



Credit Suisse Group (UK)
Pension Fund Trustee

Securing your pension benefits

As Trustee of the Credit Suisse Group (UK) Pension Fund (the Fund), **the security of your pension benefits is our top priority.**

September 2024



As you may be aware, the funding of many UK defined benefit pension schemes has improved in recent years and many schemes that are in a strong funding position like ours are taking steps to reduce risk for their members. We are in the fortunate position of being able to do this too as a result of significant contributions from the sponsor and the careful management of the Fund over many years, as well as improved investment conditions.

We're pleased to report that we've recently completed a buy-in for the Fund with Legal and General Assurance Society Limited (Legal & General).

What is a buy-in?

A buy-in is the purchase of a bulk annuity insurance policy for the defined benefits (DB) within the Fund.

Your DB benefits are now backed by an insurance policy with an insurer regulated by the Prudential Regulatory Authority (the PRA), part of the Bank of England. The policy is designed to match the DB benefits payable from the Fund and is an asset of the Fund. It reduces risk for the Fund and increases the security of members' benefits for the future.

What does this mean for me?

This change does not affect your benefits in the Fund - you don't need to do anything. This communication is for your information only.

The purchase of the insurance policy with Legal & General does not impact the running of the Fund. If you're currently receiving a pension from the Fund, we'll continue to pay it as usual. We'll continue to calculate annual pension increases as we do currently. If you aren't yet receiving your pension and have any questions about your retirement options or a transfer value, please contact Fidelity, the Fund administrator, using the details on the back of this leaflet.

The buy-in relates to the Fund's defined benefits (DB). Whether you are a DB only, or a DB and defined contribution (DC) member, the day-to-day administration of your benefits has not changed as a result of the buy-in.

Want to know more? Read our frequently asked questions about the buy-in inside this leaflet.

Frequently asked questions

How does a buy-in work?

A buy-in operates in much the same way as any other insurance policy – it acts as a safety net to the value of something (in this case the benefit payments from the Fund). The insurance policy is one of the Fund's assets. For all pension or benefit payments that the Fund has to make, Legal & General pays the amount due to the Trustee, who then pays that to the members.

What's the benefit of a buy-in?

Our main reason for this buy-in is to further increase the security of your pension benefits. There are some factors within a pension fund that we cannot fully control, such as investment risks, inflation rates and life expectancy. The buy-in policy removes these risks by ensuring that there will always be enough money in the Fund to pay your benefits.

Legal & General is also required by the PRA to hold a material buffer over and above the cost of providing the benefits under the policy with them.

Why have you decided to complete a buy-in now?

The Fund is in a strong financial position having received significant contributions from Credit Suisse International (the Company) over many years and benefited from favourable investment conditions. There has also been careful management of the Fund for a significant period of time which has led us to this favourable position. After consultation with the Company, we decided that now was a good time to take these steps to further safeguard your pension benefits. Completing the buy-in now helps to protect the Fund for the future.

The purchase of a buy-in policy was a Trustee investment decision, taken after seeking advice from our investment and other advisers and consulting with key Company representatives, who were also in favour of this action. In a process independent of the Trustee and its advisers, the Company took advice from its own advisers before deciding to support the transaction.

Why did you choose Legal & General?

A buy-in is a specialist insurance product that requires a significant level of expertise, operational infrastructure and capital backing. We looked at a number of providers to find the one we felt would suit our Fund's needs best.

Here's an example of how an insurance policy could be beneficial:

Investment markets become unsettled and investment returns on traditional pension fund assets are lower than would be expected, leading to a shortfall.

The Fund isn't affected as Legal & General makes payments into the Fund which exactly match the pension and other payments Fund members are entitled to.

After undertaking detailed due diligence on Legal & General, and obtaining professional advice, we concluded that Legal & General was an appropriate insurer with which to insure the Fund's liabilities over the long term.

Legal & General is a FTSE listed market-leading insurance company and provides a range of financial products to both individuals and institutions, such as pension schemes. Legal & General is a UK insurance company and is one of the main insurers of UK company pension schemes. As an insurance company, rather than a pension scheme, Legal & General is authorised by the PRA and regulated by the PRA and the Financial Conduct Authority (FCA).

Given the volume and strength of the Legal & General business and the fact that Legal & General is a leader in the buy-in market, offering favourable terms (in respect of both cost and quality) to meet our requirement, our advisers recommended that we proceed with the buy-in with Legal & General and we agreed with that recommendation.

What will this mean for me and my pension benefits?

The only difference for all members – deferred or pensioner – is that your benefits within the Fund will be even more secure. **You won't see any changes in the way in which we look after the Fund.**

If you're a pensioner, the benefits you and your eligible beneficiaries receive and how you receive them will remain the same – there will be no change. We'll continue to calculate annual pension increases as we do now.

Will the Trustee change as a result of the buy-in?

No, Independent Trustee Services Limited remains the Trustee of the Fund and we will continue having responsibility for oversight of the running of the Fund.

How does the buy-in transaction affect the privacy of my data?

To complete the implementation of the Legal & General Policy, we needed to give Legal & General certain information about DB Fund members and their beneficiaries. This will enable it to exercise its rights and comply with its obligations under the bulk annuity policy. As data controller of the Fund data, we are obliged to comply with the requirements of the Data Protection Act 2018, including ensuring that members are properly informed about the use of their data. The privacy notice for the Fund is available at www.mycspensionplace.co.uk/document-library/

Legal & General will also be data controller of the data provided and will need to comply with the requirements of the Data Protection Act 2018. You can find a copy of Legal & General's most up-to-date privacy notice, setting out details of how they look after member data at www.legalandgeneral.com/institutional/pension-risk-transfer/privacy-policy

What will happen next?

Nothing will change for you. We'll work closely with Legal & General to ensure the buy-in works in the best interests of you, our members. We'll continue in our Trustee duties regarding the Fund and Fidelity will continue to be the Fund administrator.



Credit Suisse Group (UK)
Pension Fund Trustee

If you have any questions about
the buy-in, please contact us at:



Email:

creditsuisse@weareigg.com



Address:

Credit Suisse Group (UK) Pension Fund
c/o Independent Trustee Services Limited
4th floor
78 Cannon Street
London
EC4N 6HL

For information about your
Fund benefits, please contact the
Fidelity Pensions Service Centre:



Phone:

0800 368 6870

Between 8am-6pm on UK business days



Email:

dbpensions.service@fil.com

