## **Westminster Employment Forum Keynote Seminar**

## Pension participation - implementing auto-enrolment and the future for the private pension market

Timing: Morning, Tuesday, 12th February 2013 Venue: Sixty One Whitehall, London SW1A 2ET

Agenda subject to change

8.30 - 9.00 Registration and coffee

9.00 - 9.05 Chairman's opening remarks

Lord Flight, Member, House of Lords EU Finance and Economic Committee

9.05 - 9.30 Automatic enrolment so far and the role of NEST

Graham Vidler, Director of Communications and Engagement, NEST (National Employment Savings Trust)

Questions and comments from the floor

9.30 - 10.20 The next steps for auto-enrolment policy

What lessons can be learned from the initial rollout of automatic enrolment in the largest firms? Will automatic enrolment achieve its aims of radically increasing pension participation, particularly among younger workers? Are the public sufficiently aware of the automatic enrolment changes and the impact of them? Does the revised timetable for automatic enrolment provide sufficient preparation time for small employers? Should the NEST contribution limits be removed, as suggested by the Work and Pensions Select Committee? Should the £8,105 earnings threshold, at which automatic enrolment is triggered, be lowered to encompass more part-time workers, as suggested by the TUC? How can employers and employees be encouraged to go beyond the statutory minimum contributions?

Glyn Jenkins, Head of Pensions, UNISON

Mike Cherry, National Policy Chairman, Federation of Small Businesses (FSB)

**Dr Ros Altmann**, Director General, Saga Group **Mark Pemberthy**, Director, JLT Benefit Solutions

Marta Phillips, Chief Executive, The Pensions Advisory Service (TPAS)

Questions and comments from the floor

10.20 - 10.25 Chairman's closing remarks

Lord Flight, Member, House of Lords EU Finance and Economic Committee

10.25 - 10.45 Coffee

10.45 - 10.50 Chairman's opening remarks

Gregg McClymont MP, Shadow Pensions Minister

10.50 - 11.40 Informed consumers - transparency on charges and transfers for small savings pots

What steps could Government and industry take to improve public awareness and understanding of pensions and annuities? Are concerns, in the media and from politicians, about the levels of pension charges justified? Should Government introduce caps to ensure excessive charges do not exist? Will the new industry-led Code of Conduct on pension charges deliver sufficient transparency to restore public confidence regarding charges? What will be the likely impact of the Government's proposals to end short service refunds? Is the proposed 'pot follows member' model, whereby the assets are transferred to the new employer's scheme, the most suitable model for dealing with small pension pots; what are the alternatives? What effect would Government making NEST the default aggregator for small pension pots - accrued by individuals moving between jobs - have on the private pension market?

Jamie Clark, Business Development Manager, Scottish Life

Dr Hari Mann, Director, Tomorrow's Investor programme, Royal Society of Arts

Dr Jonathan Lipkin, Director, Public Policy, IMA (Investment Management Association)

**Doug Taylor**, Chief Advocate, Which? Questions and comments from the floor

11.40 - 12.30 Moving towards 'Defined Ambition' - alternatives to Defined Benefit and Defined Contribution schemes

Perspectives on the concept of 'Defined Ambition' schemes - proposed by the Pensions Minister as schemes that would share the risks between employers and employees more equitably than DB or DC schemes - and the form such schemes could take. How can employers and industry be encouraged to adopt 'Defined Ambition' schemes? Are there alternatives to 'Defined Ambition' that Government should encourage instead?

Julian Knight, Money and Property Editor, Independent on Sunday

Catherine Howarth, Chief Executive, FairPensions Mario Lopez-Areu, Senior Policy Adviser, CBI Darren Philp, Director of Policy, NAPF Questions and comments from the floor

12.30 - 12.55 Reinvigorating workplace pensions: a view from DWP

**Bridget Micklem**, Head of Private Pensions Policy and Analysis, Department for Work and Pensions

Questions and comments from the floor

12.55 - 13.00 Chairman's and Westminster Employment Forum closing remarks

Gregg McClymont MP, Shadow Pensions Minister

Peter van Gelder, Director, Westminster Employment Forum

