



The Abbott Laboratories Pension Fund (1966) 2024 Summary Funding Statement

July 2024

Why have you sent me this Summary Funding Statement?

As the Trustee of the Abbott Laboratories Pension Fund (1966) (the "Fund"), we look after the Fund on behalf of all its members. We are sending you this statement to tell you about the financial security of the Fund – you may remember that we sent you a similar statement last year. We recommend you take some time to read it, since the Fund's financial security could affect the benefits you will ultimately receive. We will send you a similar statement on a regular basis to keep you up to date.

How is the Fund's financial security measured?

The estimated cost of providing the benefits you and other members have earned to date is known as the Fund's "liabilities". This includes the benefits of members who have left the Company or retired.

We collect money ("contributions") from the Company and active members (there is currently a Company contributions holiday and most active members pay contributions through Salary Exchange). The contributions paid are held in a communal fund, not in separate funds for each individual, and the money is invested in an appropriate range of classes of investment. The amount of money we have invested is known as the Fund's "assets".

To check the Fund's financial security we look at its financial position and compare the value of its liabilities to its assets. If the Fund has fewer assets than its liabilities, it is said to have a "shortfall". If the assets are more than the liabilities there is said to be a "surplus".

We carry out an in-depth look at the Fund's finances at least every three years. This is called an actuarial valuation. We ask a qualified expert on mathematical modelling and statistics, known as an Actuary, to do this.

We also ask the Actuary to check the financial security of the Fund more frequently, including an annual update. When this is done, we receive an actuarial report summarising the Actuary's conclusions.

What is the Fund's financial position?

The latest actuarial valuation of the Fund was carried out as at 31 March 2022. The results of this, along with the annual updates as at 31 March 2023 and 31 March 2024 are shown below:

	31 March 2022 Actuarial Valuation	31 March 2023 Actuarial Update	31 March 2024 Actuarial Update
The value of the liabilities was	£815.5 million	£557.8 million	£521.6 million
The Fund's assets were valued at	£1,109.3 million	£1,010.6 million	£1,125.7 million
This means that there was a surplus of	£293.8 million	£452.8 million	£604.1 million

We are required to inform you whether a payment has been made to the Company, as permitted under the Pensions Act 1995, since we last sent you a summary funding statement. We can confirm that no such payment has been made.

How has the Fund's financial position changed since we last sent you a Summary Funding Statement?

When we last sent you a Summary Funding Statement, we reported that the Fund was estimated to have a surplus of £452.8 million as at 31 March 2023. The improvement of the Fund's position between the valuation date, 31 March 2022, and 31 March 2023 was mainly due a material rise in gilt yields, and hence the discount rate assumptions, which decreased the present value placed on the liabilities.

Since 31 March 2023 the Fund's position has improved once again and the Fund had an estimated surplus of £604.1m as at 31 March 2024. The main source of this improvement was the positive investment returns on the Fund's assets. However, a further increase in gilt yields has also had an impact by reducing the present value placed on the liabilities.

How much money is paid into the Fund each year?

Following the actuarial valuation at 31 March 2022, and as a result of the surplus at the valuation date (£293.8 million as per the table above), the Trustee agreed with the Company that it would cease contributions with effect from 1 January 2023 for a period of five years, albeit the position would be reviewed at the time of the next triennial actuarial valuation, due 31 March 2025.

All active members currently pay contributions at the rate of either 7.5% or 9% (depending on the level of benefit accrual) of Pensionable Earnings (post 1 April 2016 definition), with the majority paying contributions through Salary Exchange.

What types of assets does the Fund invest in?

We invest contributions in a broad range of assets, with the amount invested at 31 March 2022 (the actuarial valuation date), 31 March 2023 and 31 March 2024 in a particular class of assets broadly as follows:

	31 March 2022	31 March 2023	31 March 2024
Shares (i.e. UK and overseas equities)	51%	51%	53%
Government securities (i.e. index linked gilts)	25%	23%	24%
Property	4%	4%	3%
Multi-Asset Credit	21%	23%	18%
Cash	0%	0%	2%
Total	100%	100%	100%

Figures may not sum to total due to rounding. Figures exclude net current assets. Figures at 31 March 2024 are unaudited figures.

How does the Trustee know what contributions should be paid into the Fund?

Following each actuarial valuation, the Actuary advises us what contributions should be paid into the Fund so that we can expect to be able to continue to pay people's pensions. We then agree a level of contribution for the Fund with the Company and record this in a document called the Schedule of Contributions.

We review and update the Schedule of Contributions at least each time the Fund has an actuarial valuation.

The valuation and Schedule of Contributions follow standards we have set out in a Statement of Funding Principles. This document describes how we will manage the Fund with the aim of being able to continue to pay members' benefits.

We are required to tell you whether the Pensions Regulator has used its legal powers to make directions as to any of:

- The level of benefits available from the Fund going forward;
- The method or assumptions used to calculate the liabilities;
- The contributions that should be paid under the schedule of contributions.

The Regulator has not used its powers in relation to the Fund and therefore the Fund is not subject to any directions.

Is my pension guaranteed?

Our aim is for there to be enough money in the Fund to pay pensions now and in the future, but this depends on the Company carrying on in business and continuing to pay for the Fund as required.

If the Company goes out of business or decides to stop paying for the Fund, it is expected to pay the Fund enough money to buy all the benefits built up by members from an insurance company. This is known as the Fund being "wound-up".

The comparison of the Fund's assets to the cost of buying the benefits from an insurance company is known as the "solvency position".

What happens if the Fund is wound-up and there is not enough money to pay for all my benefits?

If the Fund winds up without enough money to buy all the benefits with an insurer then, unless the employer can afford to pay the difference, you are unlikely to receive the full benefits you were expecting. To help members in this situation, the Government set up the Pension Protection Fund (PPF), which came into effect on 6 April 2005. The PPF pays a legally defined level of benefits to members of eligible UK pension schemes in this situation.

If the Fund were to be wound up and go into the PPF, the pension you would receive from the PPF might be less than the full benefit you have earned in the Fund, depending on your age and when your benefits were earned.

Further information and guidance is available on the PPF website at www.pensionprotectionfund.org.uk. Or you can write to the Pension Protection Fund at Renaissance House, 12 Dingwall Road, Croydon, Surrey CR0 2NA.

Is there enough money in the Fund to provide my full benefits if the Fund were to be wound-up?

The actuarial valuation at 31 March 2022 showed that the estimated funding level of the Scheme assuming all benefits were bought out with an insurer was 108% (which reflected a surplus of £86.65 million) . This means that the Fund's assets could have paid for the full benefits of all members to be provided by an insurance company if the Fund had wound-up at that date.

The fact that we have shown the solvency position does not mean that the Company is thinking of winding up the Fund. We are required by law to tell you the position were this to happen. It is just another piece of information we hope will help you understand the financial security of your benefits.

Can I leave the Fund before I am due to retire?

If you are an active member, you can leave the Fund before you reach retirement and your pension will be based on your pensionable service and pensionable salary at your date of leaving. Your pension benefits may be left deferred in the Fund to be paid at retirement or transferred to another pension arrangement.

Similarly, if you have already left the Fund and have preserved benefits, you can if you wish, transfer your benefits to another pension arrangement prior to retirement.

If you are thinking of leaving the Fund for any reason, the Trustee recommends that you consult an impartial financial advisor, before taking any action. The law prevents us from providing you with financial advice.

Where can I get more information?

If you have any other questions, or would like any more information, our contact details are found below. A list of documents which provide further information is attached. If you want us to send you a copy of any of these documents please let us know.

We will provide you with a Summary Funding Statement every year. If you change address you should use the contact details on the next page to let us know so that we can update our records.



For and on behalf of
The Trustee of the Abbott Laboratories Pension Fund (1966)

Current employees

Post: Polly Fontaine
Pensions Officer
Abbott Laboratories Limited
Abbott House
Vanwall Business Park
Maidenhead
SL6 4XE

Tel: 07584 140081

Email: ukpensions@abbott.com

Deferred pensioners and Pensioners

Post: Abbott Laboratories Pension Fund (1966) Administration
Aptia UK Limited
Maclaren House
Talbot Road
Stretford
Manchester
M32 0FP

Tel: 03442096581

Online contact portal: <https://pensionuk.aptia-group.com/blue>

Pensioners: changes of personal details such as change of address

Post: Payroll Dept
Abbott Laboratories Ltd
Sovereign House
1-2 Bingham Road
Sittingbourne
Kent
ME10 3SU

Tel: 0333 1230175

Email: ukpayroll@abbott.com

Additional documents available on request

The Statement of Funding Principles

This explains how the Trustee plans to manage the Fund with the aim of being able to continue to provide the benefits that members have built up.

The Statement of Investment Principles

This explains how the Trustee invests the money paid into the Fund.

The Schedule of Contributions

This shows how much money is being paid into the Fund by the Company and the contributing members, and includes a certificate from the actuary showing that it is sufficient to meet the requirements set out by law.

The Annual Report and Accounts of the Abbott Laboratories Pension Fund (1966)

This shows the Fund's income and expenditure in each Fund year.

The Formal Actuarial Valuation Report as at 31 March 2022

This contains the details of the Actuary's check of the Fund's situation as at 31 March 2022.

The Actuarial Report as at 31 March 2024

These contain the details of the Actuary's check of the Fund's situation as at 31 March 2024.

The Abbott Laboratories Pension Fund (1966) Members' Guide

This is the members' handbook for the Fund. You should have been given a copy when you joined the Fund, but we can let you have another copy. You can find the latest version online on the Fund's website at www.abbottpensionfund.co.uk.