

Got a technical query

Speak to the experts
– Zurich's Technical
Services Team



Meet the Technical Services Team



The **Technical Services Team** is here to support you in any technical issues to do with Pensions, Life insurance and Investments. With the many legislative changes in Pensions over the last few years, we are here to answer your questions on how these changes may affect your clients and guide you through the legislation. We can offer assistance from a technical perspective with issues surrounding Pensions, Pension Adjustment Orders and Trusteeship.



We also can provide information on life insurance, savings and investments and help with simple taxation issues and queries on putting a policy in trust. If your query relates to Business Insurance, our team can help in answering all your queries in each of the areas.



Mike Ainsworth
Head of Technical Services

Areas of Expertise: Pensions Technical

Mike Ainsworth is a seasoned professional and has worked for Zurich Life for the last 35 years, where he currently serves as the Head of Technical Services. He has extensive experience in pensions, insurance and financial services, demonstrated through his engagement with various industry groups and stakeholders, including Brokers Ireland, the Pensions Authority, Revenue, Dept of Finance and Dept of Social Protection and he is a key member of the Pensions Committee at Insurance Ireland. Mike qualified as a Chartered Insurer (ACII), is a Fellow of the Irish Institute of Pensions Management (FIIPM) and is a Qualified Pension Trustee (QPT). He is also a Director of the Trustee Company with responsibility for the Zurich Ireland Staff Group Pension Scheme. Mike's career began at Canada Life UK before moving to Canada Life Ireland where he managed their group pensions dept. His dedication to the industry is evident in his leadership roles and long-standing commitment to Zurich Life, where he continues to influence the field of pensions and insurance in Ireland.



Ger Tyrrell
Pension Consultant

Areas of expertise: Pensions Technical, Qualifying Recognised Overseas Pension Scheme (QROPS) Transfers, Pension Adjustment Orders

Ger has over 12 years' experience in the Pensions Industry. In his current role as Pension Consultant, Technical Services, Ger provides advice to Financial Brokers and Advisors on the technical and legislative issues surrounding pensions. He is a graduate of University College Dublin and has also completed his QFA (Qualified Financial Advisor), RPA (Retirement Planning Advice) and most recently the Certified Financial Planner (CFP®) examinations in 2019.



Justin Kelly

Life/Protection Technical Consultant

Area of expertise: Protection/Life insurance, Business Insurance; CAT/Section 72; Savings/Investments

Justin joined Zurich Life in 1998 (after a brief career as a teacher). In July 2006 Justin transferred to the newly formed Technical Services Team where, as a Technical Consultant, he remains an integral part of the team. Justin's main area of expertise is Protection, dealing with the areas of Business Insurance and Capital Acquisitions Tax. He is also involved in savings and investments and the technical insights around the Small Gift Exemption and savings for younger children. Justin holds a Bachelor of Arts degree, QFA and is a Fellow of the Life Insurance Industry (FLIA).



David Byrne

Technical Consultant

Area of expertise: Pensions Technical, QROPS Transfers, Life Insurance, Business Insurance

David joined Zurich Life in 2001. After working in sales and customer support roles within Zurich Life, he joined the Technical Services department in 2008. David is an 'all-rounder, providing technical advice to Financial Brokers on Zurich Life's full suite of products in his role as Technical Consultant. David holds a Bachelor of Business Studies degree, QFA (Qualified Financial Advisor), RPA (Retirement Planning Advice) and CFP® designations.



Meadhbh Lahert

Technical Services Specialist

Areas of expertise: Pensions, savings and investments

Meadhbh joined Zurich Life in July 2025 after starting her career in financial services in 2021 and focusing on pensions since 2022. She supports both brokers and internal teams with technical insights on pensions, savings, and investment products. Meadhbh is actively studying for her QFA qualifications to deepen her expertise in the field.



Jamie McConville

Pensions Solicitor

Areas of expertise: Pensions Technical, Pension Adjustment Orders, Trusteeship

Jamie joined Zurich Life as Pensions Solicitor in September 2018. He provides support to the Technical Services Team and also acts as company secretary to Zurich Ireland Master Trustee DAC and Zurich Trustee Services Limited. Jamie has almost twenty-five years of experience in pensions law having previously worked with Canada Life, McCann FitzGerald, Mercer and as a partner with Fieldfisher Ireland (formerly McDowell Purcell) and LK Shields, where he was ranked by both Legal 500 and Chambers Europe as a leading lawyer in his field. A graduate of the University of Kent and Nottingham Law School, Jamie is qualified as a Solicitor in Ireland, England, and Wales, and is a member of the Law Society of Ireland's Pensions Law Sub-Committee. He has been involved in the drafting of Irish pensions regulations, has represented clients in several leading Irish pensions litigation cases and has particular interests in pensions-related legislation and trusts law.



Mary Greaney

Pensions Solicitor

Areas of expertise: Pensions Technical, Pension Adjustment Orders, Trusteeship

Mary joined the Zurich Life Technical Services Team as a Pensions Solicitor in April 2016. She is a graduate of NUI Galway and holds a Bachelor of Corporate Law (first class honours degree). Mary qualified as a Solicitor in 2011 having trained in William Fry and subsequently worked as a Pensions Solicitor as part of its Employment & Benefits Team. Mary is also a qualified member of the LIA (Life Insurance Association) and holds the QFA (Qualified Financial Advisor) designation.

Areas of Expertise



Pension Adjustment Orders

Trusteeship and Documentation Queries

The Zurich Master Trust, Group Schemes and One-Member Arrangements

Changing Pension Landscape

Legislative Changes
Auto-enrolment
Master Trusts (including Group Defined Contributions and One Member Arrangements)
Employer PRSA (Personal Retirement Savings Account)
Company Directors – Maximum Pension Funding

Savings/Investments

Small Gift Tax opportunities
General Trust Form

Transfers of Pensions

QROPS (UK pension scheme transfers)
Issues with transferring out of Ireland
Issues with transferring to Ireland

Life Insurance/Protection

Business Insurance
Section 72 inheritance tax planning
Co-habiting couple issues

New

Technical Services Hub

We're excited to announce the launch of our **Technical Services Hub**, designed to make accessing our TechTalks and resources more efficient.



Monthly TechTalks:
Insightful guides covering key topics & industry updates



Document Library:
A new library of useful technical guides



Useful Tools and Resources:
Direct access to Zurich calculators and helpful government resources.

Visit the hub today

and discover how it can support you and your client conversations or email techsupport@zurich.com



Contact Technical Services today

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