

Statement by the UBGPP Governance Group on the Covid-19 pandemic

You may have read about the impact which Coronavirus has had on economic and financial markets, so this summary provides some information to help you to understand what the immediate position might be for you, how things could change, and where you can get more information. Please note that we cannot provide any financial advice and you should seek your own financial advice if you want or need this (see link below). You can find investment information on the UoB microsite at www.legalandgeneral.com/uob. Hopefully, the general summary below provides a helpful update:

- As a contributing member to the UBGPP with L&G, you choose where your own retirement savings account is invested. It is likely your account will have reduced in value over the last few weeks, given that financial markets have been impacted significantly by the Coronavirus.
- Most members of the UBGPP are invested in the 'default lifestyle strategy' investment option (see below) in terms of the existing funds in your retirement account and where future contributions are invested.
 - The default investment strategy in the UBGPP (which is designed for members who don't want to make investment decisions) is that L&G gradually switches your retirement account from being in riskier investments into less risky investments over 25 years prior to your chosen retirement date.
 - For those of you who are close to your expected retirement age (e.g. within 5 years), the recent market falls therefore may not have been as significant on retirement account values as you might initially anticipate. This is because the lifestyle strategy is designed to try and protect you from the full impact of possible market falls close to your target retirement date.
 - If you are further away from your retirement date (e.g. 10 years or more), whilst your retirement account value is likely to have gone down noticeably, there is still time for markets to stabilise and for your retirement account value to hopefully recover before you will actually be accessing your funds.
 - Further information on your L&G plan fund value, the investment choices available to you, and your wider options, can be found below.
- New contributions into your retirement account in the UBGPP will not necessarily be subject to the rapid market falls we have seen over the last weeks, as they will be being invested in the financial markets as they stand now (meaning they could increase in value if markets return and move back towards to their previous higher levels: it is still possible however that they could also continue to go down if markets fall further).
- If you have self-selected your own funds in the UBGPP, you should regularly review your investment choices to ensure they are still in line with your retirement objectives and attitude to risk. This is especially important as you get closer to you target retirement date because your retirement savings account won't automatically be moved into lower risk funds, because you have chosen your own funds.
- As with any normal course of events, it is always good practice to keep an eye on how your retirement account is changing over time. It may be appropriate to avoid any immediate knee-jerk short-term actions that could potentially have negative longer term impacts on your retirement choices, noting that investing for your retirement is a long-term investment. Whilst you might understandably be concerned at present, we would encourage you to take financial advice if you think you need it. If you don't have a financial adviser you can find one at <http://www.moneyadvice.org.uk/>

- We are working with L&G to ensure your pension is being managed as expected. You can find out more by contacting them directly here <https://www.legalandgeneral.com/workplace/campaigns/covid-19/>
- If you haven't already done so, this would be a good opportunity to register your policy online with L&G at www.legalandgeneral.com/mya, so that you can find out more about what's happening.

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