



For immediate release

Date: 04.08.20

Commenting on today's [ONS Wealth and Assets survey results](#), Renny Biggings, Head of Retirement at TISA said: *"Today's ONS Wealth and Assets survey results to March 2020 show a stark picture, which is only set to exacerbate as the impact of Covid-19 continues to hit the economy, coupled with the retraction of the temporary emergency measures by Government.*

"Affordability continues to be the main reason for not contributing into a defined contribution pension across all age groups, highlighted further by one third of people saying they struggle to keep up with bill payments. As redundancies begin to creep in over the coming months, this figure is sure to grow which has the potential to cause a spike in Auto-Enrolment opt outs.

"Since 2012 AE has meant that more people are saving into a private pension than ever before, yet many are still not saving sufficiently. Awareness of AE has grown steadily and is now above 80% for most cohorts apart from young people. Only two thirds of those aged between 22 and 24 are aware of AE yet many of them will have been enrolled. It is important that employers and the Government continue to communicate that the earlier saving begins, the easier it is to build up a substantial income for later in life.

"A private pension is one of the most secure income sources in retirement yet 86% of people still expect to receive the main bulk of their financial support from the State Pension. The State Pension on its own is not enough to live a fulfilled life and so it is of vital importance that people plan and save as best they can so they can be confident in achieving the retirement they want.

"Another worry is that nearly half (43%) of people believe property will make up most of their income in retirement. This is becoming less of a reality as inflated house prices and stagnant wages mean many people will struggle getting onto the property ladder at all. Where once people in their 20s could become proud homeowners, this now isn't a reality until much later meaning many people in retirement will still have a mortgage to pay. It is crucial that the later life lending sector is strong and accessible to the growing number of people who will undoubtedly need it."

Ends

For more information:

Fenella Cuthbert

Cicero/AMO

020 7497 5327

Fenella.cuthbert@cicero-group.com

Notes for Editors



TISA's ambition is to improve the financial wellbeing of UK consumers by bringing the financial services savings industry together to promote collective engagement, to deliver solutions and to champion innovation for the benefit of people, our industry and the nation.

We do this by focusing on good consumer outcomes and harnessing the power of our broad industry membership base to deliver practical solutions, new digital infrastructure and by devising innovative, evidence-based strategic proposals for government, policy makers and regulators. This holistic approach to address the major consumer issues uniquely positions TISA to deliver independent insight, promote innovation and facilitate good practice.

TISA's rapidly growing membership is representative of all sectors of the financial services industry. We have over 200-member firms involved in the supply and distribution of savings, investment products and associated services, including the UK's major investment managers, retail banks, online platforms, insurance companies, pension providers, distributors, building societies, wealth managers, third party administrators, Fintech businesses, financial consultants, financial advisers, industry infrastructure providers and stockbrokers.

Our current strategic policy focus includes making financial guidance more widely available; financial education for young people; retirement savings and addressing consumer engagement, particularly for the vulnerable. These will form essential elements of - *Vision 2025* - TISA's strategic policy roadmap towards delivering a material impact in enhancing consumers' financial wellbeing.

Complementing our development of consumer policy and thought leadership, TISA has become a major industry delivery organisation for consumer focused, digital industry infrastructure initiatives (TeX/STAR, Digital ID, MiFID II and Open Savings & Investment). This reflects TISA's commitment to open standards and independent governance.

TISA is also recognised for the support it provides to members on a range of operational and technical issues targeted at improving infrastructure and processes, establishing standards of good practice and the interpretation and implementation of new rules and regulations. This work currently includes MiFID II, CASS, SM&CR and addressing cybercrime.

www.tisa.uk.com

