



## Baker Tilly's Pensions Group conference

The Banqueting House - April 2010



“I thoroughly enjoyed working with you and the rest of the team on the conference. The hard work you all put in, together with the standard of speakers, venue, production values and great delegates make it one of the very best events I have attended, let alone spoken at. Well done to all of you”.

**Nigel Aston, Business Development Director, Pensions DeCisions**

## Following on from last year’s success, Banqueting House in Whitehall once again hosted Baker Tilly’s annual Pensions Conference, the firm’s flagship external event with over 250 attendees and now a high profile event on the pensions industry calendar.

The theme of the conference, New Decade, New Opportunities, continued to build on our campaign to restore confidence in pensions and opened with an overview of the last decade and preview of what is to come for the industry between now and 2020.

After Head of Pensions and Conference Chairman, Ian Bell’s, opening address, Robin Ellison from Pinsent Masons looked back in time and explained the politics of pensions, outlining why he was standing as a candidate for his newly formed U Party.

In keeping with the political theme there followed a Question Time Special, chaired by Baker Tilly’s Gary Grewal with Sarah Asplin, Allan Course, Peter Askins and Helen Dowsey as panellists. In the

same vein as the popular BBC show, the panel had a lively debate with audience participation on the new opportunities and challenges for the industry over the next few years.

After the morning break, Gary Purdy from Baker Tilly chaired an interactive case study entitled Managing the Defined Benefit Glidepath. Bruce Mackay (Baker Tilly), Neil Smith (CMS Cameron McKenna), James Morris (Credit Suisse) and Nigel Down (SEI) explored the important points related to closing to future accrual, enhanced transfer values, longevity swaps and fiduciary management.

Lunch allowed the delegates ample time to network and take in all the information brought out from the morning sessions.



Ian Bell



Robin Ellison



Peter Askins (Independent Trustee Services), Sarah Asplin QC (3 Stone Buildings), Gary Grewal (Baker Tilly), Helen Dowsey (AON Benefit Solutions), Allan Course (Capital Cranfield Trustees)



Nigel Down, James Morris, Neil Smith, Bruce Mackay

“I just wanted to send my thanks to you and to your team for an excellent conference last week. The speakers were engaging, informative and, personally, I found the format of the discussions very conducive to my thinking. Well done and congratulations to all involved”.

Tracey Llewellyn, University of Sussex Pension Scheme

After lunch, Director of Isinglass Consulting, Steve Mingle, spoke on the National Employment Savings Trust (NEST) and flagged up the relevant details trustees would have to be aware of in the next few years.

This was followed by Baker Tilly's Karen Tasker discussing the development of defined contribution schemes and the direction of the defined contribution market. She was joined by Ian Buchan (Standard Life) and Nigel Aston (Pensions DeCisions).

The penultimate session was a legal update provided by Francois Barker (Hammonds) who tested audience awareness with a legal challenge quiz using the audience voting panels that had been employed in each interactive

session throughout the day. It was victory and prizes for Table 33.

The conference keynote address, “The Pensions Industry in 2020” involved a time warping and entertaining talk by Steve Delo (Pan Trustees) who spoke to delegates ‘from the future’ with some interesting reflections on some of the likely realities for pension scheme trustees for the ten years between 2010 and 2020.

The day closed at 4.25pm with remarks from Ian Bell who was grateful that even higher delegate numbers from last year led to even more informative debate and delegate interaction and hoped that next year's conference will be better still.



Steve Mingle



François Barker



Steve Delo



Ian Buchan, Karen Tasker, Nigel Aston

## 2011 conference

To be contacted regarding the 2011 conference, please register your interest by emailing [sinead.omahony@bakertilly.co.uk](mailto:sinead.omahony@bakertilly.co.uk)

“Thank you for an excellent day yesterday. This morning I awoke with the same feeling as after an exceptional show at the theatre”.

Elizabeth Garner, Atkins Pension Plan



“I write to congratulate you on a most successful conference. I thought that the choice of speakers and matters addressed were so impressive and pertinent. It really was a prominent, prestigious and professional event that confirms and justifies the title of ‘Pension Accountants of the Year’. Well done”.

Keith Wilson

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- Risk management reviews
- AAF 01/06 internal control reporting
- Employer covenant assessments
- System support and consultancy
- Taxation services
- Internal audit



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