

Important issues for you to consider

[IF MemberOver60 = Y]

Deciding whether to transfer from the 1995 Section to the 2008 Section is a significant financial decision. As each person's position will be different, it is important you consider all the issues.

However the most important issue to consider is **the age at which you are going to retire**. There are also a number of **other issues** which you should consider.

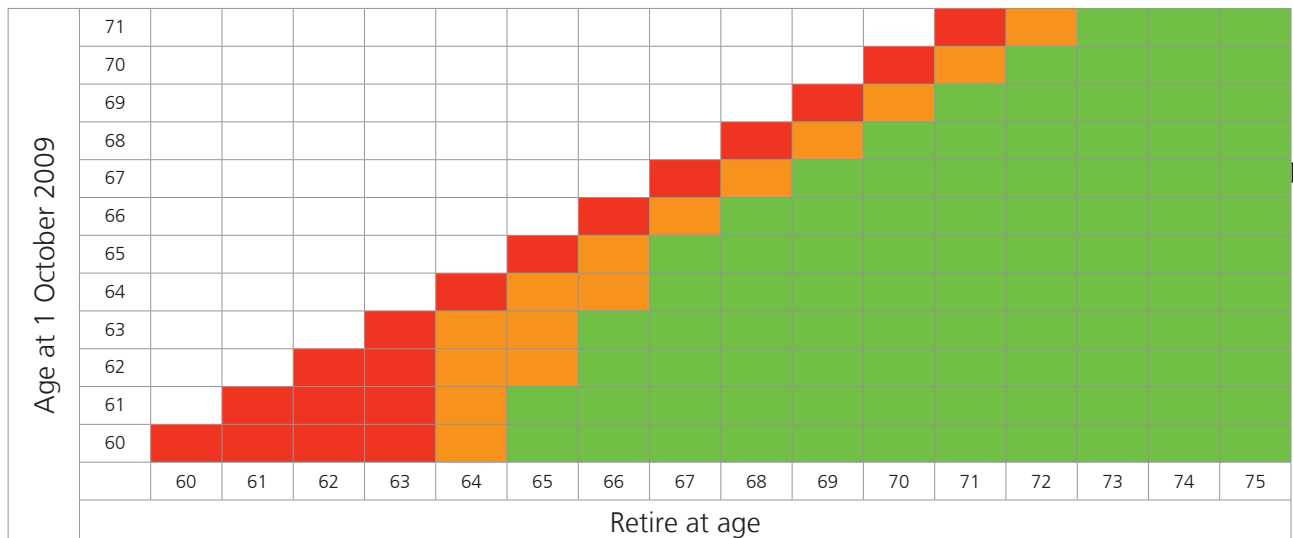
1. The age at which you are going to retire

As you are already 60 at the time of conversion and you transfer to the 2008 Section, there is a lower factor applied to the benefits you built up in the 1995 Section prior to April 2008. This means for one year of membership in the 1995 Section you will get less than one year's membership in the 2008 Section. The factors that apply reduce with age – the reasons for this are fully explained in *Your NHS Pension Choice Guide*.

If you transfer your benefits, then retire before age 65, your benefits are also subject to an early retirement factor which reduces your benefits. If you transfer your benefits and retire after age 65, a late retirement factor is applied which increases your benefits.

If you leave your benefits in the 1995 Section, they are paid unreduced on retirement at any time from age 60. But in the 1995 Section no late retirement factors apply if you retire after 60.

Because of the way all the factors described above work you are unlikely to benefit by transferring to the 2008 Section and retiring straight away. The diagram below shows when you are likely to benefit. The green areas indicate situations where transferring to the 2008 Section is likely to benefit you. The red areas indicate situations in which transferring to the 2008 Section is likely to be unattractive from a standpoint of comparing benefits at retirement. Amber areas show where the member retirement benefits comparison is very close and you may want to consider the other points below.



2. Other issues

There are other aspects of the 2008 Section which are advantageous to members. These issues are likely to be important ones to consider for members approaching retirement:

- it offers more flexibility in your choice between tax free cash and pension
- it gives more flexibility in allowing you to take some benefits whilst still working and building up pension
- it will deliver higher benefits if you were to retire on the grounds of ill-health
- it offers higher partner pensions to members who joined before 1988 and have a long term partner other than a wife
- it offers more protection of your pension if your earnings as a non-general, medical, dental or ophthalmic practitioner drop significantly in the ten (rather than three) years before retirement

All these issues are covered fully in *Your NHS Pension Choice Guide*. For more details, you should read the relevant section of the guide and watch the DVD.