



Citizens Advice in the Borough of Wigan offering Pension Wise appointments across Wigan & Leigh to help people plan for their future

Citizens Advice in the Borough of Wigan is delivering Pension Wise appointments across Wigan & Leigh giving people access to free and impartial pension guidance in their local area.

Following pension reforms on April 6, people approaching retirement have greater freedom over how they can use their pension pots. People will be able to take a lump sum, take out an annuity or a mixture of both. Pension Wise is a new Government service designed to help people make sense of their pension options, and empower them to make the right choices for them.

Citizens Advice in the Borough of Wigan will be delivering free face to face Pension Wise sessions which are available to book now. The 45 minute appointments will be tailored to the individual, taking into account the value of their pension and their plans for retirement.

A Pension Wise appointment may help you if:

- * You are approaching retirement or are 55 or over
- * Have a defined contribution pension
- * Are thinking of accessing your pension in the next six months

Guidance appointments are also available on the telephone, delivered by the Pensions Advisory Service. People can also get information and general guidance online at www.pensionwise.gov.uk.

Lisa Kidston, Chief Executive of Citizens Advice in the Borough of Wigan said:

“Citizens Advice in the Borough of Wigan will be delivering Pension Wise appointments from both Wigan and Leigh bureau and a number of sites across the region, giving easy access to Pension Wise.

“Pensions can be a confusing topic and Pension Wise appointments will help people to make sense of their pensions choices. Citizens Advice in the Borough of Wigan already helps people with retirement issues and we’ll continue to offer this service outside of Pension Wise.”

To book a telephone or face to face appointment, call 0300 330 1001.

-Ends-

For more information contact: Elaine Stone

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Notes to editors:

1. The Citizens Advice service comprises a network of local bureaux, all of which are independent charities, the Citizens Advice consumer service and national charity Citizens Advice. Together we help people resolve their money, legal and other problems by providing information and advice and by influencing policymakers. For more see the [Citizens Advice website](http://www.citizensadvice.org.uk).

2. The advice provided by the Citizens Advice service is free, independent, confidential, and impartial, and available to everyone regardless of race, gender, disability, sexual orientation, religion, age or nationality.

3. To find your local bureau in England and Wales, visit www.citizensadvice.org.uk. You can also get advice online at www.adviceguide.org.uk

4. You can get consumer advice from the Citizens Advice consumer service on 03454 04 05 06 or 03454 04 05 05 for Welsh language speakers

5. Citizens Advice Bureaux in England and Wales advised 2.3 million clients on 5.4 million problems from October 2013 to September 2014. For full 2013/2014 service statistics see our quarterly publication [Advice trends](#)

6. Citizens Advice service staff are supported by more than 21,000 trained volunteers, working at over 3,000 service outlets across England and Wales.