

Retirement



Alexander Forbes Retirement Fund newsletter

Issue 4 for 2025



alexforbes.com

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insight • advice • impact

In this issue, we've packed in tips and tools to help you feel more confident about your financial future. From ways to stay safe online to reminders that financial advice is for everyone.

We want to make saving for retirement simpler and easier to understand. Our goal is to give you the right information at the right time so you can make smarter choices with confidence.

Plan. Protect. Prosper.



Guide to understanding your death benefits

3



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The fund's trustees

Michael Prinsloo was appointed as an internal trustee from 1 July 2025, taking over from John Anderson, who left Alexforbes at the end of June. Michael is the Head of Products at Alexforbes and holds a BCom in Insurance Science. He is also a Certified Financial Planner® (CFP®) with over 23 years of experience in the financial services industry.

Michael serves on the ASISA Economic & Savings Policy board subcommittee and has previously been part of several other industry bodies. He also brings seven years of trustee experience to his new role.



Who gets what? Understanding death benefits and protecting your legacy

You may assume that having a will or naming a beneficiary is enough to ensure your loved ones are taken care of. In reality, the process of distributing death benefits is far more complex.

Listen to the recording of webinar Alexforbes hosted on 8 October to get a clear and practical understanding on:

- The difference between Section 37C retirement fund distributions and living annuity payouts
- How marriage, financial dependency and family dynamics can affect who receives what
- Why it is crucial to keep your beneficiary nominations and will up to date
- Simple, proactive steps to protect your family and your financial legacy about your benefits.
- Still have questions about the death benefit process? Share them with us by completing this [quick survey](#).

It's a session filled with practical insights we can all learn from - whether for yourselves or your loved ones.

[Click here to listen](#)

or [click here to download the Guide to understanding your death benefits payout process brochure](#).

[Click here to download](#)



Cybersecurity:

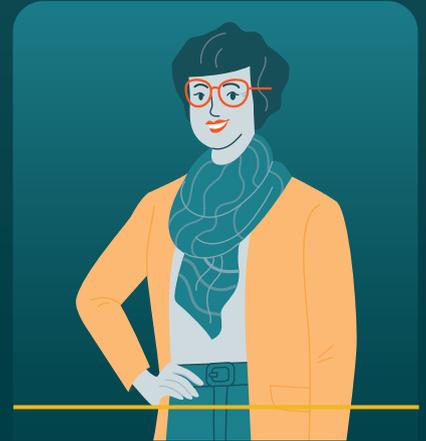
protect yourself from common online threats

Identity theft left Lisa broke

Meet Lisa, a young professional who loves sharing her life on social media. She often posts about her travels, new purchases and daily routines. One day, she gets a friend request from someone she doesn't know. They have a few mutual friends, so she accepts it.

A few weeks later, Lisa notices strange transactions on her credit card. When she contacts her bank, she finds out that someone has been using her details to make online purchases.

What happened? The "friend" was actually a scammer. Using the personal information Lisa shared online, they managed to piece together her identity - even creating a fake ID with her photos. With this, they gained access to her accounts and stole her identity.



Lesson learned

Be careful about what you share online. Avoid posting personal details such as your full name, address, phone number or clues that could reveal your passwords. Check your bank statements regularly for any unusual activity, and always use strong, unique passwords for your accounts. Identity theft can even lead to criminals gaining access to your retirement savings - so protect your personal information at all times.



Vivek learned about social engineering the hard way

Meet Vivek, an IT technician. One day, he receives a call from someone claiming to be a senior executive at his company. The caller sounds urgent and says they need access to a confidential project file, but have forgotten their password.

Wanting to help, Vivek resets the password and shares the new one over the phone. A few hours later, Vivek discovers the company's network has been hacked and sensitive data has been stolen.

What happened? The caller was a *social engineer* - a type of hacker who tricks people into sharing private information. By pretending to be a trusted leader and creating pressure, they convinced Vivek to break security rules.

Lesson learned

Always double-check who you're talking to before sharing any confidential information. Follow your company's security policies for password resets or access requests, no matter how urgent something sounds. Staying alert and informed can stop social engineering attacks before they happen.



Stay alert and protect your retirement

Cyber criminals are getting smarter, but so can you. By knowing what to look out for and taking small steps - like using strong passwords, thinking before you click and being careful about what you share - you can keep your personal and retirement information safe.

Stay smart. Stay secure.



Financial advice in action

In this ongoing series, we share real-life stories that show how good financial advice can make a real difference. Everyone's situation is unique, and the right guidance is about more than just knowing how much to invest - it's about helping you make smart choices that fit your goals and lifestyle.

The value of advice - financial advice in practice

The next three examples of financial advice in action demonstrate how, with the right guidance, you can avoid paying unnecessary tax.

A simple tax shift, R12 000 saved

By adjusting how much a client withdrew from their living annuity, an adviser helped him save R12,000 in tax in just one year, without impacting his lifestyle. The key? Taking only what was needed, not what was expected.

Smarter estate planning = bigger savings

One adviser recently helped a client save thousands in estate duties by structuring their investments correctly. Good planning now means more for your loved ones later.

Tax savings you didn't know existed

Many retirees don't realise how to balance taxable and discretionary income. An adviser saved clients hundreds of thousands over time, simply by knowing how to structure income more efficiently.



You have access to professional financial advice as a member of the AFRF. We've made it easy for you to access human or digital advice.



[Click here to get started.](#)

A gift of stories, savings and smiles.

Teach your kids the magic of saving - one story at a time. Just as expert financial advice helps us make smarter money choices, teaching children about money lays the foundation for a lifetime of financial confidence.

Every page a new adventure. Every story a step toward smart saving. Fables is packed with stories, tips and activities that make financial literacy fun.

Created for kids, parents and teachers, it's a playful way to build tomorrow's confident investors, one fable at a time.



Explore the book here



The Retirement Fund of the Future™

The trustees, administrator and everyone involved in AFRF are working hard to make sure your retirement savings are protected, well managed and ready for whatever the future brings. Here's how we're building a fund that works better for you - today and in the years ahead.

A fresh approach for a changing world

We've introduced a new way of managing the fund - something we call the Retirement Fund of the Future™. It's built on these five key principles:

1

Putting members first: everything we do is designed to help you make better financial decisions.

2

Thinking long term: your retirement is a journey, so we focus on steady, sustainable growth.

3

Strong governance: we follow strict rules to protect your money and make sure it's well looked after.

4

Investing with impact: we consider social and environmental factors when choosing where to invest.

5

Clear communication: we'll always keep you informed with honest, easy-to-understand updates.



Smarter investments for a stronger future

The fund offers investment options that suit your life stage and financial goals. Whether you're just starting your career or preparing for retirement, your money is invested in a way that fits your needs - and we regularly review it to make sure it stays on track. To review your investment values, log onto **AF Connect**.

Making retirement planning easier

We know planning for retirement can feel complicated, so we're making it simpler. We use clear, straightforward language in everything we share. You also have access to helpful tools like WhatsApp updates, online portals and retirement counselling to guide your decisions and help you make informed choices.



WhatsApp
+27600439601



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Investing with purpose

It's not just about financial returns. The fund also focuses on investing responsibly - considering things like climate change, diversity and fair business practices. Because your future should be built on investments that do good and grow sustainably.

Read more about how Alexforbes invests with purpose here (AF Group Stewardship report)

Support at every stage of your journey

No matter where you are in your working life, the fund is here to support you. Whether you're changing jobs or planning for retirement, we're ready with:

- Guidance to keep your retirement savings growing
- Tools that clearly explain your options
- Member rewards - like discounts on groceries, airtime and more through AF Rewards

Visit **AF Rewards** and **AF+** for more info.



Get involved - it's your fund

You have a voice in how your fund works. Here's how you can stay involved:

- **Stay informed:** read these newsletters, log into AF Connect and visit the My Money Matters portal.
- **Ask questions:** speak to your employer's MANCO, your financial adviser or contact the fund directly.
- **Give feedback:** complete surveys or use our complaints process to tell us what's working - and what's not.
- **Join sessions:** attend workshops or webinars to learn more about your benefits.
- **Keep your info updated:** make sure your employer has your latest email and cellphone number so you don't miss any updates.



A final thought

Your retirement fund is about more than just managing money - it's about helping you build a future you can feel confident about. With careful planning, strong governance and a focus on what matters to you, we're making your journey to retirement smoother, smarter and more secure.



Quick links

AF Connect

We've launched a **new retirement calculator** on AF Connect! This tool helps you estimate your retirement savings and plan more effectively for the future - giving you a clearer picture of what to expect and how to reach your goals.

- **Test different scenarios** by adjusting your contributions
- **Estimate** how much you could have save by retirement
- **Visualise** how your investments could grow over time
- **Track your progress** towards your retirement goals
- **Make confident, informed decisions** for a more secure retirement

[Click here to login or register](#)

My Money Matters

Looking for clear, easy-to-understand financial guidance? My Money Matters is here to help - from your first job right through to retirement.

It offers practical tips, expert advice and handy tools to help you make smart financial decisions, whether you're switching careers, planning for retirement or just getting your finances in order.

Think of it as your go-to guide for managing money with confidence.



Get in touch:

Phone: 0860 000 381

Email: mymoneymatters@alexforbes.com

Website: mymoneymatters.alexforbes.com



Our noticeboard

AF Rewards is three!

AF Rewards celebrated its third birthday in July, and what a celebration it was! Over the years, it's helped our members save money and enjoy exclusive perks - and this milestone was the perfect reason to give back with some amazing prizes.



AF Rewards savings round-up 31 August 2025

Member savings: R5 646 950.76

Coupons issued: 11 647

Vouchers issued: 4 987



A big congratulations to our lucky winners:

- **Nelly Masemola** - R10,000 travel voucher (grand prize!)
- **Kim Suce** - R3,000 gift experience
- **Fateen Savahl** - R3,000 gift experience
- **Kavisha Roopram** - R1,000 Superbalist voucher
- **Charmaine Atkinson** - R1,000 Superbalist voucher
- **Ruvandrie Govender** - R1,000 Superbalist voucher
- **Nishani Gounder** - R250 Takealot voucher
- **Mallicka Floris** - R250 Takealot voucher
- **Humera Amod** - R250 Takealot voucher

We hope you enjoy your prizes - and remember, AF Rewards is all about giving you more ways to save, shop and treat yourself!

Do you have any questions relating to the articles in this newsletter?

You can contact the fund using these contact details:

Alexander Forbes Retirement Fund
0860 100 333

admin@alexforbes.com

contactus@alexforbes.com (if there's something you feel the fund can improve on)



Investment returns

Performance of investment portfolios to 30 September 2025

Let's take AF Balanced High Growth as an example

The value of R100 invested over various periods to the end of September 2025

1

- AF Balanced High Growth and Performer
- Benchmark

We measure how well a portfolio is performing by comparing it to a benchmark¹. We can see that the portfolio is **better than** its benchmark over **most** periods.



Source: Alexforbes

2

Over a period of 10 years you would have R27 more for every R100 you saved in this investment portfolio instead of its benchmark.

Over long periods, we expect the value of investments to grow in line with its target, which may not be the case in shorter periods. For this reason, it's better to focus on long periods like **five or ten years** when you look at retirement savings.

4

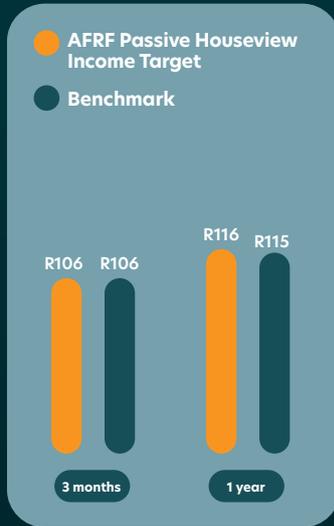
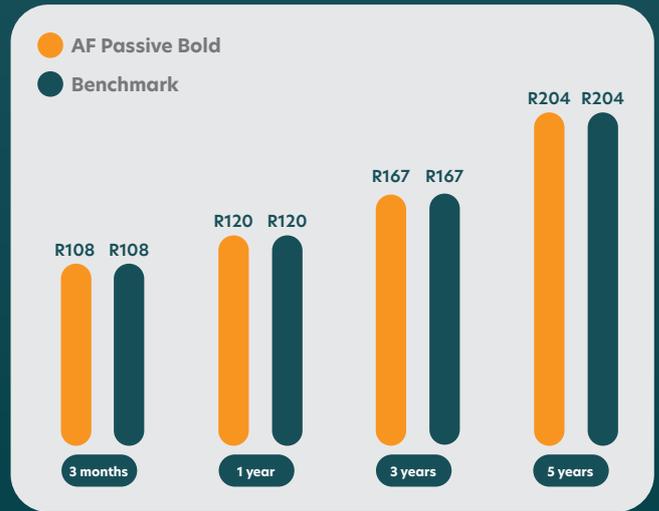
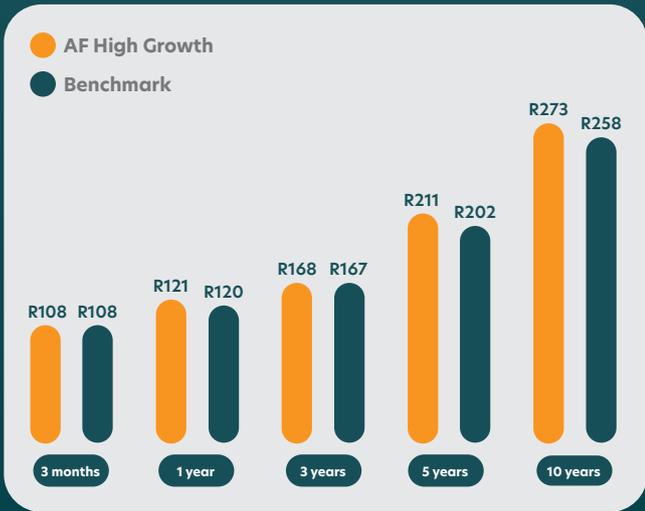
Keep in mind that the value of your investments go up and down.

5

Invest over long periods for your money to grow, the longer the better.

3





To view the full list of investment return [Click here](#)



Contact us

0860 100 333

Monday to Friday between 08:30 and 17:30

While care has been taken to present correct information. The fund, its trustees/PO (officers) and Alexforbes, its directors, officers and employees take no responsibility for any actions taken based on this information, all of which require financial advice. Please speak to your financial adviser for tailored advice based on your individual financial needs.



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