

Update

Welcome

Welcome to SPP's March NEWS update.

The past month was again a lively one for the Society, with 2 online events held, a number of consultations responded to, meetings with the DWP and the publication of an open letter to the Pensions Dashboards Programme on the priorities of our members.

Our online sessions continue, with *'DC Horizon – A Look at Topical & Emerging Issues in the DC Market in 2021'* on 29 April.

We are delighted to welcome Ross Trustees as our newest member firm and we look forward to hearing from them as speakers at the DC Horizon event.

We wish you all the best for the month of April and would like to thank all of our members for your continued support.

SPP Online Events

SPP's online events continue, do please join our mailing list or keep an eye on the website's [events page](#) for the latest information.

Upcoming events:

29 April at 4pm - [DC Horizon – A look at topical & emerging issues in the DC market in 2021](#), Speakers from Lane Clark & Peacock, XPS Pensions Group, Mercer, and Ross Trustees.

Recent Events:

Our main events are recorded and are available to members on the website, for viewing and CPD. Recordings of past events can be found [here](#).

The recording of our session concerning how to meet the obligations on climate risks is already available for members to watch on SPP's website.

Keep an eye on the website for the recording of our online event from 30th March on '*Sponsor Covenants*' which will be uploaded in the next few days. If you missed any of our previous sessions and wish to catch up, the links are as follows:

11 February [Gamestop, Bitcoin and Reddit; how retail investors are disrupting global capital markets](#) speakers from Charles Stanley, M&G, and Isio

17 March [Meeting Your Obligations On Climate Risk](#) speakers from Herbert Smith Freehills LLP, Hymans Robertson LLP, GSAM, and Dalriada Trustees

To join our mailing list, or if you have any issues viewing SPP's content, please contact Lorin at lorin.lassan@the-spp.co.uk or Carla at carla.smidt@the-spp.co.uk

SPP in the News

SPP published an [open letter](#) to Chris Curry, Principal of the Pensions Dashboards Programme, on the key priorities for clarification. [Professional Pensions](#) (register for free) featured Past President Paul McGlone's comments. [Pensions Expert](#), [Pensions Age](#) and [FT Adviser](#) published related articles.

SPP President, James Riley, was quoted in [Professional Pensions](#) (register for free), [Actuarial Post](#), [FT Advisor](#), on his views concerning the lifetime allowance freeze and the inequalities it will amplify between members of DC and DB schemes. James' thoughts on the gender pensions gap were published by [Pensions Age Magazine](#) (Page 71) in their March Issue.



The [View from the SPP](#) column in Pensions Age (Page 26) this month from Simon Daniel (SPP Financial Services Committee) highlights the opportunities for advancement in the pensions sector with a refreshing spark of optimism.

Pensions Expert (paywall) published an [article](#) concerning DWP's climate change consultation, reflecting SPP's call for more clarity, particularly regarding trustee knowledge and understanding. [Pensions Age](#) published a related piece.

Committee & Consultation News

The President met with DWP to support the development of their thinking in advance of consultations on Funding and Investment Strategy, Employer Resources Test and Recovery Plans.

The following consultation responses and calls for input have now been submitted:

- Our [response](#) to [PDP's Identity Call for Input from data providers](#) by the Administration Committee
- Our [response](#) to [DWP's Consultation 'Taking action on climate risk: improving governance and reporting by occupational pension schemes'](#) by the Legislation Committee, with special thanks to Michael Aherne.

Other key matters of interest and areas under review include:

- [DWP consultation](#) on Strengthening The Pensions Regulator's Powers
- [DWP Consultation](#) - Incorporating Performance Fees within the Charge Cap
- [HMRC's Raising standards in the tax advice market](#): professional indemnity insurance and defining tax advice
- Work and Pensions Committee's inquiry into [Access to Pensions Savings](#)



- The Treasury's [Normal minimum pension age](#) consultation
- The Regulator's consultation into [prosecution of the new criminal offences](#)
- DWP's consultation on [strengthening the Regulator's powers](#)
- The Regulator's consultation on its [Code of Practice](#)
- DWP's [response](#) to their General Levy consultation

Your views on any of these consultations would be welcomed.

Publications

SPP's [research paper](#), led by Gareth Strange, on the *Defined Benefit Governance Gap* was explored by [Professional Pensions](#).

Pensions Expert and Pensions Age

To access Pensions Expert's website free of charge, please complete this [form](#), or for print copies, please click [here](#).

To receive either the Pensions Age magazine and/or the email news service, please complete the application form (available [here](#)) and send it to info@the-spp.co.uk.

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