



# **FPLAL With-Profits Sub-Fund** and Investment Summary

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This brochure provides a summary of how we manage the **Aviva Life & Pensions UK Limited FPLAL With-Profits Fund (the ‘Sub-Fund’)**, along with details of the asset mix and investment returns.

Your policy document will show the name of the company your policy was taken out with. If you are unsure which with-profits sub-fund you’re invested in, you can find further details at [aviva.co.uk/ppfm](https://www.aviva.co.uk/ppfm)

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## Making sense of it

You may find some of the terms in this guide unfamiliar. To help, we’ve provided an explanation of the terms in **‘What does it mean?’** boxes.

### **There is one main type of with-profits policy in the Sub-Fund:**

**Conventional with-profits policies** – your investment provides a guaranteed amount (sometimes referred to as the ‘sum assured’) at maturity or on death.

There are also a number of policies in the Sub-Fund which are not entitled to a share in profits of the Sub-Fund (‘non-profit policies’) so do not receive bonuses.

# What is an Aviva with-profits investment?

## At a glance

An Aviva with-profits investment is a low to medium risk investment that has the advantage of pooling your money with that of other investors, so you can benefit from investing in a wide spread of **assets**.

We explain assets in greater detail on page 4.

- The FPLAL With-Profits Sub-Fund is rated as a **low to medium volatility** fund.
- The FPLAL With-Profits Sub-Fund aims for longer-term growth by investing in a broad range of assets. We aim to provide the best possible investment returns for the benefit of policyholders generally, allowing for the level of guarantees and the amount of excess assets in the Sub-Fund.
- The value of the Sub-Fund can go down as well as up depending on the returns of the underlying mix of assets within the Sub-Fund. We share out the profits and losses of the Sub-Fund through a system of bonuses, with the aim of smoothing the returns on your with-profits investment over the long term.
- We explain smoothing in more detail later, but basically it helps to reduce some of the significant ups and downs of investing in the stock market. We smooth the rises and falls in value by holding back some of the investment returns in good years. We then use them to top up bonuses in poor investment years. Losses made in poor investment years may also reduce returns in good investment years.
- Some products provide guaranteed policy benefits if certain events happen or on specified dates. We explain some of these guarantees in greater detail in the What are the Guarantees? section on page 10.



## What does it mean?

### Low to medium volatility – 3

Aviva assesses risk ratings using historical performance. The historical performance of funds with this risk rating has typically experienced low to medium volatility compared with other funds Aviva has rated. This means that these funds have a low to medium potential for substantial changes in value compared with other Aviva funds.

You can find out more about our risk ratings at:

<https://www.aviva.co.uk/retirement/fund-centre/investment-funds/risk-ratings/>

### Assets

An Asset is a type of investment. Different types of assets include equities (company shares), gilts (loans to the UK government), corporate bonds (loans to companies), property or cash and cash alternatives. Assets can rise and fall in value.



## Things you need to be aware of

Investing in with-profits may not be appropriate if you:

- expect to need your money in the short term
- are not prepared to accept any risk of losing money
- would prefer the certainty of the interest from a bank or building society savings account, which you are guaranteed to receive once it is earned.

# Asset mix

## At a glance

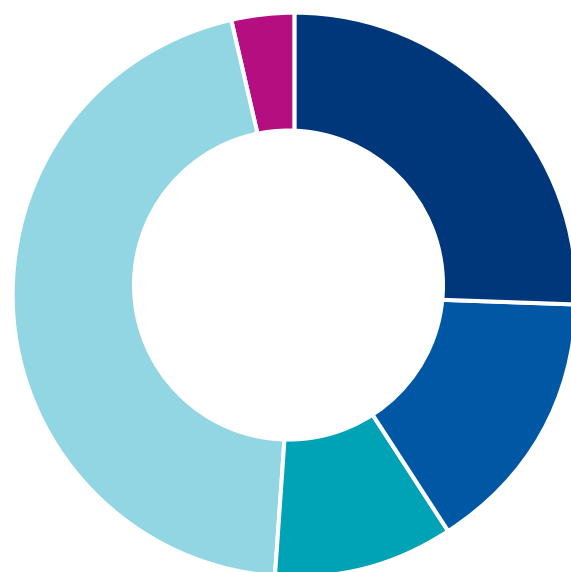
We invest your money in the FPLAL With-Profits Sub-Fund which invests in a mix of assets, including:

- shares/equities (UK and international)
- property
- fixed interest - corporate bonds (UK and international) and UK gilts
- cash/money market

## How do we invest your money?

We invest your money into a broad mix of assets. The asset diagram below shows the type and percentage of each asset that the FPLAL With-Profits Sub-Fund invests in.

The Sub-Fund your policy invests in will always hold a mixture of higher and lower risk assets to achieve its objective.



### Asset Mix as at 31 December 2018

This diagram shows the asset mix of the FPLAL With-Profits Sub-Fund as at the end of December 2018.

- UK shares (equities) 25.6%
- International shares (equities) 15.4%
- Property 10.3%
- Fixed interest - UK gilts 45.3%
- Fixed interest - UK corporate bonds 0.0%
- Cash/money market 3.4%

# Asset mix (continued)

The performance of the different types of assets varies over time. Our fund managers may change the asset mix to:

- improve the long term performance of the Sub-Fund
- make sure that the Sub-Fund can meet its obligations.

From time to time the Sub-Fund may include investments in other Aviva group companies. However, this will not have a direct effect on the asset mix backing your policy.



## What does it mean?

### Shares (equities)

Shares (or equities) are shares in companies listed on stock exchanges around the world. As shares can rise and fall in value very easily, equities are riskier than most other investments. However, they usually offer the greatest chance of higher returns over the long term. In our FPLAL With-Profits Sub-Fund the equity part of the asset mix includes equity-type assets that are not quoted on stock exchanges, plus alternative investments. We only invest a small proportion in alternative investments, typically less than 5%.

### Property

This is investment in commercial property such as shopping centres and business offices. The value of property can go down as well as up, and property may take longer to buy and sell than other types of investment.

### Fixed interest

Fixed interest investments include government and corporate bonds. These are loans issued by the government or a company as a way for them to borrow money. The government or company pays interest on the loan and promises to pay back the debt at a certain point in the future. The value of fixed interest investments can go down as well as up. Government bonds issued by the UK government are referred to as gilts.

If a government or a company defaults on the loan then the interest will not be paid. Gilts are regarded as less risky than corporate bonds as the UK government has a good credit rating.

### Cash/money market

Cash means a range of short-term deposits – similar to a bank/building society account. Cash also includes money market securities, which are interest generating investments, issued by governments, banks and other major institutions. The value of cash and money market securities can go down as well as up.

# Investment returns and market overview

## Investment Returns

The investment returns achieved in each of the last five years are as follows:

	2018	2017	2016	2015	2014
before tax (pensions)	-1.4%	7.1%	12.6%	2.1%	7.2%
after tax (life/savings)	-1.0%	6.1%	10.5%	2.0%	6.1%

The investment returns above are on the whole Sub-Fund and are not applicable to any individual policy or plan. These figures are after any deduction for investment expenses.

This is past performance. Past performance is not a guide to the future.

### Investment markets in 2018

Equity markets generally performed poorly in 2018, with the exception of the US which made modest gains in sterling terms, helped by the weakness of the pound relative to the dollar. UK government bond (gilt) prices edged slightly higher but UK corporate bonds made a small loss over the year.

The main factors affecting performance were investors' concerns about the reduction of economic support from central banks plus interest rate increases, fears of a global trade war, political risk in Europe and uncertainty around Brexit and its effects.

The FTSE®\* 100 share index, a commonly used indicator of the performance of UK shares, showed a total return of minus 8.8% (see Note 1), while UK corporate bonds returned minus 1.5% (see Note 2).

#### Notes:

1 Source: Lipper IM, a Thomson Reuters company. FTSE®\* 100 Total Return Index.

2 Source: Lipper IM, a Thomson Reuters company. Markit iBoxx Sterling Non Gilts Overall TR Index.

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## What affects how much you might get?

The amount you get back will depend on the amount you invest, plus:

- how the Sub-Fund has performed during the time you have invested with us
- the way we apply the smoothing process
- the effect of any guarantees (shown in your policy terms and conditions)
- our charges, such as administration costs, investment management fees and any financial adviser commission or charges
- any tax we pay and any future tax changes (pensions currently receive favourable tax treatment).

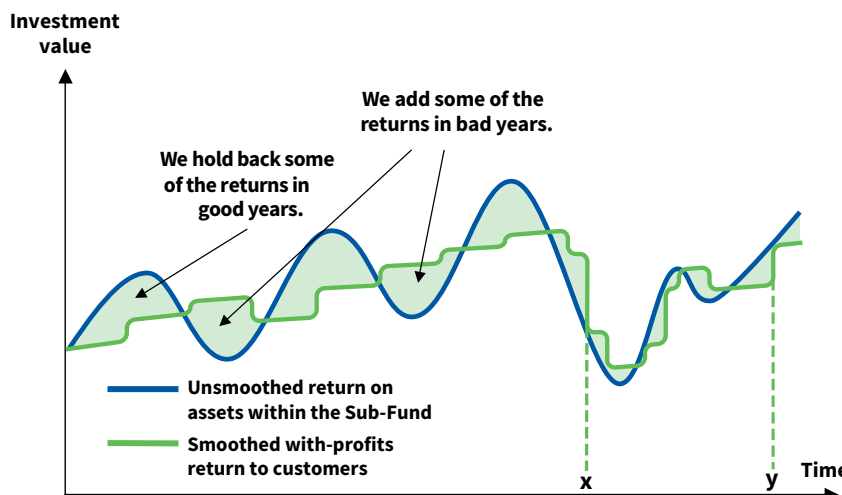
# Smoothing – how it works

## At a glance

One of the main features of a with-profits investment is that it aims to grow in value smoothly from year to year rather than being affected by the significant ups and downs of the stock market.

Over time the value of the assets held by the Sub-Fund will rise or fall. We do not change bonus rates as often as the value of the assets changes. Instead we aim to even out some of these variations in performance. This is known as smoothing. We show this with the green line in the diagram below. In contrast, the unsmoothed Sub-Fund value changes each day as the value of the assets goes up and down. This is shown by the blue line in the diagram.

The following diagram is for illustration purposes only and shows a period of positive growth overall, which is not guaranteed.



## Things you need to be aware of

There may be times in poor market conditions when smoothing can't fully protect your investment, as illustrated between points **x** and **y** in the diagram above. This can happen following a large or sustained fall in the stock markets or when investment returns are below the level we normally expect. If you leave the Sub-Fund under these circumstances, this could reduce the value of your investment.

# Bonuses – how do we add the bonuses?

We share out the returns the Sub-Fund earns through a system of bonuses. There are different types of bonuses:

## Regular bonus

Regular bonuses are designed to be sustainable and provide steady growth over time in the value of your investment. We decide regular bonus rates at least once a year.

## Final bonus

Final bonus aims to pay any balance between the regular bonuses we have already added and the performance of the Sub-Fund over the whole period of your investment. This makes sure that you get a fair share of the return your investment has earned.

Bonuses can vary and are not guaranteed.

## Bonuses

You can usually see any regular bonus details in your yearly statement. The rate will vary over the period of your investment.

We decide the bonuses by looking at:

- how the Sub-Fund has performed in the current year
- any returns or losses from earlier years that we have not already shared out through smoothing
- what we expect to earn in future years, and the effect of smoothing.

## Regular bonus

### Conventional Policies

We may add regular bonuses, if any, once a year to the guaranteed amount.

Conventional with-profits policies can receive two types of regular bonus, which are added on top of the initial guaranteed amount.

This is calculated as:

- a proportion of the initial guaranteed amount; and
- a proportion of any bonuses we've added previously.

Once added, we guarantee that the regular bonus will be paid at your chosen retirement date, the policy's maturity date or on death.



## Things you need to be aware of

- A regular bonus is not the same as interest from a bank or building society.
- We don't guarantee to add a regular bonus to your investment each year. This is illustrated on the diagram on the next page at years 1, 11, 17 and 19.
- It's likely that bonuses will be smaller in poor investment years than in good years.




# Bonuses – how do we add the bonuses? (continued)

## Final bonus

We aim to pay a final bonus to increase the value of your policy:

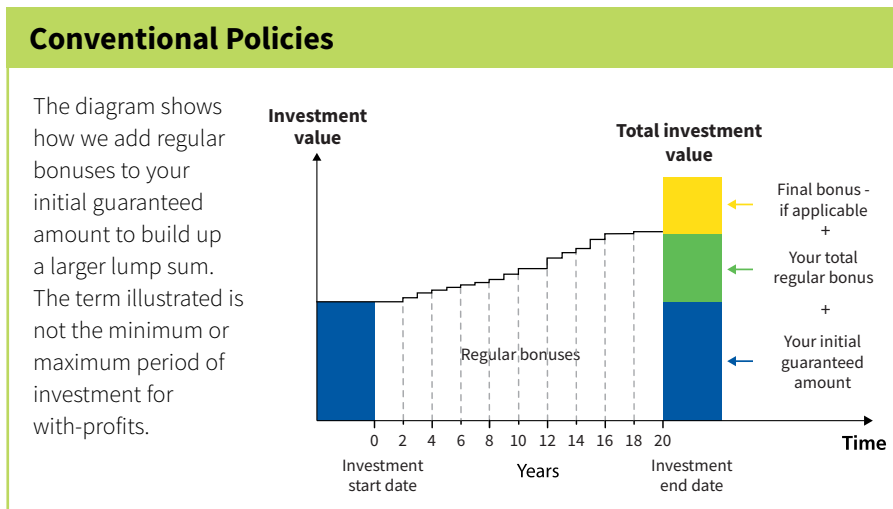
- if you die
- if you transfer your pension or cash in your policy
- at maturity, for endowments, or at your chosen retirement date, for pensions.

We normally review final bonus rates twice a year. However, we may review them more frequently if there are large changes in investment markets. Final bonus rates can change at any time, are not guaranteed and could be zero.



### Things you need to be aware of

- The final bonus is based on the year in which you invested and the point at which you leave the Sub-Fund. It may vary depending on the returns earned over the lifetime of your investment and is not guaranteed.
- You may not receive a final bonus if the investment return has been low over the period you invested, as you will have already received your share of the returns through regular bonuses.
- We use a typical policy rather than individual policies when setting final bonus rates for policies issued in the same year.



This is for illustration purposes only and shows a period of positive growth overall, which is not guaranteed.

# What are the Guarantees?

Some products provide guaranteed policy benefits if certain events happen or on dates as set out in your policy document.

For example, the event may be your policy's maturity date as agreed when you took it out. Or, for a pension policy, it may be the date you chose to retire when you started the policy. Your policy documents will set out any guarantees.

## Conventional Policies

### Guarantees

At the end of your policy term or on death, we'll pay the basic guaranteed benefit as well as any regular bonus we've already added. We'll do this even if the stock market falls significantly.

Some pension policies may offer guaranteed annuity options. Please read your policy document to find out if this applies to you.

You won't receive any guarantees if you decide to cash in your policy early.



## Things you need to be aware of

As these guarantees are valuable, we recommend you seek financial advice before withdrawing or surrendering any benefits in the future.

# What happens if you leave the Sub-Fund early?

You may decide to move some or all of your investment out of the Sub-Fund early. For example, where your policy allows, you might:

- cash in your policy; or
- transfer to another company.

You should view with-profits investments as a long-term investment. This means leaving the Sub-Fund early may be the wrong option for you, especially if you have guarantees.

If you're considering leaving the Sub-Fund, we'd strongly suggest that you talk to your financial adviser or contact us directly. You can call us on the telephone number shown on your annual statement.

## Conventional Policies

If you move your money out of a conventional with-profits policy (eg. surrender before the maturity date or transfer before the selected retirement date) we will reduce the policy's guaranteed benefits to reflect that you have paid fewer premiums and been invested in the Sub-Fund for a shorter time than we expected when you took out the policy. We may add a final bonus.

# Questions and Answers

## What is the With Profits Committee?

Our customers are at the heart of everything we do and we are fully committed to treating them fairly at all times.

To support this, we have a With Profits Committee which oversees our work with independent expertise to make sure our decisions relating to with-profits investments are fair.

You can find out more about our With Profits Committee at [aviva.co.uk/wpcommittee](https://www.aviva.co.uk/wpcommittee).

## How are business risks managed?

The FPLAL With-Profits Sub-Fund is exposed to a number of risks. Our biggest risks come from the need to pay the guaranteed payments on all with-profits and non-profit policies when they become due particularly as, that in order to generate a better return, we do not invest only in asset types which would minimise this risk. The risk that the annuity policyholders live longer than we currently expect is also significant.

We control the risks to the Sub-Fund by monitoring the various risk factors, and taking action to reduce our exposure to risk, for example by changing our investment strategy or entering into arrangements to transfer risk to other companies.

## What are the excess assets used for?

The excess assets are intended to be sufficient to meet the Sub-Fund's regulatory capital requirements, even after a reasonably severe downturn in investment markets. To the extent that they are not needed for that purpose, they are used to enhance pay outs in a way that is fair to all policyholders.

If at any time we believe that the amount of the excess assets is too low then we will take action to increase it, for example by changing investment strategy.

The excess assets:

- Provide us with investment flexibility; and
- Enhance the security of policy benefits generally.

## Are new policies still being issued?

The FPLAL With-Profits Sub-Fund closed to new customers in 1995, although subject to policy conditions, existing policyholders can still top-up their plans.

## How are the profits shared?

Profit from the Sub-Fund is only distributable to its with-profits policyholders in the form of bonuses added to their policies.

# Where can I find out more?

We hope this guide has helped you understand how our FPLAL With-Profits Sub-Fund works.

This guide is only meant to be a summary. We also have a detailed document, called the **Principles and Practices of Financial Management (PPFM)**, which is produced in line with guidance from our regulator, the Financial Conduct Authority. You can find it and more on our website: [aviva.co.uk/ppfm/#fplal-with-profits](https://www.aviva.co.uk/ppfm/#fplal-with-profits)

If there are any differences between the information in the two guides, you should take the Principles and Practices of Financial Management as the final word.

You can see a summary of any changes to our PPFM on our website together with our yearly compliance statement.



You can also contact us for a copy of these guides or for more information by calling

**0345 602 9199**

Calls may be recorded and/or monitored for the purposes of training and quality assurance.



Write to us at:

**Aviva, PO Box 1550  
Salisbury, Wiltshire  
SP1 2TW**



You can use the link below to find out more about our Sub-Funds at:

**[www.aviva.co.uk/ppfm](https://www.aviva.co.uk/ppfm)**



If you have any questions about your investment you can talk to your financial adviser. They will be able to consider your current circumstances and financial goals.

If you don't have a financial adviser, one can be found at **[unbiased.co.uk](https://www.unbiased.co.uk)**.

Please note your financial adviser may charge you for any advice provided.