

As Trustees, we provide all members with regular information about the level of funding that supports your pension.

This statement summarises the results of the annual funding updates at 31 March 2022 and 31 March 2023.

These financial health checks are vital for monitoring the Scheme's progress. We hope the information helps you to understand how the Scheme is developing.

### The latest position

The table below shows the annual funding updates at 31 March 2022 and 31 March 2023.

Date	31 March 2022	31 March 2023
The funding level	109%	109%
The funding target	£42.4 Million	£30.1 Million
The value of the Scheme's assets	£46.2 Million	£32.9 Million
The overall position	Surplus of £3.8 Million	Surplus of £2.8 Million

The latest update shows that the funding level was steady over 2023, despite the significant volatility in financial markets in September and October 2022.

### The Scheme continues to be very well funded on a prudent target.

In summary, the position has changed because:

- There was a sharp rise in interest rates over the year;
- This reduced the value of the assets that the Scheme holds;
- However, the funding target is also reduced as the rise in interest rates increases expectations for *future* returns on the Scheme's assets;
- Overall the size of the Scheme is much smaller and so the surplus has reduced.

It is important to remember that it is normal for pension scheme funding to fluctuate over time.

Even if funding were to fall temporarily below target, the Scheme would continue to pay benefits in full as long as it continues.

The next formal actuarial valuation is due at 31 March 2024.

We will report on the results once they are complete, which is likely to be in 2025.

### Financial support

The Company has provided significant financial support for the Scheme in the past which has helped the Scheme to achieve its current funding position.

The next formal valuation will look at the Scheme's position at 31 March 2024. This will include evaluating whether the Company needs to make contributions to the Scheme.

### If the Scheme came to an end

The Scheme's funding level is worked out in two ways.

- The 'ongoing' basis (shown on the previous page), which assumes that the Scheme will continue into the future.
- The 'full solvency' basis, which shows the funding position if the Scheme started to 'wind up' at the date of the valuation. If this happened, all members' benefits would have to be secured without delay by buying insurance policies.

At 31 March 2021, the Scheme's full solvency funding level was 108% with a surplus of £3.5 million. At 31 March 2023, this had improved to c.110%.

We are obliged to tell you if there have been any payments to the Company out of Scheme funds since the last update, and there have not been any such payments.

### Contacts

If you have any questions about the Scheme or your pension, please contact the Company Secretarial Department at the following address:

The Trustees of the Prowting Pension Scheme,  
Persimmon House, Fulford, York, YO19 4FE

### The Pension Protection Fund

If the Company did become insolvent, the Pension Protection Fund (the PPF) may step in and pay some compensation to members. There are more details on the PPF website at:

[www.ppf.co.uk](http://www.ppf.co.uk)

### The Pensions Regulator

The Pensions Regulator is the UK watchdog of workplace pension schemes. It has the authority to change the way occupational pension schemes are run though it has not needed to use its powers in this way for our Scheme. You can find out more about the Regulator online at

[www.thepensionsregulator.gov.uk](http://www.thepensionsregulator.gov.uk).

### Taking advice

If you would like advice about your retirement plans, we recommend you speak with an independent financial adviser (IFA).

The Trustees have appointed WPS Advisory Limited to provide free independent advice for members. Further information is available from Mercer, the Scheme administrators at <https://contact.mercer.com/>

You can find an adviser in your area by searching the Money and Pensions Service directory at:

<https://maps.org.uk/>

Before you appoint anyone, you should check that the adviser is suitably qualified and authorised.

You can do this online at

<https://register.fca.org.uk>

or by phoning the Financial Conduct Authority helpline 0800 111 6768.

