APPG on the Future of Financial Services

Call for Evidence – Income in Retirement

Introduction

This inquiry by the All-Party Parliamentary Group (APPG) on the Future of Financial Services comes at a time when UK pensions policy and regulation is under great scrutiny. This includes the Government's recent launch of a new Pensions Commission to review the long-term future of the UK pensions system.

The APPG's inquiry seeks to contribute meaningfully to this work and the wider debate around the appropriate framework to deliver good outcomes in retirement.

The inquiry will focus on income in retirement. Retirement requires different financial considerations than during from one's working life. For example, it is usually fairly clear whether a job is suitable and pays well or not, but is it clear whether one arrangement for drawing an income in retirement is more suitable than another?

The inquiry will look at how people use funds and assets they have saved for retirement; the financial services and products available to help manage their income in retirement; and consider whether improvements can be made. The inquiry will consider the latest available analysis[1] plus evidence from a range of stakeholders[2], and make targeted recommendations to move this issue forward.

Key issues the inquiry will consider

- Based on various pension pot sizes and life expectancy data, what do optimal retirement incomes look like? How does this compare to reality?
- What is the current framework for generating an income from the assets people build up for their retirement? Does it work – and does it produce good enough outcomes?
- What are the options and choices for people entering retirement to optimise their available funds and assets over the rest of their lives?
- Can people considering retirement access sufficiently robust and reliable default options?
- Do people understand their options in retirement and are they able to make good decisions?
- What flexibility is there after choices have been made?
- How are variables such as changes in life expectancy, tax policy and inflation factored in?
- What impact has there been from recent changes in tax policy, regulatory developments such as the pensions dashboard, and economic factors such as inflation?
- Do the relevant financial services and products deliver good outcomes?
- What can go wrong? How often do things go wrong? What happens when they do? What safeguards are in place?

[1] Including recent reports by the Social Market Foundation the Pensions Policy Institute and others.
[2] The APPG welcomes input from all interested parties including: financial services firms, pensions experts and commentators, regulators, think tanks, pensioner representative groups, members of the public.

- What would retirement income policy, regulation and the financial product landscape look like if we could redesign them from scratch?
- What should the future of pension fund drawdowns look like?
- Can any lessons be learned from other countries?
- What reforms are needed to the current framework?
- What are the roles for industry, regulators and Government in this?
- Are sufficient policy and regulation resources and attention dedicated to the issue of income in retirement?

Timelines

- 31st December 2025: deadline for written evidence to be received.
- 13th January 2026: Inquiry oral evidence session.
- Late Q1 2026: Publication of written report including recommendations.

Format of written evidence submissions

The APPG welcomes written submissions ideally via Word document and less than 2MB in size. Submissions should be written in accordance with the guidelines relating to select committees on the UK Parliament website here.

In order to be considered by the APPG, written evidence - and any questions relating to the inquiry - should be emailed to the APPG Secretariat at members@futurefinancialservices.com by 31st December 2025.

Oral evidence session

The oral evidence session will be held in Parliament. Participation will be by invitation only.

APPG Secretariat
12th November 2025