

B&CE Additional Voluntary Contributions Scheme

(To be read in conjunction with the B&CE Retirement Benefit guide)



Details

The scheme was available to members from 1986 until 8 April 2001 when B&CE's EasyBuild Stakeholder Pension was introduced. It was designed to give them the opportunity to boost their retirement benefit by making their own regular contributions to the B&CE retirement fund. It was available to all construction workers who, through their employers' contributions, were members of the B&CE Lump Sum Retirement Benefit Scheme (LSRB), an occupational pension scheme approved by HM Revenue & Customs (HMRC).

Investment bonus

The Trustees' objective for the investment strategy of the Additional Voluntary Contributions (AVC) Scheme is to grow the fund each year by at least inflation measured by the change in the Retail Prices Index (RPI).

The AVC fund invests in a wide range of UK government bonds, inflation linked investments as well as stocks and shares.

A bonus is declared each year subject to investment performance, the RPI annual inflation figure and actuarial recommendations. Once the bonus has been added it's guaranteed. Please see the Table for bonus history.

Please note that past performance is not a guide to future performance. We cannot guarantee the amount of future bonuses.

Death before retirement

In the event of death before retirement, the total value of the fund will be paid to the members' dependants or personal representative.

To claim

For any AVCs started before 8 April 1987, you can take the entire fund as a tax-free lump sum subject to HMRC limits.

For any AVCs started after 8 April 1987, under HMRC regulations, you would normally be able to take up to 25% of the fund as a tax-free lump sum and use the remainder to provide an income in retirement.

Year	Bonus
1991/92	8.00%
1992/93	15.00%
1993/94	15.00%
1994/95	7.00%
1995/96	15.00%
1996/97	10.00%
1997/98	16.00%
1998/99	8.00%
1999/00	10.00%
2000/01	4.00%
2001/02	1.00%
2002/03	0.00%
2003/04	0.00%
2004/05	0.00%
2005/06	1.00%
2006/07	5.00%
2007/08	4.30%
2008/09	0.00%
2009/10	3.95%
2010/11	5.20%
2011/12	3.10%
2012/13	6.00%
2013/14	15.00%
2014/15	10.00%
2015/16	5.00%
2016/17	7.50%
2017/18	3.30%

If you're in serious ill health (which is defined as having a life expectancy of less than 12 months), then 100% of the fund can be paid to you as a tax-free lump sum. This will be subject to receiving suitable medical evidence from a registered medical practitioner and satisfying HMRC requirements.

If you wish you can also transfer the total of your LSRB AVCs and LSRB Employers Additional Voluntary Contributions (EAVCs) to another B&CE scheme or another provider, that offer other options on how you can access your pension savings. If you'd like to transfer, call us on 0300 2000 555.