

Standard Life
There's a lot to look forward to

Your Investment Options

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



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 execution-only stockbroking. Because these investment options carry different levels of risk and we don't give advice, we recommend that you talk to your financial adviser.

Why choose Standard Life?

Standard Life is a life savings company. That means we provide pensions, retirement solutions, savings, investments and funds for each stage of your life journey.

We've been working in partnership with financial advisers helping people plan and enjoy their futures for more than 180 years in Ireland.

Operating internationally, our team of 350 people in Ireland delivers products and services to support customers and advisers.

Global investment expertise

Aberdeen Standard Investments manage the majority of our funds. They are a leading global asset manager with a talented and experienced team.

You have a wide choice

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



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



Standard Life International dac is an insurance undertaking with its registered address at 90 St Stephen's Green, Dublin 2 and is part of the Phoenix Group and uses the Standard Life brand under licence from the Standard Life Aberdeen Group. You can find out more about the strategic partnership between the Phoenix Group and Standard Life Aberdeen Group at www.thephoenixgroup.com

Aberdeen Standard Investments is a brand of the investment businesses of Aberdeen Asset Management and Standard Life Investments (both are part of the Standard Life Aberdeen Group).



Funds

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

The MyFolio family of funds are multi-asset funds that are risk-based.

MyFolio	Annual management charge
Standard Life Ireland MyFolio Active I	1.15%
Standard Life Ireland MyFolio Active II	1.15%
Standard Life Ireland MyFolio Active III	1.15%
Standard Life Ireland MyFolio Active IV	1.15%
Standard Life Ireland MyFolio Active V	1.15%
Standard Life Ireland MyFolio Market I	0.95%
Standard Life Ireland MyFolio Market II	0.95%
Standard Life Ireland MyFolio Market III	0.95%
Standard Life Ireland MyFolio Market IV	0.95%
Standard Life Ireland MyFolio Market V	0.95%

Multi-asset

Standard Life Cautious Managed	1%
Standard Life Diversified Income	1.35%
Standard Life Dynamic Multi-Asset Growth^	1.25%
Standard Life Global Absolute Return Strategies (GARS)	1.35%
Standard Life Managed	1%
Standard Life Multi-Asset ESG*	1%

Equity - regional

Standard Life Asia Pacific Equity	1%
Standard Life China Equity	1.5%
Standard Life European Equity	1%
Standard Life European Ethical Equity	1.3%
Standard Life Global Equity	1%
Standard Life Global Equity Impact	1.1%
Standard Life Japanese Equity	1%
Standard Life North American Equity	1%
Standard Life UK Equity	1%
Standard Life Vanguard Emerging Market Stock Index	1.05%
Standard Life Vanguard Eurozone Stock Index	0.9%
Standard Life Vanguard Global Stock Index	0.9%
Standard Life Vanguard US 500 Stock Index	0.9%

Equity - smaller companies

Standard Life European Smaller Companies	1.5%
Standard Life Global Smaller Companies	1.55%
Standard Life UK Smaller Companies	1.3%

Fixed interest and money market

Standard Life Absolute Return Global Bond Strategies (ARGBS)	1.2%
Standard Life Corporate Bond	1%
Standard Life Euro Global Liquidity	1%
Standard Life Fixed Interest	1%
Standard Life Global Corporate Bond SRI*	0.9%
Standard Life Global Inflation Linked Bond	1%
Standard Life Total Return Credit	1.3%
Standard Life Vanguard Euro Government Bond Index	0.9%
Standard Life Vanguard Global Corporate Bond Index	0.9%

Property

Standard Life Global Real Estate^^	1.5%
Standard Life Global REIT	1.45%
Standard Life Property^^	1.2%

* Open from 12 November 2020

^ Previously Standard Life Enhanced-Diversification Growth Fund

^^ Property and Global Real Estate funds suspended between 18 March and 16 November 2020

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.

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

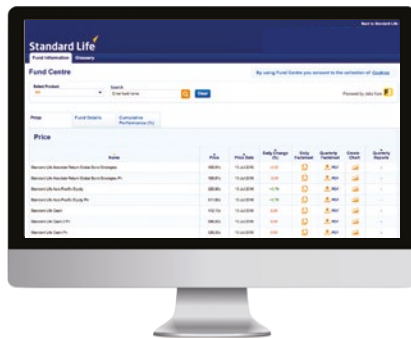


We recommend you talk to a financial adviser before choosing funds.



For more information on MyFolio funds, visit www.standardlife.ie/myfolio for the MyFolio guide (MYF10)

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 Fund pricing, switching, transferring or cashing in on page 13. Before you choose a fund, you should read its latest fact sheet and supplementary information document.



**For fund factsheets,
supplementary information
documents, volatility,
performance and other
information, at any time,
visit our Fund Centre:
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, and structured deposits.

For more information, visit www.standardlife.ie/deposits

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 Dundee.

* Execution-only

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**For more information,
ask your financial adviser for 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*
Synergy Portfolio Bond^	Yes	No	No	No
Synergy Portfolio approved retirement funds^	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes

* Exchange traded funds only

** Company shares, government and corporate bonds only

***Direct Property option is not available on UK transfer payments to a Qualifying Recognised Overseas Pension Scheme

^ Open to top ups only

^^ Structured deposits not currently available on Synergy PRSA

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.

The information in this document is as at November 2020. The list of funds and self-directed options open to investments may vary from time to time.

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

Aberdeen Standard Investments manage the majority of our funds. They are a leading global asset manager with a talented and experienced team. Aberdeen Standard Investments is a brand of the investment businesses of Aberdeen Asset Management and Standard Life Investments (both are part of the Standard Life Aberdeen Group).

Vanguard manage the passive underlying funds in our Standard Life Ireland MyFolio Market and Standard Life Vanguard 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 product's 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 Options 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.

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 Deposit Guarantee Scheme.

Fixed term deposits and **structured** deposits should only be invested in if you do not require access to your money for their full term. Early withdrawal from either of these types of 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 www.standardlife.ie/deposits as soon as reasonably possible.

For current demand deposit rates, visit www.standardlife.ie/deposits, talk to your financial adviser, or call us on **(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.



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

Risks

Here's an outline of the specific or heightened risks applicable to our range of funds – it's not an exhaustive list. You should ensure that you read all relevant information in order to understand the nature of your investments and the specific risks involved. Please talk to your financial adviser – your attitude to risk, personal circumstances, financial goals, as well as a fund's various characteristics, all need to be considered.

Fund pricing, switching, 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 change the pricing basis of a fund to reflect cashflows in and out. If it's a property based fund, due to the high transaction charges associated with the assets, this can result in a significant movement of the fund price
- we may also 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.

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.

These are processes which aim to maintain fairness between those remaining invested and those leaving a fund.

Equities and equity-related securities: These are sensitive to price movements in the stock market, which can be volatile and change substantially in short periods of time. The shares of smaller companies may be harder to sell and more volatile than those of larger companies.

Bonds: These are affected by changes in interest rates, inflation and any decline in creditworthiness of the bond issuer. There is also a risk that the issuer, either a government or company, may not be able to pay the bond income as promised or could fail to repay the capital amount used to purchase the bond.

Where a bond market has a low number of buyers and/or a high number of sellers, it may be harder to sell particular bonds at an anticipated price and/or in a timely manner.

Property: The value of properties held in any fund may fall and is generally a matter of the valuer's opinion and not fact. Property can also be difficult to sell, so you might not be able to sell your investment when you want to.

Property related funds can use what is known as a single swinging pricing methodology to protect against the dilution of transaction costs. Due to the high transaction costs associated with a property related fund's underlying assets, a change in the pricing basis may result in a significant downward movement in the fund's published price.

Real Estate Investment Trusts (REITs):

Investments in REITs and companies engaged in the business of real estate may be subject to increased liquidity risk and price volatility due to a variety of factors, including local, regional and national economic and political conditions, interest rates, and tax considerations.

Collective Investment Schemes: These schemes can themselves invest in a diverse range of other assets. These underlying assets may vary from time to time but each category of asset (which may include equities, bonds or immovable property) has individual risks associated with them. The fund may not have any control over the activities of any collective investment scheme invested in by the fund.

Currency: Funds may have holdings which are denominated in different currencies and may be affected by movements in exchange rates. Consequently, currency exchange rates may have a positive or negative impact on the value of your investments.

Emerging markets: Emerging markets tend to be more volatile than mature markets and the value of investments could move sharply up or down. Emerging markets or less developed countries may face more political, economic or structural challenges than developed countries. This may mean your money is at greater risk.

Frontier markets: Some of our funds may also invest in frontier markets which involve similar risks to emerging markets, but to a greater extent since they tend to be smaller, less developed, and less accessible than other emerging markets.

Derivatives: Can be used in order to meet a fund's investment objective or to protect from price and currency movements. This may result in gains or losses that are greater than the original amount invested. Derivatives are financial instruments which derive their value from an underlying asset, such as a company share or a bond, and are used routinely in global financial markets. Used correctly, derivatives offer an effective and cost-efficient way of investing in financial markets. However, derivatives can lead to increased volatility of returns in a fund, thus requiring a robust and extensive risk management process.

Counterparty risk: The insolvency of any institutions providing services such as safekeeping of assets or acting as counterparty to derivatives or other instruments, may expose a fund to financial loss.

Active fund management: The risks that fund management decisions add are generally of a smaller magnitude than those of the asset types themselves. Some funds, however, don't have a structure where most of the returns are generated from traditional asset types. Rather, they derive most of their returns from very specific strategies. As a result, the risks of the fund are driven primarily by these fund management decisions, and less by the characteristics of the underlying traditional asset types.

Correlation: Some funds will invest in a diverse set of investment strategies which, in the opinion of the fund manager, have attractive risk reward characteristics. While the breadth of the strategies is significant, if they start to move in the same direction as one another, the fund may be subject to a higher level of risk and volatility than anticipated.

Concentrated portfolio: Due to the concentrated nature of some funds, investors must be willing to accept a relatively high degree of stock-specific risk, and may be more volatile than a more broadly diversified one.

Liquidity risk: This occurs when the relevant market is inefficient and it may not be possible to buy or sell at an advantageous time or price.

Index tracking risk: If a fund aims to track the performance of the Index, there is a risk it will not track the Index's performance with perfect accuracy at all times.

Securities lending: The assets in some funds may be borrowed in order to earn an additional level of return and offset the cost of the fund. While securities lending increases the level of risk in the fund, it may provide an opportunity to increase the investment return.



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).

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.

If you have a complaint, please write to the Operations Director, Standard Life, 90 St Stephen's Green, Dublin 2. If you want information on our complaint handling procedure, please ask us. If you aren't satisfied with our reply, you can refer your complaint to the Financial Services and Pensions Ombudsman. This won't affect your legal rights.

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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