Summer 2026

# Welcome to your Clara bulletin

**Wates members**

Twice a year, you'll get a bulletin like this that explains how we look after your Clara pension. We'll tell you a bit more about who we are, and we'll share important updates.

We're a growing community. We're excited to share that hundreds more members have joined Clara since we last wrote to you.

# Clara – taking care of your

## Who we are

Clara brings together company pension schemes to make them stronger and safer. Your company pension scheme transferred to us, so you're now a member of the Clara community.

## The Wates Section is in good financial health

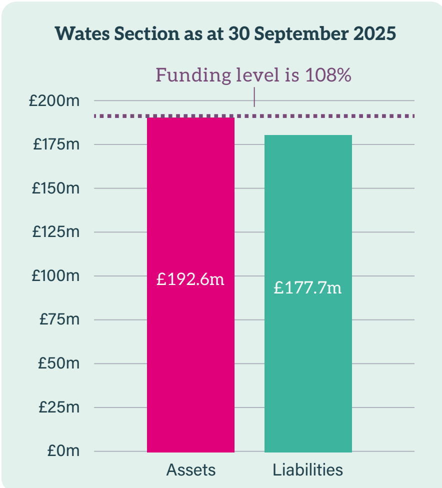
Your pension remains secure. The Clara Trustees are responsible for monitoring the Section's financial health and reporting its financial position to members.

Every year, we carry out a financial health check of the Section. A pension specialist called an actuary analyses the financial position of the Section. They work out the:

- **assets** – how much money the Section has
- **liabilities** – the estimated amount we need to pay members' benefits, now and in the future
- **funding level** – how much money the Section has compared to how much it needs, shown as a percentage

At least once every three years, we carry out a full check of the Section's finances. This check is known as an actuarial valuation.

In our last Clara bulletin, we said we were working on the Section's first valuation. This valuation is now complete and the final results are below:




## What these numbers mean

When the funding level is over 100%, our actuary estimates that there is more than enough money to pay everyone's pensions, now and in the future. The Section is in a strong financial position – its funding level is 108%. We plan to strengthen the funding level further over the next 5 to 10 years.

## Here are some things we need to tell you by law

We must calculate certain figures and tell you about them to give you a full picture of the Section's financial health.

### The cost of transferring to an insurer now

One of the figures we're required to check is called the 'solvency level,' a calculation that helps show the Section's overall financial health. The solvency level shows what it would cost to transfer everyone's pensions to an insurer if the Section had to wind up immediately. Winding up a Section means it ceases to exist. However, in reality the Section is not winding up immediately.

As we explained in our first bulletin, our plan is to manage your pension for a period of time, typically 5 to 10 years. When the time is right, we'll transfer your Clara pension to an insurance company that will continue to pay your pension for the rest of your life. However, we're not planning to do this now – we need time to further strengthen the Section's funding position first.

Our actuary estimated that if an insurer had taken over everyone's pensions on 30 September 2025, the Section's solvency level would have been 101%. This is only an estimate. The actual cost will vary depending on a range of factors, including the cost of buying insurance at that time.

### If Clara couldn't support the Section

In the unlikely event Clara could not continue to support the Section and there wasn't enough money to pay your pension, the Pension Protection Fund (PPF) would step in. The PPF protects members by paying their pensions if a scheme is no longer able to. If the Section moved to the PPF, you'd get PPF payments. These might be lower than your current Clara pension.

Although we have to tell you what would happen if the PPF needed to step in, the safeguards we have in place means it's very unlikely to happen. We have strong protections which are monitored by the Pensions Regulator (TPR). Find out more at ppf.co.uk. To see how TPR regulates Clara, go to thepensionsregulator.gov.uk and search for 'DB superfunds guidance'.

### We also need to tell you that:

- TPR has not intervened in how we manage your Section. The Regulator only intervenes if they're concerned about the health of a pension scheme.
- No money from the Section has been paid to the Section's Employer.

### Our Report and Accounts can give you more details

The valuation result will give you the headlines about the financial health of the Section. If you want more details, you can read our Report and Accounts. To access them, log in through the member portal at claramembers-hymans.co.uk.

## Where to find more information on the Section's finances

You can request copies of the following documents by contacting your administrator:

- Actuarial Valuation Report as at 30 September 2025
- Statement of Funding Principles
- Statement of Investment Principles
- Schedule of Contributions
- Your Section's annual report and accounts – you can access these through the member portal at claramembers-hymans.co.uk
- The Clara Trust's annual report and accounts (you can request a copy by contacting your administrator, or access them via a link in your Section's report and accounts on the member portal)

## Contact us

If you have a question about your Clara pension, contact Hymans, the administrator of the Wates Section:

Email: clarapensions@hymans.co.uk

Phone: 0141 227 9811

Call lines are open 9am to 5pm, Monday to Friday.

## Manage your pension more easily online

Get 24/7 access to all the information you need on your Clara pension by registering to use the member portal at claramembers-hymans.co.uk. If you're already registered, just log on in the usual way.

## Watch out for pension scams

Scams are getting more sophisticated, with AI now able to clone voices and copy websites. Never share personal details or transfer money to anyone who contacts you unexpectedly. Be cautious about clicking links or attachments in unsolicited messages. Report anything suspicious to your administrator and to Report Fraud on 0300 123 2040. Don't share personal details with AI tools and don't rely on them for financial advice. Speak to a regulated financial adviser instead. Go to clara-pensions.com/a-warning-about-scams