Westminster Employment Forum Keynote Seminar: Priorities for pensions policy in the UK

Timing: Morning, Tuesday, 29th November 2016 Venue: Glaziers Hall, 9 Montague Close, London SE1 9DD

Agenda subject to change

- 8.30 9.00 Registration and coffee
- 9.00 9.05 Chair's opening remarks Nigel Mills MP, Vice Chair, All-Party Parliamentary Group on Pensions
- 9.05 9.30 Key issues for UK pensions policy David Bateman, Policy Manager, Department for Work and Pensions Questions and comments from the floor
- 9.30 10.10 Pensions in the post-referendum economic landscape What are likely to be the key effects of Brexit on the British Pension Market, both in the long and short-term; what are the key challenges for employees and trustees in responding to Brexit? How will Brexit's impact on investments and stock affect companies' ability to meet pension commitments; does the Government need to consider further action for helping employers reduce deficits in pension schemes? Following concerns, expressed by former Prime Minister David Cameron in the run-up to referendum, does Government need to re-consider the viability of the state pension 'Triple lock' within a post-referendum economic landscape? Given the potential periods of economic turbulence recently expressed by the Chancellor of the Exchequer, and its potential effect on public expenditure, does the Government need to look at other areas such as pensions tax relief and other pensions benefits? James Walsh, Policy Lead, EU & International, Pensions and Lifetime Savings Association Con Keating, Head of Research, Brighton Rock Group Ian Neale, Director, Aries Insight Questions and comments from the floor
- 10.10 10.35
 Improving protection for savers and regulating 'Master Trusts' the likely impact of the Pension Schemes Bill

 Andrew Warwick-Thompson, Executive Director of Regulatory Policy, The Pensions Regulator

 Questions and comments from the floor
- 10.35 10.40 Chair's closing remarks

Nigel Mills MP, Vice Chair, All-Party Parliamentary Group on Pensions

- 10.40 11.05 Coffee
- 11.05 11.20 Chair's opening remarks Ian Blackford MP, Shadow SNP Spokesperson (Pensions)
- 11.20 12.20 Addressing transparency in the pensions sector hidden charges, consumer perspectives and challenges for industry What further steps can be taken by Government, the pensions industry and others to improve transparency over value for money in pensions, and on costs and charges? Given the complexity of the sector, is it feasible for all providers to create a 'total cost figure' for investments made; in what other ways could comparable data be created for investment costs and charges, in a way which is meaningful for customers?

Andy Agathangelou, Founding Chair, Transparency Task Force Doug Taylor, Member, Financial Services Consumer Panel Margaret Snowdon, Chairman, Pensions Administration Standards Association Dr Jonathan Lipkin, Director, Public Policy, Investment Association Questions and comments from the floor

 12.20 - 12.55 Improving pensions advice and guidance post-Freedom and Choice and challenges for the Pensions Dashboard How successful has the introduction of the Government's PensionWise service been so far in closing the pensions 'advice gap'; in what ways could greater take-up be achieved or encouraged? Should Government consider introducing a default decumulation option or pathway, for those approaching retirement who do not actively seek advice on their retirement income, as is the case in Australia; what form could this option take? At this early stage, how have consumers choosing against annuitisation accounted for risks surrounding longevity? What key elements are needed to make the Pensions Dashboard, due to go live in 2019, a success? How can the sector ensure that the dashboard is simple, accessible and user-friendly; what can be learnt from similar services, used in other sectors, such as health? Should the dashboard provide 'nudges' to certain savers, in order to encourage greater pension contributions or discourage 'risky' decisions; what steps can be taken to guarantee the quality of any automated-advice which results from the dashboard?
 Gregg McClymont, Head of Retirement, Aberdeen Asset Management and former Shadow Minister for Pensions

Dr Yvonne Braun, Director of Policy, Long-Term Savings and Protection, ABI Questions and comments from the floor

12.55 - 13.00 Chair's and Westminster Employment Forum closing remarks Ian Blackford MP, Shadow SNP Spokesperson (Pensions) Tom Overend, Forum Lead, Westminster Employment Forum

