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PRESS RELEASE

ACA Celebrates 75 Years of Supporting Better Retirement Outcomes and Shaping UK Pensions Policy

London, 10 July 2026 – The Association of Consulting Actuaries (ACA) celebrated its 75th Anniversary at Staple Inn, the historic home of the actuarial profession, with ACA Chair Chintan Gandhi reflecting on the organisation's long-standing contribution to UK pensions policy and its enduring partnership with the Institute and Faculty of Actuaries (IFoA).

Addressing 150 guests, including past and current Chairs and members, Chintan Gandhi paid tribute to the ACA's origins, noting that the Association's creation in 1951 arose from a suggestion by then Institute President, Fred Menzler, that consulting actuaries should form an association of their own. From its inception, the ACA was established to work alongside the actuarial profession, a collaborative relationship that remains today.

The first twenty years of the ACA saw growth to fewer than one hundred members, and as it celebrates its 75th Anniversary the ACA has grown to 1,650 members – although what has always distinguished the Association is never its size. It is the Association's willingness to engage.

The event, hosted by the IFoA at Staple Inn, highlighted the close relationship between the two organisations over the past 75 years and recognised the importance of maintaining a strong and relevant actuarial profession in an increasingly complex world. Chintan Gandhi thanked the IFoA for its support and hospitality, describing Staple Inn as the "spiritual home" of the profession and a place associated with generations of actuaries beginning and celebrating their careers.

A Successful History of Influencing UK Pensions Policy

In his speech, Chintan Gandhi reflected on the ACA's history of engaging constructively with policymakers and regulators. He highlighted the ACA's involvement in Government pensions policy discussions over several decades and its continuing role in shaping debates on pensions reform, retirement policy and innovation.

Over the years, the ACA has contributed to major developments in UK pensions, including discussions around pension reform, the establishment of the All-Party Parliamentary Group on Occupational Pensions and the development of Collective Defined Contribution (CDC) pension arrangements. Throughout its history, the Association has sought to bring practical experience and insight to public policy, helping ensure that pensions legislation and regulation work effectively for schemes, employers and pension savers.

Today, the ACA continues to engage closely with the Department for Work and Pensions, The Pensions Regulator and other stakeholders on key issues including CDC, defined benefit surplus flexibility and wider pensions policy challenges.

Looking to the Future

While celebrating the Association's achievements, Chintan Gandhi emphasised that the ACA's focus remains firmly on the future. He noted that the pensions landscape is evolving rapidly, driven by changing social expectations, developments in retirement provision – including how people save and how investments are managed – and technological change.

The ACA's mission remains centred on supporting a long-term savings framework that stands the test of time, advocating for better and more resilient retirement outcomes, championing innovation – including CDC – and supporting the responsible use of defined benefit pension surpluses where this can benefit both current and future generations of savers as well as employers.

Speaking at the event, Chintan Gandhi said:

"The ACA's first 75 years have demonstrated the value of combining deep technical expertise with a willingness to engage with the real-world challenges facing society. As pensions continue to evolve, the ACA will continue to work with policymakers, regulators and industry partners to help build a pensions system that people can trust to deliver fair outcomes in retirement."

He also welcomed the work being undertaken by the IFoA to modernise and strengthen the profession, noting the importance of ensuring actuarial skills and expertise remain relevant, valued and trusted in the years ahead.

As the ACA marks its 75th year, the Association remains committed to supporting a strong pensions system, contributing constructively to public policy and helping ensure that future generations can look forward to greater confidence and security in retirement.

Tribute to Long-Serving ACA Supporters

The anniversary celebrations also included recognition of the contribution made by David Robertson and Tracey Gleed, who have supported the ACA since 1988 and have served as its Secretariat since 1992. Chintan Gandhi expressed a "huge debt of gratitude" to David and Tracey, describing them as "the heartbeat of the ACA" and thanked them for their dedication, commitment and friendship over almost four decades of service to the Association and its members.

Contacts for further information:

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About the Association of Consulting Actuaries (ACA)

Members of the ACA provide advice to thousands of pension schemes, including most of the country's largest schemes. Members of the Association are all qualified actuaries and all actuarial advice given is subject to the Actuaries' Code. Advice given to clients is independent and impartial. ACA members include the scheme actuaries to schemes covering the majority of members of private sector defined benefit pension schemes. The ACA is the representative body for UK consulting actuaries, whilst the Institute and Faculty of Actuaries is the professional body. The ACA is celebrating its 75th Anniversary this year.

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Note for Editors: Biography of Chintan Gandhi

Chintan is an experienced actuary with a passion to make a tangible, long-lasting and positive impact to the retirement outcomes for millions of savers in the UK and abroad. He is a Partner at Aon having been with the firm since joining Hewitt Bacon & Woodrow as a graduate in 2008.

A UK defined benefit pensions Scheme Actuary by training, Chintan's long-standing interest in, and passion to address, intergenerational fairness issues – and his desire to innovate to help achieve better outcomes for society – has provided a valuable perspective in leading the development of both Aon and the wider pensions industry's work on Collective Defined Contribution (CDC) as well as helping to shape defined benefit (DB) and defined contribution (DC) policy. He is widely regarded as one of the industry's leading experts on CDC and is very excited about the years ahead as whole-life

CDC becomes a reality for over 20 million UK workers, and Retirement CDC offers DC retirees greater value as they seek to efficiently convert pots to lifetime income at retirement. Chintan also represents Aon as a founding member of the Community Interest Company CDC Forum.

Chintan has been actively involved in the ACA for over a decade. He joined the ACA Public Relations Committee in 2014 and in 2015 founded the ACA Younger Members' Group, which he chaired for four years, helping to create a dedicated forum for those at earlier stages of their careers and to promote equity, diversity and inclusion across the pensions and actuarial community. He chaired the PR Committee from 2019 to 2022 and has served on the ACA Main Committee since 2018, including as Honorary Secretary for the last four years. Through these roles he has helped to shape pensions and related public policy. Chintan now becomes the youngest Chair in the ACA's history.

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