STATE PENSION • TAX • BENEFITS

THE UNCLAIMED MONEY PLAYBOOK

FOR PENSIONERS



2027 EDITION • BRIGHTPAGE STUDIO

CONTENTS

What's Inside

PART ONE — START HERE

1. The 20-Minute Money Check: Where You Stand Today 6
2. Scam and Fake-Video Shield: Check Any Claim, Protect Your Bank Account 17

PART TWO — YOUR STATE PENSION AND TAX

3. Your State Pension: Forecast, Age and Gaps in Your Record 26
4. Is Your State Pension Taxed? The Allowance, the April Rise and How to Check 35
5. Tax Bills, Tax Codes and Refunds 43
6. Savings Interest: What Is Taxed, What Is Not, and ISAs 52

PART THREE — BENEFITS

7. Pension Credit: Who Qualifies, the Savings Test and the Doors It Opens 61
8. Attendance Allowance, PIP and Carer's Money 71
9. Bills: Energy Help, Winter Fuel and the Payments That Come Automatically 80

PART FOUR — PENSIONS, FAMILY, CALENDAR

10. Your Private and Workplace Pension: Small Pots, Tax at Source and the 2027 Inheritance Rule 89
11. Widowed, Gifting, Care: What to Claim and What to Tell People 97
12. Your 2027/28 Calendar: What Changes, What to Check, and When 106

BACK OF THE BOOK

Sources 112
The UK 2027 Edition and Your Free Update 123

AT A GLANCE

What Changes in April 2027

Figures most pensioners will meet in 2027/28 (the tax year starts 6 April 2027). Each is explained in the chapter shown. April 2027 rates are those announced by the DWP in November 2026.

Item	2026/27	April 2027	Ch.
Full new State Pension, a week	£241.30	£250.70	3
Full new State Pension, a year	£12,547.60	£13,036.40	3, 4
Full basic (old) State Pension, a week	£184.90	£192.10	3
Personal Allowance (tax-free income)	£12,570	£12,570 (frozen)	4
New Pension Tax Allowance (Budget 2026)	none	up to £94 off your tax	4
Pension Credit, guarantee, single, a week	£238.00	£247.30	7
Pension Credit, guarantee, couple, a week	£363.25	£377.40	7
Attendance Allowance, a week	£76.70 / £114.60	£79.40 / £118.60	8
Carer's Allowance, a week	£86.45	£89.50	8
Personal Savings Allowance, basic-rate taxpayer	£1,000	£1,000	6
Tax rates on savings interest	current rates	up 2 percentage points (planned)	6
ISA allowance, including cash ISAs	£20,000	£20,000 (cut cancelled)	6
Unused pension pots and inheritance tax	outside the estate	counted, deaths from 6 April 2027	10

Sources: DWP proposed rates 2027 to 2028 (11 Nov 2026); HMRC Pension Tax Allowance explainer (28 Oct 2026); Budget 2026; GOV.UK. The Pension Tax Allowance and higher savings rates are subject to the Finance Bill. Winter Fuel Payment, Warm Home Discount and Class 3 rates for 2027/28 were not yet published; they will be in the free April 2027 update.

ACTION CHECKLIST — THE MONEY CHECK

- ☐ Gather State Pension letter, pension payslips, P60s, HMRC letters, interest statements, benefit letters, bills.
- ☐ Write your yearly income from every source and compare it with £12,570.
- ☐ Note the tax code on each pension or job.
- ☐ Add up last year's interest outside ISAs and your total savings.
- ☐ Answer the Pension Credit, Attendance Allowance, carer and housing questions.
- ☐ Check Winter Fuel Payment, Warm Home Discount and the Priority Services Register.
- ☐ List your first three actions in deadline order.
- ☐ Date the worksheet and keep it with this book.

CHAPTER RECAP

Your money is split between the DWP, HMRC, your council and your energy supplier, and nobody checks the whole picture for you. Twenty minutes with your letters shows where you stand. Compare your yearly income with the £12,570 Personal Allowance, check the code on any private pension, and ask yourself the four benefit questions. Deal first with anything that has a deadline, then with anything that pays every week, such as Pension Credit and Attendance Allowance.