

The first thing you'll need to decide when buying a lifetime annuity is whether you want a single annuity where the payments stop when you die or a joint annuity which will provide an income for your partner or a financially dependent child after you die.

If you don't have any dependants the choice is simple, a single annuity will be right for you.

If your partner or child relies on you financially, a joint annuity is likely to be the right choice as it will pay them an income for the rest of their life or in the case of a dependent child, usually until age 23.

One thing to bear in mind though is that a single annuity pays a higher retirement income than a joint annuity >because a joint annuity is designed to pay out for longer.

If your partner already has enough income to live on in retirement, for example, from their own pension, choosing a single annuity will give you a higher retirement income.

It will also be right if your dependent isn't expected to outlive you.