

I knew very little about annuities. It was suggested that I start looking and thinking as I'm of the age where my pension is available to me.

I first went to discuss it with friends because they're all of a similar age to me. But at the end of the day, I made my own decision.

If someone is interested in maximising their income then it is absolutely essential to shop around.

Going to be a grandmother, something happened to me that made me think, do something with this amount of money.

I wanted to just do it, get it over and done with and feel safe. And that's exactly how I feel. My first port of call was to an IFA.

I picked up a little knowledge there and then I really did some full research on the internet. I found it very, very helpful to gain your knowledge.

My main responsibility is making sure that my wife is fully protected. Whoever your pension provider is, see what they're gonna offer you.

Then look online, see if there is anything better. But in the end, always have your financial advisor at your side and he will tell you which of those is better for you or if they can find you something better I talked to a couple of people, talked about things because they were a couple of years older than me, so I thought maybe they've been through this.

But in fact they hadn't although they were now having second thoughts or they either should have done or maybe still could really look into it because it's quite a big decision

It's quite an important decision. I knew very little about annuities to be honest. My husband said we've got to start to consider what you want to do with your pension. Then he prompted me into doing something about it.

I would go online and seek out any information that I feel I need. It just gave me an idea I suppose of what I was looking for.

You've got to be sure that you are confident and you are aware of what you're actually buying before you actually sign on the dotted line and say okay, this is what I'm gonna get because it is, in theory a lifetime annuity

So once you go with that, you need to be sure of it before you take it out. You have to shop around, you have to look, speak to people, older people who have retired, who have taken annuities. They're the best ones because they've done it. Get the facts and figures that relates to their circumstances. Speak to a financial advisor just to verify that everything you may have decided on is right, but you only get one crack at it, so do it wisely.