



# FUTURE PROOF YOUR FINANCES

This is a time when your family's prospects may be significantly improved with a proactive approach to your financial planning.

## Why carry out a Financial Health Check?

Being proactive about your financial health is the best way to safeguard your future. You may want to fully understand your current financial situation, set specific objectives and make plans to achieve them, or check whether you're on track to achieve your financial goals.

### Questions to ask yourself:

- What do you want from your financial future? Early retirement? Your dream home? Unforgettable travel? The peace of mind that comes from knowing your family is provided for?
- Do you have clear financial goals for the next 5, 10 and 20 years?
- If you do, are you confident you'll achieve them?
- If you don't, how would you feel knowing you had set clear goals and had a plan in place?
- How are you going to move forward from where you currently are financially?

Whatever your objectives, we can help you organise your affairs in the most efficient and

effective way, allowing you to plan ahead with confidence for a more secure financial future.

## Who could benefit from a Financial Health Check?

Even those of us who have a good understanding of our personal finances and budgets can benefit from carrying out a financial health check with a professional adviser, taking advantage of the specialist skills and tools necessary for long term financial planning.

In our experience, families with young children and those approaching midlife can gain valuable benefit from this exercise.

## How could doing this help me?

Starting a family is one of the most exciting times in your life, but it brings with it additional responsibilities and costs. Having children can have a massive impact on your family's financial situation. Increased day to day living costs and unforeseen expenses, as well as the significant cost of childcare, all have to be accounted for from a family budget that may be reduced due to parental leave for one or both parents.

## What should you be doing?

- Making sure your money is not poorly invested or locked into accounts paying low returns
- Checking whether your mortgage is on a discounted rate
- Reviewing your protection requirements to ensure your family will be provided for in the event that something happens to either or both parents
- Making clear plans for your family's financial future – particularly if your children may be going to university!
- Ensuring you have a good pension in place
- Reviewing and updating your Will

As your children grow up and begin to make their own way, it's likely that your financial priorities will change – although the Bank of Mum and Dad seldom closes! You may then adjust your priorities to prepare for a comfortable, fulfilling retirement, focusing on savings, pensions, investments and estate planning.



### So what does a Financial Health Check involve?

Our specialist advisers will ask you for information about your household, including things like your family situation and caring responsibilities, your everyday expenditure, any savings and investments, your retirement plans, your comfort level with financial risk and whether you have any insurances and protection in place.

This information, combined with an analysis of how your income is structured and annual reviews, helps us understand your current position, how this might evolve in the future, and how we can help with your long-term financial planning.

### Our role in carrying out your financial health check is to:

- Clearly identify your financial objectives and any issues
- Collect and assess all relevant personal and financial data: income and expenditure; assets and liabilities; lifestyle cashflow and investments
- Process and analyse all relevant information
- Calculate your net worth
- Construct a written plan, showing you how to make the most effective use of your financial resources in order to meet your objectives
- Conduct regular reviews, modifying your plan as necessary to account for your changing circumstances

### How do I gather all the information required?

Many people can be put off by the daunting prospect of trawling through reams of paperwork and tracking down elusive documentation. At McCrea Financial Services, we're only too pleased to take on this burden on your behalf! We can obtain up to date information on existing contracts and policies that you may have taken out over the years, even tracking down existing investments and pensions you may have lost track of.

If you'd like the peace of mind of knowing your plans for a prosperous retirement are on track, get in touch with McCreas and our specialist advisers will work with you to assess your goals and help you turn them into reality.

### Why McCreas?

At McCreas, we pride ourselves on providing a first-class service to our clients, and making sure we're NOT just another firm of Independent Financial Advisers.

#### We are:

**INDEPENDENT** - not tied to any particular company, bank or insurance company. We are authorised and regulated by the Financial Conduct Authority.

**PROFESSIONAL** - the staff at McCreas have many years of experience and all McCreas employees have Personal Development Plans which include improving their technical knowledge through CII examinations.

**COMMITTED** - our business is all about you. Each client has a designated Independent Financial Adviser and support, allowing you to build a professional and personal relationship over the years.

**A GREAT TEAM** - dedicated professional advisers backed up by superb administrators with sophisticated systems, allowing us to provide you with top quality, personalised service.

### We're proud to stand out from other firms

We actively encourage our staff to keep developing their skills, and were the first IFA in the UK to be awarded Gold Standard accreditation from Investors in People and one of the first to attain Platinum Standard.

When we look after your financial affairs, we're aware of how much trust you place in us and we want to repay that trust in valuable relationships that last decades, not just weeks.

We meet the majority of our new clients when they're referred to us by friends and family who have had good experiences with us.

We spend significant time and effort helping out in our communities. From running events and raising money for charities to sponsoring local sports and helping promising children achieve their goals, we go beyond window dressing to make a real impact.

### McCrea Financial Services – For Every Stage of Life

McCrea Financial Services Limited are authorised and regulated by the Financial Conduct Authority. Registered in Scotland: SC191039

☎ 0141 572 1340

✉ enquiries@mccreafs.co.uk

🌐 mcreafs.co.uk



Registered Address:  
Moncrieff House,  
69 West Nile Street,  
Glasgow, G1 2QB