

# The Case for a Midlife MOT



A financial health check in your 40s or 50s could significantly improve your chances of a comfortable retirement.

Retirement is increasingly seen as a long journey to look forward to, not, as it once was, a relatively short period of life that spelt

the end of the road. Today's retirees are more busy, independent and curious than ever and have more time to settle into a life filled with endless possibilities.



Many of us can expect to spend close to a third of our life in retirement, but without a long-term plan, we run the risk of outliving our financial security.

The fact that a defined contribution pension pot can be taken in a variety of different

ways only serves to make the decision on how, and when, to retire even more complex. When is the best time to take our pension; and do we take it all, or just part of it? When should we access our tax-free entitlement? We always start with your objectives in mind; how much money do you need each month, and for how long? How much of your pension would you like to leave as a legacy?

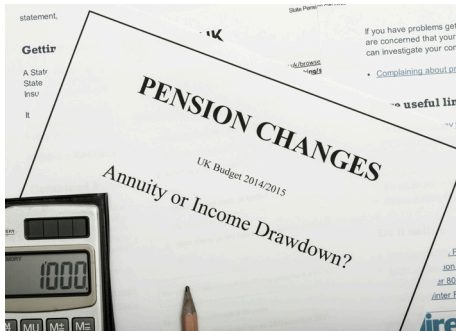
## Regular Inspection

Financial planning should address a range of issues, such as how long we are prepared to keep working for, our predicted life expectancy, our State Pension entitlement, how much income our savings need to provide, and how much money we want to pass on to loved ones.

Yet there is no natural trigger point during our working lives which encourages us to think about these issues, meaning that many of us will end up leaving it too late. Many of us would benefit from examining our choices much earlier in life.



The importance of having a regular review cannot be stressed enough, especially as we get closer to retirement.



This is why a Midlife MOT can be so useful for a great number of people. Annie Mason is a local trusted Financial Adviser and is encouraging people to make an appointment with her to discuss a Midlife MOT. Annie will discuss your circumstances and objectives and put all the complexities into plain English for you.

The value of an investment with St. James's Place will be directly linked to the performance of the funds you select, and the value can therefore go down as well as up. You may get back less than you invested.

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