Novus
Actuarial & Administration

Lodge Park
Lodge Lane
Langham
Colchester
Essex
CO4 5NE

Tel: 01206 233547
Fax: 01206 233548
www.novusactuarial.com

In this issue:

Update

March 2025

Pensions regulation and growth

As part of the government's review of regulators and regulation to support growth, the Pensions Regulator (TPR) has published its list of measurable commitments to implement in the next year, under the following five headings:

- Increasing the value of pension funds
- Enabling productive investment
- Reducing unnecessary regulatory burden and releasing funds for investment
- Driving growth through data and digital enablement
- Supporting market innovation

For example, on increasing the value of pension funds, TPR highlights its work, in partnership with the FCA and government, to develop a Value for Money Framework for DC schemes. It also covers the government proposal to enable savers and employers to benefit from the distribution of surplus before wind-up, noting that schemes that choose to run-on are more likely to invest productively.

On reducing the regulatory burden, TPR plans to conduct a review of its scheme return and master trust regulatory returns, to streamline its data collection processes and identify areas of duplication.

www.thepensionsregulator.gov.uk/en/a-new-approach-to-ensure-regulators-and-regulations-support-growth-response

Novus
Actuarial & Administration

Dashboards progress

Nausicaa Delfas, Chief Executive of TPR

Three 'volunteer participant' organisations have passed through the stages required to connect to the ecosystem for pensions dashboards, opening the way for the first schemes to connect from April 2025 (namely master trusts with 20,000 or more relevant members and operators of personal pensions with 5,000 or more relevant members). Participants from Heywood, Legal and General and Pension Fusion completed 'Operational Acceptance Testing', verifying things like backups, security, performance and user access.

In a separate development, version 2.0 of the data standards for pension providers and schemes that are required to connect to the pensions dashboards ecosystem have been approved by the Secretary of State for Work and Pensions.

PPI report

46%

Proportion of Gen Zs surveyed that believe the state pension will not exist by the time they reach retirement

A new report from the Pensions Policy Institute (PPI), commissioned by the Institute and Faculty of Actuaries (IFoA), has identified the challenges unique to Gen Z that are putting at risk their ability to save adequately for retirement. 'The Concerns of Gen Z' highlights that despite being the first generation to benefit universally from automatic enrolment, Gen Z's ability to save is constrained by economic uncertainty, high student debt, unaffordable housing and changing employment patterns.

www.pensionspolicyinstitute.org.uk/research-library/research-reports/2025/the-concerns-of-gen-z

Company news

Investment group Aberdeen (formerly known as Abrdn) has announced plans to use funds from its DB scheme surplus to help meet the cost of providing DC benefits to current employees, while largely maintaining the surplus and retaining future optionality such as an insurance buyout.

As trailed in the July 2024 issue of Update, global investment firm Brookfield is to enter the UK insurance market, focusing on bulk purchase annuity solutions for pension schemes. Blumont Annuity Company UK Ltd, a wholly owned subsidiary of Brookfield Wealth Solutions, received authorisation from the Prudential Regulatory Authority (PRA) and Financial Conduct Authority (FCA) in March.