

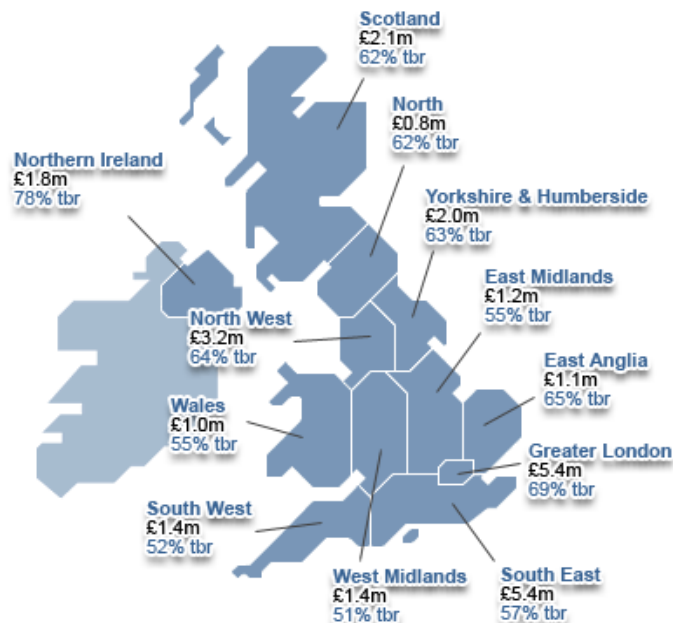


£18million of "forgotten" funds reunited with savers

Today, Monday 6th October, marks an important stage in the process to bring the Dormant Accounts Bill to legislation. The Bill, which was introduced into Parliament in November 2007, will receive its second reading in The House of Commons.

Halifax has now reunited more than £18million of dormant funds leaving £29.2million still to be reunited.

Remaining Halifax dormant funds – the UK picture*:



Unallocated funds:	£3.3m
UK total:	£29.2m
Funds left to reunite (tbr):	61%

Tony Wilcox, head of savings at Halifax said "Many regions in the UK have a high percentage of forgotten funds still to claim. We would urge customers to take note that money is still lying dormant and to come forward to check if they have dormant funds.

"Some customers may not even realise their accounts are classed as dormant, they may even have left the money there untouched as a nest egg. Any account that has not had any activity on it in the last 15 years is considered dormant and the addition of interest does not count as activity."

The UK's dormant hotspots by % of balances left to reunite in the region:

Region	% of balances to be reunited
Northern Ireland	78%
Greater London	69%
East Anglia	65%
North West	64%
Yorkshire & Humberside	63%

The UK's dormant hotspots by balance:

Region	Balances to be reunited
Greater London	Over £5.4mil
South East	Over £5.4mil
North West	Over £3.2mil
Scotland	Over £2.1mil
Yorkshire & Humberside	Over £2.0mil

- Three accounts with balances over £100,000 are still to be reunited
- Over 25 accounts with balances over £50,000 are still to be reunited
- 83 per cent of accounts left to be reunited hold less than £100
- Over 70 per cent of accounts holding over £50,000 have been reunited

UK consumers can check if they have unclaimed dormant funds via www.halifaxlocateaccounts.co.uk or alternatively via the BBA at www.mylostaccount.org.uk

Ends.

Editors' notes

It is estimated the Government may begin collecting dormant funds in the second half of 2009.

Dormant accounts are classed as having been inactive for at least 15 years and many no longer have the correct address held, so contact with the customer has been lost. Under Government proposals these funds would be taken in to a central fund and used for worthwhile causes. Customers will always be able to come forward and claim these. The expectation from the Government is that all banks and building societies will try to reunite customers with their money before the scheme is launched. Halifax was the first provider to launch its reunification programme in February 2006.

*Unallocated funds are funds which have not been allocated to a region or are held in an account with an overseas address.

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