



MESSAGE FROM THE TRUSTEE

Welcome to the latest edition of the SEI Master Trust ('the Scheme') newsletter, in which we give you important updates about your pension, and remind you about the features available to you as a member of the Scheme.

The Trustee of the SEI Master Trust pension scheme meets on a regular basis to try to ensure the Scheme delivers the best possible outcomes to members and to review investment performance. We are also continually looking for ways to improve the service we provide to you, and we value your feedback. If there is anything that you particularly like, let us know. Likewise, tell us if there is anything that you think we could improve.

If you have any comments on this newsletter, please let us know so that we can ensure it continues to meet the needs of all our members.

As well as completing the member survey (see page 2), you can submit your feedback directly to the Trustee by emailing: **seic@capita.co.uk**

Regards,

Allan Course, Chair of the Trustee
The Trustee of the SEI Master Trust



MEMBER SURVEY

Following the release of the member survey, we would like to thank members for the number of responses received to date. As mentioned in the winter newsletter, the survey results will help us understand how we can support and further enhance what is available to you as a member of the Scheme. Don't worry if you have yet to fill in the survey—you will still have the chance to do so in the coming weeks using the link to the survey you've received from your employer.

If you are a deferred member of the Scheme, you can take the **survey**, too. It should take only five minutes and we would love to hear from you. Reading offline? Use this link:

<https://research.seic.com/f/171793/7bc3>

We are looking forward to sharing feedback with you and will present a summary of the feedback we receive and the actions we'll be taking in the summer edition of the Newsletter.



ANNUAL BENEFIT STATEMENTS

We send all members an Annual Benefit Statement once a year—typically 'as at 5th of April' or the '30th of September'—showing the value of your pension account, where you are invested and how much has been paid in. These statements are either sent to you in the post or via the Scheme website, depending on what was agreed with your employer when the Scheme was originally set up.

If you have not received a paper statement from us, please log in to the member website and check your 'mailbox'; your statement(s) may well be there waiting therefore you. If not, please check that we have your correct postal address and let us know if you have moved.



BREXIT

You will have obviously noticed that Brexit coverage has continued to dominate the news headlines since our winter 2018 Newsletter. The Trustee is keeping a close eye on the potential impact of Brexit as it relates to pensions, liaising regularly with our legal and investment advisers, and will of course take whatever action is necessary to protect and deliver services to our members. We will keep you updated on both the impact and developments over the coming months as these become clearer.



EQUITY MARKET VOLATILITY

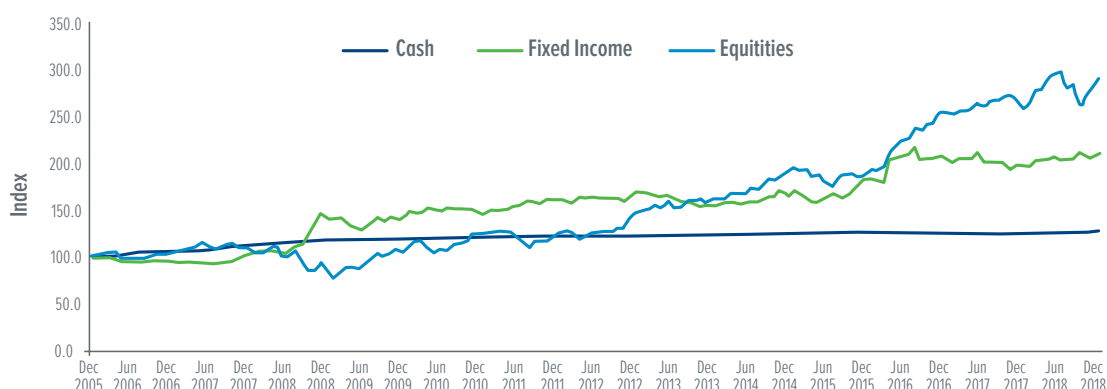
(‘THE VALUE OF INVESTMENTS CAN GO DOWN AS WELL AS UP!’)

Members who follow global equity markets will be aware that the past six months has seen a lot of ‘share price volatility’ (with the share prices of companies falling and rising quite sharply and/or frequently).

Whilst more experienced investors will be familiar with these equity market trends, it can understandably be unsettling for anyone new to investment to see the value of their savings fall in value. This would certainly be the case if you were close to retirement, which is why members who invest in the Default Investment Options will see their savings moving into less risky investments in the five to ten years before retirement. For those members who still have a long time to go until they can retire and/or access your pension savings, these fluctuations are to be expected and are the trade-off for the better long-term performance that we expect from investing in equities.

We would therefore urge any members who have seen the value of their investments drop in recent months to think carefully before switching out of ‘equity’ funds into lower risk funds. Doing so means that you run the risk of ‘selling low’ and ‘buying high’, which is the direct opposite of what you want as an investor. Before making any investment decision of this nature and/or trying to ‘time the market’, we would strongly recommend you seek independent financial advice.

As the table below shows, the performance of different investments does vary over time with lower risk investments fluctuating less but delivering lower long-term returns, and higher risk investments fluctuating in the short term, but historically delivering stronger long-term returns.



Source: SEI, Bloomberg, SEI IMU Dataportal

If you want to find out more about investing, take a look at the Master Trust Investment Booklet ***‘How long is a piece of string?’*** which can be downloaded direct from the Scheme website. Alternatively you can contact the SEI Administration team (using the contact details at the back of this newsletter) and they can email one to you.



ONLINE REGISTRATION

We've seen an increase in the number of members registering for online access to your pension savings. This is great to see. If you have registered, we would recommend taking advantage of the online functionality that's available to you, which includes the ability to:

- › Check and update your personal information.
- › See the value of all contributions that have been saved into your pension plan, paid by you and your employer since you joined.
- › Look at the performance at the funds you are currently invested in.
- › See how much you could have saved up when you retire and use modelling tools to show what could happen if you want to save more or retire early.
- › Send secure messages to the administration team.
- › Update your beneficiaries.

If you've yet to register for online access or would like to discuss how you go about doing this, please contact the administration team at seic@capita.co.uk or call **0800 011 3540**.



TRUSTEE INVESTMENT REVIEW

Investment markets are frequently changing, and so are both the number and types of investment products that could be provided to members through the Scheme.

Therefore the Trustee regularly reviews the Scheme's Default Investment Options to ensure it provides value for money and reflects the needs of the members, particularly when it comes to your options at retirement. The Trustee also reviews the individual investment options available, for those who like to choose their own funds and switch between them.

Following the Trustee's most recent investment review, the Trustee has decided to make some changes to the investment options during 2019, which are as follows:

SSgA All World Equity Fund replaces the SSgA 50/50 Global Equity Fund

- Both funds are 'passive index-tracking' funds with very similar risk profiles; but as the names imply, the 'All World' fund tracks worldwide markets (including the UK), unlike the '50/50' fund which has to allocate 50% of its funds to the UK equity market. Members who choose their own funds and who currently invest in the '50/50' fund will be automatically switched into the SSgA All World Equity Fund, and we will write to you separately to let you know when this is happening.

SEI Factor Allocation Global Equity Fund

- SEI is launching a new Factor Allocation Global Equity Fund, and members of the SEI Master Trust will be among the first to be able to invest in it. Unlike index tracking funds (such as the SSgA funds discussed above) whose values follow markets—up and down—directly in line with the equity markets they’re tracking, SEI’s ‘factor-based’ funds identify and follow the investment trends (known as ‘factors’) that SEI believe are most likely to deliver long-term gains for members. This is very similar to how ‘active’ fund managers choose to invest in individual companies, but because a Factor Allocation fund does not use active fund managers, it is available to our members at a much lower cost.
- The Trustee will be replacing the SSgA 50/50 Global Equity Fund with the SEI Factor Allocation Global Equity Fund during 2019 wherever the ‘50/50’ fund is currently being used within the Default Investment Options. SEI will also discuss with your employer whether it should be added as an individual investment (self-select) option for your particular Scheme.
- There will be more communications issued to you directly over the coming months confirming these changes, and they will provide further clarity on what this means to you if you are invested in any of the funds mentioned.



NEW TAX YEAR AND A REMINDER ABOUT TAX RELIEF

Just a quick reminder to any basic and higher rate tax payers that you automatically receive tax relief on any savings you make into the Scheme through your employer’s payroll. This is because your pension is a ‘Net Pay’ Scheme, which means the contributions your employer deducts and pays into your account are deducted before you pay tax. This is particularly important for higher rate tax payers, since thousands of people each year fail to reclaim higher rate tax relief owed to them.

However, if your earnings are below the starting rate for income tax, please note that you do not benefit from the tax relief a taxpayer would receive. This doesn’t affect the amount that is paid into your pension and you’ll continue to benefit from the money that your employer pays in.



MASTER TRUST ASSURANCE

The SEI Master Trust recently underwent an audit of its governance, processes and controls. This audit is carried out annually by independent assurance experts. We are delighted to tell you that once again we passed with flying colours and there are ‘no exceptions’ to report.



MASTER TRUST AUTHORISATION

With effect from October 2019, all Master Trusts operating in the UK must receive authorised status from the Pensions Regulator.

The trustees submitted the Scheme’s application for authorisation in February and would hope to have our authorised status confirmed in the summer. If you would like to read the press release following the submission, this can be found here:

<https://seic.com/en-gb/newsroom/sei-submits-master-trust-authorisation-tptr>



COLD CALLING BAN

We have written to you many times to warn you of pension scams, where fraudsters try to con people out of their pension savings. We're pleased to confirm that, since January 2019, cold calling someone you do not know (including telephone calls, emails or texts) in relation to pensions has been banned and carries a stiff fine for anyone caught doing it.

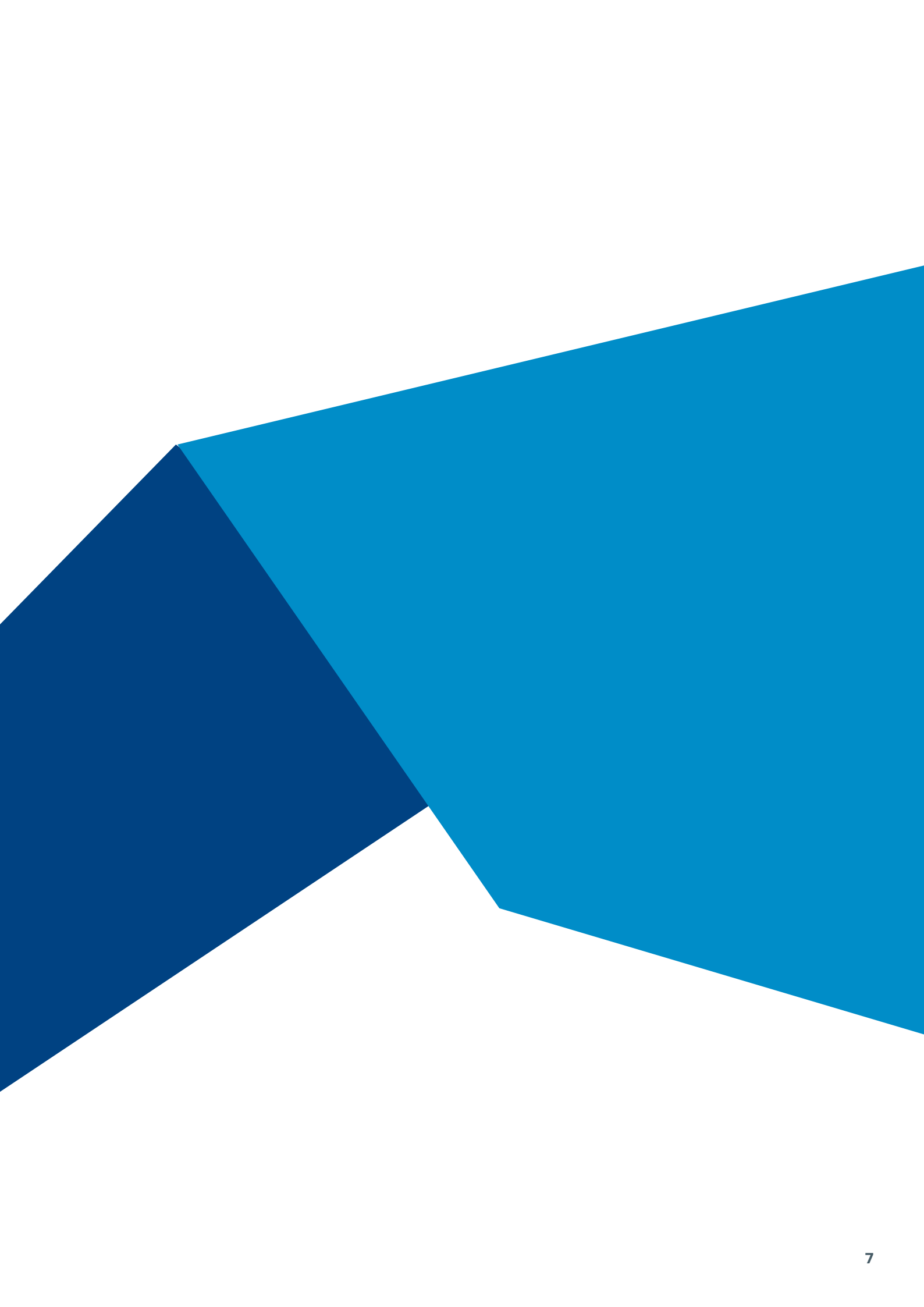
However, this applies only to firms based in the UK and, bearing in mind the people making the calls are already criminals, they may not be overly put off by the new ban!

What it does mean is that if you ever get a call out of the blue from someone you do not know in relation to your pension, it was illegal for that person to contact you and it is almost certainly a scam.

Please always be wary of anyone approaching you with any form of investment opportunity claiming to be acting on behalf of the FCA, or government department (including 'Pension Wise'). Also, remember the saying that 'If it seems too good to be true, it probably is' and anyone offering guaranteed high investment returns, offering a free pension review, and/or using high pressure sales tactics to get you to sign up quickly is more than likely a scammer.

Always get impartial advice from a legitimate Independent Financial Adviser (IFA) before investing or transferring funds. If you suspect a scam or think you have been scammed, report it to the FCA. More details on scams (and what to look out for) are available from the FCA website.

<https://www.fca.org.uk/scamsmart/how-avoid-pension-scams>



For more information

If you have a question or need additional information, contact the admin team and they will be happy to help.

Contact the Scheme Administrator by

Post: SEI Trustees Limited, c/o Capita Employee Benefits,
PO BOX 555, Stead House, Darlington, DL1 9YT

Tel: (0)800 011 3540 or (0)114 273 7331

Email: seic@capita.co.uk

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New answers.®

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Past performance is not a guarantee of future performance. Investment in the range of the SEI Master Trust's funds is intended as a long-term investment. The value of an investment and any income from it can go down as well as up. Investors may not get back the original amount invested.