

Case Study: Pensions and Divorce



When Emma was getting divorced, she came to see us for specialist advice on her pension options. With a lot of money at stake, Emma was worried about not having a big enough share of her husband's pension funds to secure her retirement income.

"I was so pleased with the advice and service from Informed Choice. They turned my pension worries into financial confidence."

Emma was in the early stages of an acrimonious divorce with her husband of thirty years and was worried about her financial security in retirement. The pension options were confusing and, despite a substantial cash equivalent transfer value, Emma was unsure what level of income she would receive in retirement.

We worked closely with Emma to explain all of her choices in respect of the pension assets and ensure that she picked the option that was best for her. We understand that divorce is often a lengthy process, and Emma appreciated our patience and assistance over an extended period of time.

Once we were able to establish the details of her husband's pension benefits, we constructed a comprehensive report written in plain English which was used by Emma and her Solicitor to complete negotiations and finalise a pension sharing order.

After taking the time to understand how much investment risk Emma wanted and needed to take with her pension assets, we put together a suitable portfolio of investments and agreed a plan for meeting twice a year to keep these under review.

Our advice meant that Emma had the flexibility she needed to draw cash and income from her pension to supplement earnings from part-time employment. We took the worry away from Emma and this contributed to a smile returning to her face once the divorce was complete.