



Your Investment Options

This guide sets out the investment options available on Synergy pension, savings and investment products

Standard Life

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Investment options

It's your money - it's your choice where to invest it.

Investing your money for the long term is a big decision. So before you make that leap, it's important to know that you'll have the choice as to how and where your money is invested and flexibility to change your investment choices if your personal circumstances change.

With Standard Life, you can choose from a wide range of funds. We also offer deposits, direct property and stockbroking*. And because these investment options carry different levels of risk, we recommend that you talk to your financial adviser.

* Execution-only

“I’m going to be investing for a long time, so I reckon it’s worth taking the time now to make sure I choose a company I can rely on.”

Why choose Standard Life?

Standard Life is a leading long-term savings and investments company. Headquartered in Edinburgh and operating internationally, we've been in Ireland since 1834 and have been helping generations of Irish customers plan for their future.

Global investment expertise

Standard Life Investments manage the majority of our funds. Headquartered in Edinburgh, they are global active asset managers with more than 1,500 talented individuals*.

You have a wide choice

You can choose from a wide range of funds. You also have the option of deposits, direct property and stockbroking**.

Your policy is protected

Your policy is covered by the UK's Financial Services Compensation Scheme⁺. This covers 100% of the value of your claim - with no upper limit.

⁺See page 14

* Source: Standard Life Investments, 31 December 2015.

** Execution-only



We'll provide regular information on your investment and if you need help at any stage, call us on **(01) 639 7000**





Funds

Standard Life's funds are all about choice. They give you a wide range of investment opportunities. Here are some examples.

MyFolio Active III Fund:	MyFolio Active III may suit you if you have a balanced attitude towards risk. This fund is part of a family of multi-asset funds that are risk-based. They range from MyFolio Active I, which is a low risk fund up to MyFolio Active V, which is at the higher end of the risk scale.
Global Absolute Return Strategies Fund:	Looks to generate returns in a wider variety of ways than conventional funds. It invests in a combination of different strategies across global markets - using traditional asset classes and more advanced derivative techniques.
European Smaller Companies Fund:	Invests mainly in the shares of smaller companies listed on the European stock markets.
Property Fund:	Invests mainly in UK commercial properties across the retail, office and industrial sectors.

Warning: The value of your investment may go down as well as up.

Warning: This investment may be affected by changes in currency exchange rates.



We recommend you speak to a financial adviser before choosing funds.



For more information, refer to MyFolio Active and GARS guides (SYMF10 and GARSCUST).

You'll probably be one of many investors in each fund you choose. Sometimes, in exceptional circumstances, we may wait before we carry out your request to switch your funds, transfer or cash in your policy. This is to maintain fairness between those remaining in and those leaving the fund. For more information, see Switching your funds, transferring or cashing in on page 13. Before you choose a fund, you should read its latest fact sheet.

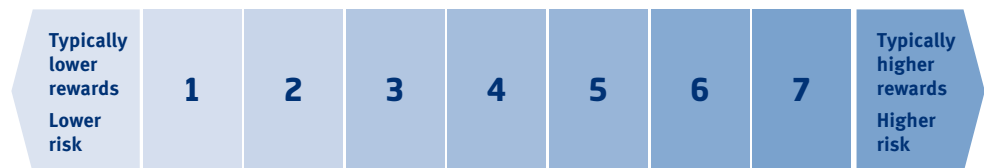


For fund factsheets, performance and other information, at any time, visit our Fund Centre:
www.standardlife.ie/funds

Volatility ratings

The volatility rating for a fund indicates how much the fund price might move compared to other funds. The higher the volatility rating, the less stable the fund price is likely to be. You can use this to help you choose between funds with different volatility ratings.

The volatility ratings of our funds are calculated using the European Security and Markets Authority (ESMA) guidelines, which use a 7 point scale to rate funds based on 5 year annualised volatilities.



Higher volatility ratings typically mean greater potential investment returns over the longer term. But high volatility funds can suddenly fall or rise in value.

Volatility ratings are regularly reviewed and the ratings may change over time.



The volatility rating is not the only factor you should consider when selecting a fund. If you're not sure which funds to choose, please seek advice from a financial adviser.

Funds

The table below lets you see at a glance the range of funds available.

Fund	Volatility Rating*	Annual management charge
Euro Global Liquidity	1	1%
Absolute Return Global Bond Strategies	3	1.20%
Corporate Bond	3	1%
Global Absolute Return Strategies	3	1.35%
Property	4	1.20%
Cautious Managed	4	1%
Enhanced-Diversification Growth	4	1.25%
Fixed Interest	4	1%
Global Inflation Linked Bond	4	1%
Global Real Estate	4	1.5%
Managed	4	1%
Total Return Credit	4	1.3%
Asia Pacific Equity (previously Pacific Basin Equity)	5	1%
European Ethical Equity	5	1.30%
European Equity	5	1%
European Smaller Companies	5	1.50%
Global Equity (previously Global Selector)	5	1%
Global REIT	5	1.45%
Global Smaller Companies	5	1.55%
North American Equity	5	1%
UK Equity	5	1%
UK Smaller Companies	5	1.30%
China Equity	6	1.50%
India Equity**	6	1.50%
Japanese Equity	6	1%

MyFolio Active funds	Volatility Rating*	Annual management charge
MyFolio Active I	3	1.15%
MyFolio Active II	4	1.20%
MyFolio Active III	4	1.25%
MyFolio Active IV	4	1.30%
MyFolio Active V	4	1.35%

MyFolio Market funds	Volatility Rating*	Annual management charge
MyFolio Market I	3	0.95%
MyFolio Market II	4	0.95%
MyFolio Market III	4	0.95%
MyFolio Market IV	4	0.95%
MyFolio Market V	5	0.95%

* Source: Standard Life Investments 28 February 2017. See explanation of volatility ratings on page 07.

** Not available on the Synergy PRSA.

For up to date volatility ratings and their explanation, go to
www.standardlife.ie/funds

Self-directed options

With our self-directed options you can choose deposits, direct property and stockbroking*.

Deposits

You can choose from a range of demand and fixed term deposits.

For more information go to the deposits page on www.standardlife.ie

Direct property

You can buy residential property in Ireland, England or Wales through your pension or approved retirement fund. You decide on the property you want to include in your policy.

We've appointed a range of partners such as solicitors, surveyors, insurers and property management companies.

Stockbroking*

You can invest in a choice of quoted shares, government bonds, exchange traded funds (ETFs) or other securities.

Investing through an execution only stockbroker means you are not given any investment advice. Instead, the stockbroker carries out deals and settles transactions for you, based on the investment decisions you make yourself. This makes it easy for you to control and manage your own share portfolio.

Our appointed execution-only stockbroker is Stocktrade, based in Edinburgh.

* Execution-only

Warning: The value of your investment may go down as well as up.

Warning: This investment may be affected by changes in currency exchange rates.



For more information refer to the Self-directed options guide (SYSD01) and Direct Property guide (SYDPG).



Accessing your investment options

You have the flexibility to choose from the following range of investment options available on our Synergy products (policies started in July 2006, or later).

Here's how you can access them.

	Funds	Self-Directed options		
		Deposits	Direct Property	Execution-only stockbroking
Synergy Executive Pension	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes
Synergy Personal Pension	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes
Synergy PRSA	Yes	Yes	No	Yes**
Synergy approved retirement funds	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes
Synergy Buy Out Bond	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes
Synergy Investment Bond	Yes	Yes	No	Yes*
Synergy Regular Invest	Yes	Yes	No	Yes*

* Exchange traded funds only

** Company shares, government and corporate bonds only

Warning: If you invest in a pension product you will not have access to your money until you retire.

Warning: If you invest in these products you may lose some or all of the money you invest.

Warning: The value of your investment may go down as well as up.

Important points to consider before you invest

Choosing your long term investments is a big decision. Before you make a decision on your long term investments, consider the following points.

Investment managers

Standard Life Investments manage the majority of our funds. Headquartered in Edinburgh, they are global active asset managers with a talented and experienced team. Standard Life Investments Limited and Standard Life Assurance Limited are part of the Standard Life group.

Vanguard manage the passive underlying funds in our MyFolio Market funds. They are one of the world's largest investment companies and were selected by us for their investment expertise in passive investing.

Self-Directed Options

Setting up your investment: If you invest in a Self-Directed Option, a policy cash account will be set up within your policy to facilitate your Self-Directed Options and from which payments are credited and deducted. The policy cash account is a deposit account provided by a third party. For further information see your Key Features document and Self-Directed Options guide (SYSDO1).

Synergy product charges apply including a management charge of 1% per annum. The return on your Self-Directed Option will also be affected by the fund based renewal commission you have agreed with your financial adviser.

Regular payments into the Self-Directed Options: It's not possible to have regular payments transferred automatically from your policy cash account into your chosen Self-Directed Options. Your money will be invested in your policy cash account until you specifically ask us to transfer it to your chosen investment.



For more information on the policy cash account, refer to your product's Key Features document.

Deposits: It is your responsibility to ensure that the deposit you select meets your needs so it is important that you seek appropriate financial advice. Standard Life does not endorse or recommend any deposit or deposit provider and is not responsible for the solvency of a deposit provider or a deposit's performance.

In the event of a deposit provider being unable to meet any claims against it, money from your policy held with that provider will not be covered by schemes such as the Financial Services Compensation Scheme or the Deposit Guarantee Scheme.

Fixed term deposits should only be taken out if you do not require access to your money for the term. Early withdrawal from fixed term deposits is at the discretion of the deposit provider who may impose early withdrawal charges.

Demand deposits have a variable interest rate. The variable interest rate applied to your demand deposits may increase or decrease, at the discretion of the deposit provider. If the variable interest rate for your demand deposit changes, we'll update the change on our website, www.standardlife.ie as soon as reasonably possible.

For current demand deposit rates, please see www.standardlife.ie, contact your financial adviser, or call **(01) 639 7000**.

The rates may change or be withdrawn at short notice. The rate you get is the rate available on the day we transfer the money to the deposit provider. This may take up to five working days.

Deposit account terms and conditions with each of the relevant providers apply and may change at any time at the sole discretion of the deposit provider.

There may be other deposit providers not shown on our website which are available as an investment option. Please call us on **(01) 639 7000** or email customerservice@standardlife.ie for more information.

Switching your funds, transferring or cashing in

You'll probably be one of many investors in each fund you're invested in. Sometimes, in exceptional circumstances, we may wait before we carry out your request to switch your funds, transfer or cash in your policy.

This delay could be for up to a month. But for some funds, the delay could be longer for example if it's a property based fund, it may be up to 12 months because property and land can take longer to sell.

We may also change the pricing basis of a fund to reflect cashflows in and out. These are processes which aim to maintain fairness between those remaining invested and those leaving a fund.

If we have to delay switching, transferring or cashing in, we'll use the fund prices on the day the transaction takes place – these prices could be very different from the prices on the day you made the request.

Information about Synergy Executive Pensions

At the start of the policy, you – the member – choose what the contributions are invested in, in conjunction with the trustees of the scheme. The trustees can override your investment choice. There is no default investment strategy, so if you fail to choose, the trustees must make an investment choice before we can invest the contributions. The trustees are not liable for the performance of the investments, whether selected by themselves or in consultation with you.

After you join the scheme – and for any subsequent additional investments – we'll issue documents to the trustees of the scheme which give investments chosen, their proportions and allocation rates applicable to your and your employer's contributions. For details on how to switch between funds, please refer to the relevant section of the Policy Provisions (SYEP60).



For an explanation of member directions, limitations and restrictions, refer to the relevant section of the Rules (SYEPR).

Your policy is protected

Standard Life in Ireland operates as a branch of our UK parent company. This means that any policies taken out since 1 December 2001 are covered by the UK's Financial Services Compensation Scheme (FSCS) in the event that Standard Life is in default. So if you invest in a Standard Life pension or investment policy, **100% of the claim is covered**, with no upper limit.

There is no equivalent Irish compensation scheme.

For information on FSCS cover, see Your policy is protected (FSCSFAQ).

Third party providers

Standard Life is not responsible for the performance or solvency of the third parties providing investment options through the Synergy product range.



We recommend you get financial advice. You should not base your decision to invest solely on the information in this guide.

Pensions Savings Investments

Find out more

Talk to your financial adviser, they'll give you the information you need.
Also, you can call us or visit our website.

(01) 639 7000

Mon-Fri, 9am to 5pm. Calls may be monitored and/or recorded to protect both you and us and help with our training. Call charges will vary.

www.standardlife.ie



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