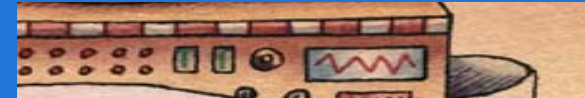




Actuaries & Consultants



Deregulatory Review of Private Pensions

ACA view



"Actuarial Consultancy of the Year"
UK Pensions Awards 2005, 2006 & 2007
FT Business Pension and Investment Provider Awards 2007

"Investment Consultancy of the Year"
UK Pensions Awards 2007
FT Business Pension and Investment Provider Awards 2007



Background



- ◆ Challenging funding environment
 - spiralling cost of providing DB pensions
- ◆ Significantly increased regulatory burden
 - PA 1995
 - FA 2004
 - PA 2004
- ◆ Personal accounts in 2012

Ultimately ACA is looking for ways of maintaining good quality employer sponsored pensions



The review's focus

- ◆ Finding ways to encourage employers to continue to offer better pensions
- ◆ Fixing things that are “wrong” or too complex
 - s75
 - trivial commutation
 - pensions on divorce

This has to be the right approach



Risk sharing

- ◆ Delighted that it is given prominence in the review
- ◆ Delighted that the reviewers are positive about this
- ◆ Disappointment however that:
 - no clear way forward has been identified
 - the case for a new regime has not been endorsed
 - the recommendation that statutory revaluation in deferment should remain
 - reviewers disagreed on LPI

But the ACA is very keen to discuss ways in which risk sharing can be made to work



Section 67

- ◆ Potential impediment to risk sharing
- ◆ Current approach is cumbersome
- ◆ Reviewer's proposal is to make no change
 - they consider that the current system permits a substantial degree of change
 - they suggest reviewing s67 provisions once system has had time to bed down

Agree that greater clarity on S67 is required



Principles based legislation

- ◆ Very encouraged by this suggestion
- ◆ Contrasts with Inland Revenue “simplification”
- ◆ Disclosure rules are ripe for this type of approach
- ◆ Other areas are also good candidates



Refund of surplus

- ◆ Refund based on technical provisions
- ◆ Consideration based on Trustees' fiduciary duties rather than members' best interests
- ◆ Helps avoid "trapped surplus" issues
 - cash and accounting
- ◆ Encourages a healthy debate between trustees and employers
- ◆ Avoids complex, expensive and often tax inefficient contingent asset agreements

This is the most significant of the reviewers' recommendations and is welcomed



Conclusions

- ◆ The previous Secretary of State said he was prepared to be radical: Are these proposals radical?
- ◆ Does the review's conclusions meet its objectives?
 - do they fix what is wrong?
 - will they encourage employers to maintain high quality occupational pensions in a personal accounts world?