



Protection Review expands into Retirement Income market

Independent market commentator Protection Review is pleased to announce its first expansion beyond the protection arena.

Retirement Review will take a similar role in the retirement income market providing independent commentary, events, research and more beginning with a conference, which takes place on February 10th 2015 at the Haberdasher's Hall in London.

The half-day conference entitled 'Retirement Income Reforms – Policy and Practice' will bring together IFAs, workplace advisers, providers, consumer advocates and regulators to debate the reforms and consider the practical issues for consumers surrounding their implementation.

Speaking about the development, Director of Retirement Review John Lappin said: "This year the retirement income market will see some of the biggest changes ever applied to financial services industry. We aim to provide a forum for independent and influential commentary and debate about the market, focused very much on consumer outcomes as well as the industry requirements."

Conference speakers include FCA director of policy David Geale, TPAS chief executive Michelle Cracknell, Square Mile Investment Consulting and Research's managing director Richard Romer-Lee and Retirement Intelligence director Billy Burrows among many more. The emphasis of the conference will be on engaging with the audience to get the nub of any outstanding issues surrounding business strategy, advice, communications and ensuring any detriment is kept to a minimum.

IFA and conference delegate Nick McBreen of Worldwide Financial Planning, said: "The RDR has brought enormous changes to financial advice across the board but the full impact has yet to be realised. Whilst the proposed loosening of the rules has been much talked up as a good news story, there are enormous ramifications that must be considered very carefully. The time has never been more important for clients to get appropriate and experienced advice on their own unique circumstances.

“The timing of this conference is excellent as there is a clear and evident need for a focused event looking at the rapidly changed retirement planning landscape and what can and should be considered. To bring together advisers; providers; commentators; politicians and regulators under one roof to share knowledge and experience and develop creative thinking on potential solutions and way forwards through 2015 and beyond will no doubt prove highly valuable and generate useful outcomes.”

Peter Le Beau, Co-Chairman of Protection Review, said:” We have been looking at markets beyond Protection for some time and I’m delighted to announce the launch of Retirement Review. The retirement industry is going through monumental change and in John we have someone with expert knowledge and background in place to lead this new direction.”

For more information see www.retirementreview.org.uk

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Notes to editors

About Retirement Review

With the last Budget introducing revolutionary reforms to retirement income, huge demographic challenges and with auto-enrolment finally spreading pension coverage in the UK, the time could not be more appropriate for the launch of Retirement Review. Retirement Review will follow the blueprint of Protection Review with events, a website taking a more measured look at retirement income issues, and research. The initial conference will bring together the significant participants in the retirement industry with consumer advocates. The overall aim is to foster debate and help industry players make sure the reforms work for consumers. John Lappin, who will lead Retirement Review, was formerly editor of leading IFA trade newspaper Money Marketing. He is also editor of consumer investor website Mindful Money, a role he will continue in. Retirement Review is supported by LV=, Axa Investment Management and Space 01.

About Protection Review

Protection Review was originally formed by Peter Le Beau and Andy Couchman in 2003. We felt that there was a need to provide expert independent commentary on the life and health protection markets. This originally took the form of an annual publication which attempted to give a 360 degree view of products, markets, distribution methods and the key issues and innovations within them. It has been launched at a major dinner each summer attended by a large number of key figures in the industry. In 2007 we introduced a conference in response to market demand with a particular focus on future development on the day of the Review dinner. In 2011 we intend to create a research programme and open a Training academy to help train the next generation of protection advisers. We believe the Protection Review provides a focus for excellence within life and health protection and the acknowledgement of the economic and societal value of protection.