

MONTHLY CATCH UP



Important to have a plan that can help you retire without having mortgage debt still to pay

A third of UK mortgage holders do not think they will pay it off by the time they are 65, according to a survey.

This latest research also coincides with the big mortgage lenders – HSBC being the latest – increasing their maximum mortgage term to 40 years.

The survey, carried out by insurer and retirement specialist LV, found that 32% of mortgage holders expected to be still paying their home loan after they hit 65.

And the research also revealed that one in 10 still had mortgage debt to deal with when they finally stopped working.

The upheaval in the home loans market – with rising interest rates – has resulted in millions of people in the UK being faced with dramatically higher repayment costs, certainly those who are not locked into a long-term deal.

That has led to many people looking at stretching their mortgage term, in order to bring down their monthly payments.

Many mortgage products do have a standard maximum term of up to 40 years available, but some lenders have previously resisted offering customers such a lengthy term.

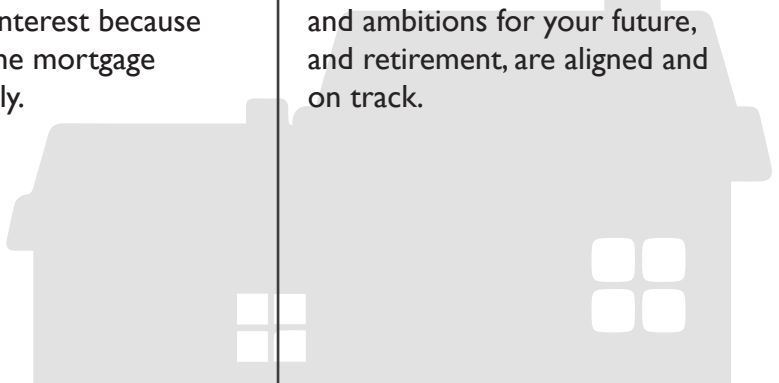
However, the big lenders have now changed their policy, with HSBC increasing its maximum term from 35 to 40 years. HSBC say that the decision was taken to “help make mortgages more manageable, with lower monthly repayments, and making home ownership a reality for our customers.”

Having a longer mortgage term can cut monthly repayments but on the other hand you could well end up paying a lot more interest because you are reducing the mortgage balance more slowly.

With the average age of a UK first-time buyer currently standing at 32, that raises the prospect of extremely large numbers of homeowners not achieving mortgage-free status until they are in their 70s, putting the dream of a debt-free retirement in real jeopardy.

The average mortgage debt outstanding at retirement was £38,000. Almost two-thirds – 63% – of those who retired with an outstanding home loan debt had to pay this off with their pension.

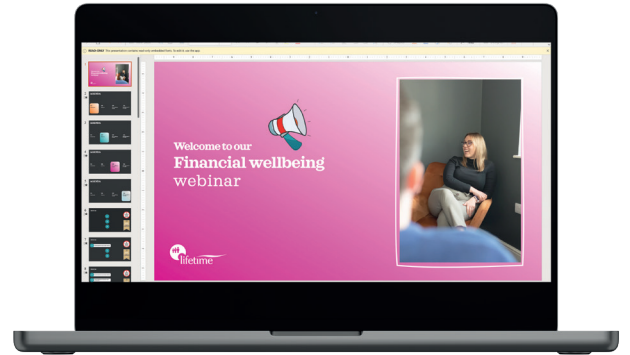
It is a balancing act and as with all things to do with your personal finances it is important to have the necessary knowledge – and a tailor-made plan in place – so that you can ensure that all your goals and ambitions for your future, and retirement, are aligned and on track.





We hold regular webinars for employees, on various important topics including mortgages and pensions. Keep an eye out for your next webinar, or if you would like any information on your mortgage situation then book a free 15-minute consultation with Lifetime mortgage adviser Scott Kershaw by clicking here:

<https://outlook.office365.com/owa/calendar/Bookachatabo-utamortgage@lifetime-fm.com/bookings/>



Also, your latest video has been loaded onto the hub, entitled 'Three questions to consider when remortgaging'. In this video we cover the three key things to consider when you're looking for a new mortgage. Please take a look at your convenience.

Coming soon - the user friendly Lifetime App!

Our financial wellbeing and education service will shortly be offering a mobile app that will ensure employees can enjoy seamless access to our range of financial features.

Users will be able to easily gain entry into your Learning Hub and have the ability to conveniently add documents directly from your mobile phone.

The App will also provide a chat function that will provide quick and easy access to your own Lifetime coach.

Financial wellbeing made easier. For everyone. Putting your financial future in your pocket.

Keep an eye for the launch video which is due to land in October.



Our latest Google review

"A bit of a minefield for me, with my pension pots all over the place! A huge thanks to Lifetime's Miles Myers who sorted these all out, and found pensions I did not realise I had! As a result I can retire and feel safe for my future in later years. I cannot thank Miles enough. Patient, understanding and explained it all in my language! 😊 Highly recommended! ⭐" - Denise Lyon.



Your financial wellbeing benefit

Wellbeing in the workplace is such a vital topic and Lifetime are proud to be playing our part in raising the importance of having a financial wellbeing benefit which involves education, guidance and support to all employees.

There are ways of relieving financial pressure. Education, guidance and support is available to help ease the burden.

The importance of financial wellbeing cannot be understated. It can lead on to a happier, healthier and more productive life, both in and out of work.

We would like to say a very big thank you if you have already engaged with us, either by filling in the online fact find, watching any of the numerous educational videos on your Learning Hub, or by giving us feedback on our survey.

If you haven't yet started your journey with us, please know that we are here to help you take those first steps whenever you are ready. We understand that everyone's life and circumstances are different, but we will help you fully understand your financial situation.

Financial freedom can be achieved. The hub is your gateway to gaining financial health and that all important peace of mind.



Spotlight on a key Lifetime contact

Meet Sarah Kewley, Head of Digital Wellbeing at Lifetime.

Sarah worked in the travel industry for 22 years. She enjoyed travelling the world, including living in Arizona for a short while, before joining Lifetime at the beginning of October 2020.

She is in regular contact with all our employer partners as we deliver financial guidance and support to as many employees as possible.

She admits to being 'really passionate' about her role and is always looking at ways of helping people on their financial journey.

Sarah loves being around family and friends and her world revolves around her husband and her amazing little girl. When she is not working, Sarah loves getting outside. She is always dreaming of where she can holiday next!

She also loves to cook and bake (she claims to be Bake Off's number one fan!).

