

The newsletter of the E.ON UK Group of
the Electricity Supply Pension Scheme

In touch

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Chair's message



Welcome to the October 2024 edition of your In touch newsletter, in which we bring you the latest news from the E.ON UK Group of the ESPS.

This edition includes a summary of the financial statements for the year ended 31 March 2024, as well as an update on how the Scheme's assets are invested and how they've performed. We are also pleased to confirm that a transfer of the assets and liabilities of the Npower Group of the ESPS was successfully completed on 31 March 2024 and further information on this can be found on page 9.

Every three years, a full actuarial valuation of the Scheme is carried out to assess its financial health and the Trustees' key focus over recent months has been the actuarial valuation due as at 31 March 2024.

We will let you know the results of this valuation once it is finalised, and we expect this to be in the first half of 2025.

Finally, I would remind members that further information on your Scheme can be found on the member website — **myeonpension.com**. We've also included details on page 2 of how you can register for access to view and manage your pension at any time with a myESPS account if you've not done this already.

Martine Trouard-Riolle

Manage your pension anytime, anywhere, with a myESPS account

Keeping track of your pension savings has never been easier with a secure myESPS account online.

When you register, you'll have access to view and manage your pension at any time, wherever it's convenient for you. Here's how to register, if you haven't already, as well as a guide to what you can do once you're logged in.

How do I register for a myESPS account?

It's quick and easy to register for a myESPS account if you haven't already.

To get started, go to myeonpension.com and click 'Login to myESPS account' or 'Login to myESPS (former Npower Group members only)' if you're a member of one of the Npower benefit categories. You'll then reach the 'Welcome' page. Select 'if you have not registered, please click here'. Then follow the simple steps to create your myESPS account.

What information will I need to register?

To register, you'll need to have the following information to hand:

- Your date of birth
- National Insurance (NI) number
- Personal email address
- Your activation code (a unique reference number which has been sent to you by post)

If you no longer have your activation code letter or if you have any problems registering, please email netenquiries@railpen.com. Please include 3 items of information from the list below to allow Railpen to identify your pension record:

- Day and month of your date of birth
- First 5 characters of your NI number
- First line of your current home address
- Your payroll/member number (if known)

You can find a step-by-step guide and a short video which explains how to register at myeonpension.com/help/using-your-account.

Your myESPS account is the quickest and easiest way to track your pension savings and update your details.

When you log in you can:

- View your personal record
- Complete an Expression of Wish
- Update your contact information
- Request an estimate of your pension benefits at your Normal Retirement Age (NRA)

You can also access your important pension documents, including your latest Annual Benefit Statement and payslips and P60s if you're a pensioner.

Trustee Board update

Appointed



Martine
Trouard-Riolle
- Chair*



Keith
Plowman
- Deputy Chair**



Stefan
Brenk



Sara
Leavesley

Member-Nominated



Mike
Andrews**



Adrian
Harris**



Gary
Marsh**



Steve
Millward**

*The Company has appointed Capital Cranfield Trustees Limited represented by Martine Trouard-Riolle, an independent professional Trustee, as Chair of the Trustee Board. **Pensioner member of the E.ON UK Group of the ESPS.

The Trustee Board consists of eight Trustees: four are appointed by E.ON UK plc and four are drawn from the membership following a nomination and selection process.

Trustee sub-committees

The Trustee Board is ultimately responsible for all decisions made but has delegated some of its work to committees.

Governance and Risk Committee

Responsible for oversight of the Scheme's:

- internal controls
- risk management
- accounting processes, and
- the preparation of the annual report and financial statements

The members of the Committee are Adrian Harris, Gary Marsh (chair) and Steve Millward. Gary Burmiston (Senior Vice President, Corporate Audit, E.ON) is also a member of the Committee by invitation of the Trustees.

Investment Committee

Gives detailed consideration to certain investment matters and has delegated authority to make investment decisions within risk parameters defined by the Trustee Board.

The members of the Committee are:

- Martine Trouard-Riolle (chair)
- Mike Andrews
- Stefan Brenk, and
- Keith Plowman

Manpreet Rattan (E.ON SE Asset Management & Pension Finance) is also a member of the Committee by invitation of the Trustees.

Member Communications Committee

Gives detailed consideration to all matters related to the Trustees' communications with members. The members of the Committee are Martine Trouard-Riolle (chair), Gary Marsh and Steve Millward.

Determinations Committee

The Determinations Committee is responsible for determining the recipients of benefits payable under discretionary trust and for considering and responding to complaints under the Internal Dispute Resolution Procedure. The members of the Committee are Adrian Harris (chair), Sara Leavesley and Mike Andrews.

Our advisers

To assist them in their work, the Trustees have appointed a team of professional advisers. We have formal agreements with all our advisers and also have a rolling programme to review them. The Scheme Custodian is centrally appointed by the ESPS Trustee.

Actuary:	David Eteen of Aon Solutions UK Limited
Investment Adviser (Defined Benefit):	Cardano Risk Management B.V.
Investment Adviser (Defined Contribution AVCs):	Aon Solutions UK Limited
Principal Legal Adviser:	DLA Piper UK LLP
Independent Auditor:	PricewaterhouseCoopers LLP
Sponsor Covenant Assessor:	Cardano Advisory
Administrator:	Railpen Limited
Scheme Custodian:	The Bank of New York Mellon

More information on the Scheme, including its formal documents such as the Statement of Investment Principles and recent Annual Reports & Financial Statements, can be found at myeonpension.com.

You will also be able to find the Trustee's Privacy Notice, setting out how we use your personal data as a member of the Scheme and what rights UK data protection law gives you in respect of your data. Personal data broadly means information that identifies (or which could, with other information that we hold or are likely to hold, identify) a living individual. We may also hold information about your family and dependants. If you don't have access to the internet and would like a copy of any of these documents, please contact our administrators, Railpen, whose details are shown on the back page.

Financial summary



Membership statistics at 31 March 2024:

1,085

Contributing members

3,664

Dependants

11,643

Pensioners

6,377

Deferred pensioners

The Scheme's financial statements have been audited by PricewaterhouseCoopers LLP, which has confirmed that they show a true and fair view of the financial transactions during the 12 months to 31 March 2024, and that contributions were paid to the Scheme as set out in the Schedule of Contributions in force during the period.

Highlights from the Report & Financial Statements for the year ended 31 March 2024.

£3.3
billion

The total value of the Scheme's net assets

£22 million

The amount paid into the Scheme by the Company during the year.

This includes £3.6 million of member contributions paid by the Company under salary sacrifice arrangements.

£207 million

The value of benefits paid out to members during the year.

£2.4 million

The value of transfers out during the year.

22,769

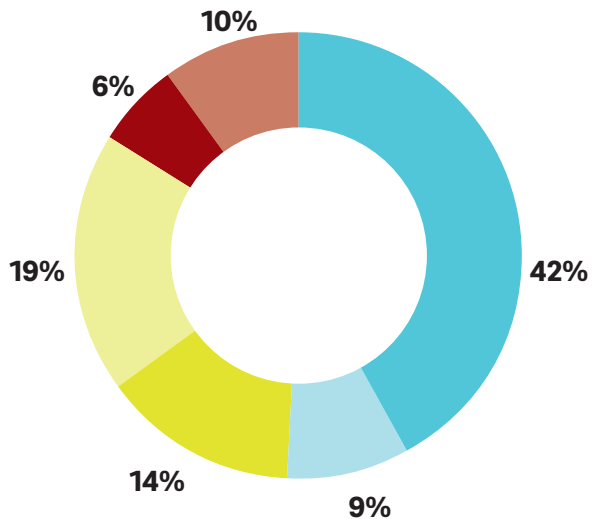
The number of members across the Scheme

£225 million

Transfer-in from the Npower Group of the ESPS.

Scheme Assets

The Scheme's investment strategy is to hold a diversified range of asset classes aiming to achieve steady growth at relatively low risk. As at 31 March 2024, the Scheme's assets were comprised of the following:



- Liability hedging assets - 42%
- Credit (Bonds) - 9%
- Equities - 14%
- Multi-strategy & Macro-oriented - 19%
- Niche Assets/Private Equity - 6%
- Other* - 10%

*Includes liquidity fund holdings, Additional Voluntary Contributions assets, cash balances, accruals and the assets transferred from the Npower Group of the ESPS.

Year ended 31 March 2024

Asset Class	£ million
Matching assets	
Liability-Driven Investments Assets	1,401.2
Return seeking assets	
Credit (Bonds)	292.8
Equities	450.1
Multi-Strategy & Macro-Oriented	641.7
Niche Assets/Private Equity	212.1
Other Hedging Assets	(3.6)
Other*	304.8
Total	3,299.1

* Includes liquidity fund holdings, Additional Voluntary Contributions assets, cash balances, accruals and the assets transferred from the Npower Group of the ESPs.

The overall performance of the Scheme's assets for the year ended 31 March 2024 was -1.0%.

The Trustees have adopted an investment strategy that includes a significant holding in liability hedging assets. These assets provide some protection to the Scheme's funding position by moving closely in line with the rise and fall in liability values, which are affected by UK government bond (gilt) yields. Although the value of the Scheme's assets has, on average, fallen in each of the past three financial years, the value of the Scheme's liabilities has also fallen, resulting in the funding remaining reasonably stable over the period.

Transfer from the Npower Group of the ESPS

The Trustees are pleased to confirm that the assets and liabilities of the Npower Group were successfully transferred to the E.ON UK Group earlier this year as part of a project initiated by E.ON UK plc to rationalise its pension arrangements.

This meant that the assets of the Npower Group, amounting to approximately £225m, transferred across to the E.ON UK Group on 31 March 2024, and all members of the Npower Group, totalling just under 1,000, now have their benefits provided by the E.ON UK Group.

All of the existing benefits and options under the various sections of the Npower Group (i.e. Main, 2005, 60ths) have been replicated in the E.ON UK Group, and there have been no changes to pension benefits as a result of the transfer. It is expected that the Npower Group will be formally wound-up later this year.

Electricity Supply Pension Scheme - AGM

The ESPS holds an Annual General Meeting for members which relates to the Scheme as a whole and does not cover any business specific to the individual Groups of the ESPS.

The purpose of the AGM is to receive the Annual Report and Financial Statements and the Auditors' Report, receive the report of the ESPS Trustee, and conduct any general business. This year's AGM will be held on Tuesday 19 November 2024, starting at 1pm. Members will only be able to attend virtually using electronic meeting software. Details of how to register for the meeting will be available, along with certain other Scheme AGM information, on the ESPS website (espspensions.co.uk) in due course.



Climate change governance regulations

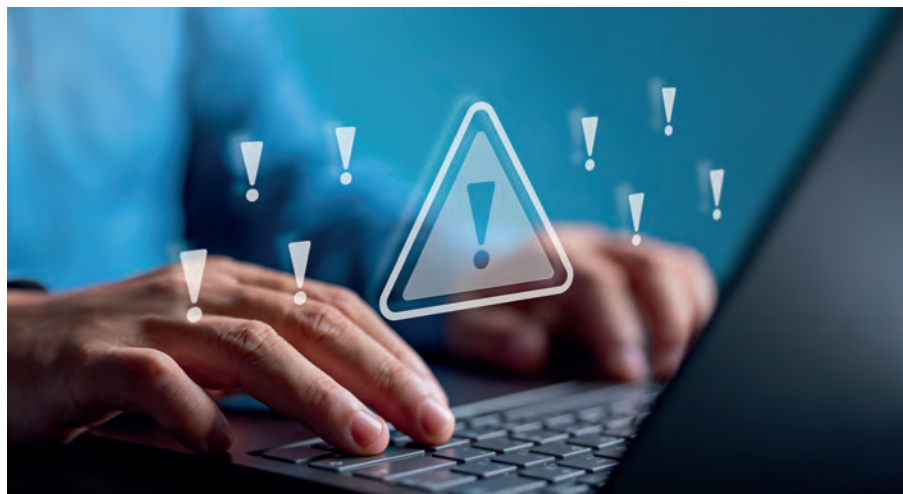
New regulations on climate change governance and reporting requirements came into force on 1 October 2021. These were based on the recommendations of the Taskforce on Climate-related Financial Disclosures (TCFD).

The process of carrying out TCFD reporting is intended to lead to better-informed decision-making on climate risks, and improved transparency to improve accountability.

The report requires disclosure reporting across each of the four TCFD pillars, which are:

- **governance**
- **strategy**
- **risk management**
- **metrics and targets**

The Electricity Supply Pension Scheme reports are available online. Read the Scheme reports at [espensions.co.uk/#useful-documentation](https://www.espensions.co.uk/#useful-documentation).



Stay alert for scams

Any of us can fall prey to a scam. Watch out for the following tell-tale signs:

Out-of-the-blue contact/offers

Cold calling about pensions is illegal. If you're contacted by phone or text, report it to Action Fraud.

Time-sensitive opportunities

Too-good-to-be-true deals which are available only for a short timeslot.

Offers to help release your pension before age 55

Claims of allowing you to access your pension before age 55 are likely to be scams.

Requesting personal information

Never give personal information to an unsolicited contact.

Always be wary and think twice if you suspect foul play. Report anything suspicious by calling:

- Action Fraud on **0300 123 2040**
- Advice Direct if you're in Scotland on **0808 164 6000**

Where to go for guidance and advice about your pension

Pensions can be complicated. If you're making a decision about your financial future, remember that you don't have to make it alone.

Taking financial guidance or advice could help you make the right decision for your circumstances, and give you added peace of mind.

You might find it particularly useful if you're approaching retirement or thinking about a pension transfer. In some cases (typically for transfer values of £30k or more) you may have to take financial advice, by law, before you can request a transfer.

Here's a few organisations you might find helpful...

MoneyHelper - Offers free, impartial advice and support with money and pensions online and over the phone. At [moneyhelper.org.uk](https://www.moneyhelper.org.uk) you can find in-depth guides, tools and calculations to help you plan for your future.

Gov.uk - The government website gives useful information on a range of financial matters. Visit the workplace and personal pensions section for help with planning for retirement, tax on your pension contributions and transferring your pension.

Unbiased - To find a register of Independent Financial Advisers (IFAs) try [unbiased.co.uk](https://www.unbiased.co.uk). You'll find contact information for IFAs in your local area, and all IFAs on the site are registered with the Financial Conduct Authority (FCA).

The Financial Conduct Authority (FCA) - At [fca.org.uk](https://www.fca.org.uk) you can find the Financial Services Register, which includes all FCA-authorized firms in the UK. If you're taking financial advice, check who you're speaking to is on the register.



Pension news update

General Election 2024 – new Labour government

On 4 July, Sir Keir Starmer's Labour Party won a majority in the House of Commons following the general election. This allowed a new Labour government to be formed.

Labour's manifesto pledged to keep the State Pension triple lock and to make reforms to workplace pensions, to deliver better outcomes for UK savers and pensioners. The new government has also announced the launch of a review to 'boost investment, increase pension pots, and tackle waste in the pensions system'.

An early decision announced by the new government is to stop Winter Fuel payments for all but those in receipt of Pension Credit.

Changes to tax limits

The Lifetime Allowance (LTA) was abolished on 6 April 2024 and replaced by new allowances. Although in earlier statements Labour said they had plans to reinstate the LTA, this wasn't covered in their manifesto. And in the run-up to the election, they confirmed that the LTA would not be reinstated.

There are 3 allowances that have replaced the LTA, and they limit the total amount of tax-free lump sums people can get from pension savings. They're called:

- The Lump Sum Allowance (LSA)
- The Lump Sum and Death Benefits Allowance (LSDVA), and
- The Overseas Transfer Allowance

You can learn more about these allowances on myeonpension.com/news/news-detail/2024/09/26/changes-to-tax-limits.

Check if you are eligible for Pension Credit

The Department for Work and Pensions (DWP) has said that 880,000 eligible households are yet to claim Pension Credit – a means-tested top-up payment from the government – while many may not even know they are eligible for it.

What is Pension Credit?

Pension Credit gives you extra money to help with your living costs if you're over State Pension age and on a low income. It can also help with housing costs such as ground rent or service charges.

It is separate from your State Pension and you can get it even if you have other income, savings or your own home.

Pension Credit is worth, on average, £3,900 a year. Extra help may be available if you're:

- a carer
- severely disabled
- responsible for a child or a young person

How to check if you're eligible

You can use the calculator tool at [gov.uk/pension-credit-calculator](https://www.gov.uk/pension-credit-calculator) to find out if you're eligible for Pension Credit and how much you could get. If you have a partner, your income is calculated together.

You must live in England, Scotland or Wales and have reached State Pension age to qualify for Pension Credit.

Pension Credit tops up:

- Your weekly income to £218.15 if you're single
- Your joint weekly income to £332.95 if you have a partner

If your income is higher, you might still be eligible for Pension Credit if you have a disability, you care for someone, or have other circumstances that extend eligibility for this allowance.

How to apply

You can apply for Pension Credit online at [gov.uk/pension-credit](https://www.gov.uk/pension-credit), or call the claim line on 0800 991 234.

Where to find more information

More information on Pension Credit is available at [gov.uk/pension-credit/how-to-claim](https://www.gov.uk/pension-credit/how-to-claim).

Contact us

If you want specific information about your pension, you will need to get in touch with our pension scheme administrator, Railpen, which calculates and pays the benefits on behalf of the Trustees and holds all the individual member records.

Railpen's contact details are:

2 Rye Hill Office Park
Birmingham Road
Coventry
CV5 9AB

Email: **enquiries@railpen.com**

Telephone: **0247 6472 541**

If you have a question for the Trustees, you can email **pensions.feedback@eon-uk.com**. If you don't have access to email, please write to Railpen and your letter will be passed on. You can also ask to see the Scheme's formal documents, including our Statement of Funding Principles and Statement of Investment Principles.

Information on the Scheme is also available at **myeonpension.com**.