

### Average woman needs a €30k p.a. retirement income but has saved just €1,500 p.a.

**Standard Life welcomes its 5<sup>th</sup> National Women’s pensions Day to raise awareness of the importance of pensions saving for women**

**March 7, 2017**

*A recent survey\* commissioned by Standard Life of over 500 women, reveals the average woman needs €30,600 p.a. in retirement to live comfortably but has saved a retirement income of just €1,500p.a. \*\* This excludes the maximum state pension of almost €12,400 p.a.*

*Not everyone will be entitled to the maximum contributory state pension especially those who have taken time out of work or who worked abroad particularly in non-EU countries.*

*“The best case scenario for the average woman is a retirement income of €13,900 p.a. which is not enough to live on comfortably,” said Aileen Power, Standard Life’s women’s pension’s spokeswoman. “We know women expect a high standard of living in retirement, winter sun holidays, dining out, socialising etc. That’s not going to happen on less than €14,000 p.a.” she said.*

*The pensions ‘gap’ for the average woman is approximately €16,000 p.a. (€30k minus €14k) or an additional pension savings pot of €370k (based on a 4.3% annuity rate for a 65 year old).*

*Women need to start talking more about pensions with friends and family, understanding how fantastic the tax breaks are, asking to join their work pension scheme and using pensions calculators to figure out how much they need to save, according to Power.*

**Further survey highlights:**

- 63% of women don’t know how to start a pension
- 75% of women don’t realise pensions are tax efficient
- 81% of women said they wouldn’t discuss pensions on a night out with their friends
- 69% of women don’t know that tax relief on pensions is worth up to 40% of the contributions made

**Women - Do you own a pension? Yes**

18-24	25 to 34	35 to 44	45 to 54	55-69?	70+
0%	37%	48%	52%	61%	70%

**Power’s top tips:**

- Many financial advisers will give a one hour free introductory session when starting a pension and figuring out how much to save? Click on link <http://piba.ie/> or IBA.ie to find nearest adviser/s to you.
- Don’t leave money on the table. If you’re employer has an occupational scheme and is offering to contribute 5% or more of your salary per year into your pension scheme – seize it.

- Click on *financial calculator* to find out how much you need to live on comfortably in retirement.  
<http://www.standardlife.ie/1/site/ie/pensions/pensionsexplained/yourincomeinretirement>

Standard Life is delighted to mark the fifth anniversary of National Women's Pensions Day which it launched in 2013 to coincide with International Women's Day on March 8<sup>th</sup>. Standard Life is planning a women's pension's conference in the summer for its female customers and advisers to promote awareness of the importance of women saving adequately for when they stop working.

Ends

### Notes for Editors

\*Based on a survey commissioned by Standard Life and conducted by Ireach of 514 women aged 18+ between 17 December to 5 January, 2017.

\*\*Based on the above survey, the average female pension pot is €35,900 (€1,500 p.a.) and the average male pot is €110,600 (or €4,800p.a) based on a 4.3% annuity rate for a 65 year old.

The contributory state pension increases to almost €12,400 from March 10, 2017. Weekly payment is €238.30 X 52 equals €12,392. Source: welfare.ie

### For media queries contact:

Aileen Power, head of corporate communications (01) 639 7166 or mobile (086) 8506 281.