheme's statement of investment principles (SIP) and implementation statement have been published
- the website address where the scheme's climate change report has been published

The full details and guidance for these questions are in the rest of this pdf.



### **Please do not complete this document.**

This is an example of the questions in the scheme return and has been created for illustrative purposes only.

# DC schemes – new questions

## Value for members (VFM) assessment

The following questions will ask you to confirm if a more detailed value for members (VFM) assessment (involving comparison with other schemes) is legally required and enter further information about the detailed assessment if it has been carried out.

For more information about the updated requirements for VFM assessments, see the **statutory guidance on GOV.UK** (opens in new tab) and our **Value for members guidance** (opens in new tab).

### Have you notified The Pensions Regulator (TPR) that the scheme is in the process of winding up?

Schemes that are in the process of winding up do not need to complete a more detailed value for members (VFM) assessment. We (TPR) must have already been notified of the winding up of the scheme at the point you answer these questions.

- Yes (go to next section, 'Chair's statement')
- No

### Are the scheme's trustees legally required to carry out a more detailed VFM assessment?

Trustees of most DC schemes must carry out a more detailed VFM assessment (involving comparison with other schemes) where the scheme holds less than £100 million total assets according to the most recently audited accounts and has been operating for 3 or more years at the point those accounts were obtained by the trustees. Executive pension schemes and relevant small schemes are exempt from these requirements.

- Yes and the trustees have carried out a more detailed VFM assessment
- Yes, but the trustees have not yet carried out a more detailed VFM assessment (go to next section, 'Chair's statement')
- No, the scheme's trustees do not have to carry out a more detailed VFM assessment (go to next section, 'Chair's statement')

### Did the more detailed VFM assessment conclude that the scheme provides good value for members?

- Yes (go to next section, 'Chair's statement')
- No

DC schemes: Value for members (VFM) assessment continued...

**Given the outcome of the more detailed VFM assessment, do the trustees intend to transfer the money purchase benefits into another scheme?**

- Yes
- No

**Are the trustees also proposing to wind up the scheme?**

- Yes (go to next section, 'Chair's statement')
- No

**Explain why the trustees will not be winding up the scheme and what improvements are proposed to make sure the scheme provides good value for members**

The text box has a 4,000 character limit. If you need to supply more information or supporting documents, please email us at: [exchange@thepensionsregulator.gov.uk](mailto:exchange@thepensionsregulator.gov.uk) and put the scheme's name and PSR number in the subject line.

## Chair's statement

Trustees of most schemes providing money purchase (DC) benefits are legally required to prepare a chair's statement containing certain information within seven months of the scheme year-end. Some of the information from this statement must be published on a publicly accessible website, free of charge.

See our **guidance on communicating and reporting** (opens in new tab) for more details of the requirements including:

- which schemes are not required to publish a chair's statement (this includes relevant small schemes and executive pension schemes)
- what should be included in the chair's statement
- what information needs to be published on a website

### Have the scheme's trustees published the required extracts from the latest chair's statement?

- Yes
- No (go to next section, 'SIP and implementation statement')

Select this option if you have not published the required information, including if you are exempt.

### Provide the website address where the trustees have published extracts from the latest chair's statement

Copy and paste the website address (beginning with `http://` or `https://`) where extracts from the latest chair's statement have been published. This address should go directly to the published extracts, for example: `http://www.example.com/path/to/ABCschemechairstatement2021/`.

## Statement of investment principles (SIP) and implementation statement

Trustees of schemes with 100 members or more are legally required to publish their statement of investment principles (SIP) and implementation statement on a publicly available website, free of charge.

See our guidance on **Investment decisions and your statement of investment principles (SIP)** (opens in new tab) and **Implementation report** (opens in new tab) for more information about publishing and preparing a SIP and implementation statement.

If the scheme is required to publish this information, you will need to enter the website addresses of the published SIP and implementation statement to complete this section.

### Have the scheme's trustees published the SIP and implementation statement on a publicly available website?

You should select 'No' if you have not published the required information, including if you are exempt because the scheme has less than 100 members.

- Yes
- No (go to next section, 'Climate change report')

### Website address of the latest published SIP

Copy and paste the website address (beginning with http:// or https://) where the latest SIP has been published. The address should go directly to the relevant document, for example: [http://www.example.com/path/to/ABCscheme\\_SIP2021/](http://www.example.com/path/to/ABCscheme_SIP2021/).

### Website address of the latest published implementation statement

Copy and paste the website address (beginning with http:// or https://) where the latest implementation statement has been published. The address should go directly to the relevant document, for example: [http://www.example.com/path/to/ABCscheme\\_Implementation statement 2021/](http://www.example.com/path/to/ABCscheme_Implementation statement 2021/).

If the implementation statement is contained in another document, it's fine to enter the website address of that document, as long as the required information is contained within it.

## Climate change report

Trustees need to comply with the climate change governance and reporting regulations if their scheme:

- has relevant assets of £5 billion or more at the end of their first scheme year ending on or after 1 March 2020 – in which case they must comply from 1 October 2021 (or if later, and if the scheme is not an ear-marked scheme, from the date the trustees obtain audited accounts in relation to that scheme year-end date)
- is authorised (an authorised master trust or an authorised collective defined contribution scheme) – in which case they must comply from 1 October 2021 (or if later, from the date the scheme becomes authorised)

For more information on who needs to comply and when, look at **Part 2 of the regulations** (opens in new tab). You may wish to consult your advisers to confirm the amount of your relevant assets (broadly, total net assets as shown in the audited accounts less the value of trustee held contracts of insurance) and what action you need to take.

The regulations require schemes to publish a climate change report (also known as a 'TCFD report') on a publicly available website, free of charge.

In this section, we will ask you to confirm if the trustees need to publish a climate change report, and if so, provide the website address of the published report.

### Is this scheme authorised or does it have relevant assets of £5 billion or more?

- Yes
- No (End of new questions)

### Have the scheme's trustees published a climate change report?

Trustees are required to produce and publish their climate change report within seven months of the end of the relevant scheme year (ending on or after 1 March 2020) in which they were subject to the climate change governance requirements (known as the 'period for publication').

The climate change report must be published on a publicly available website which is accessible free of charge.

- Yes, the trustees have published a climate change report
- No, the trustees have not published a climate change report and the period for publication has ended (End of new questions)
- No, the trustees have not published a climate change report although the period for publication has not yet ended (End of new questions)

DC schemes: Climate change report continued...

### **Website address of the latest published climate change report**

Copy and paste the website address (beginning with http:// or https://) where the latest climate change report has been published. This address should go directly to the published report, for example: [http://www.example.com/path/to/ABCscheme\\_climatechangereport2021/](http://www.example.com/path/to/ABCscheme_climatechangereport2021/).

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**End of new questions**

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