#### the future of pension saving and retirement Dr Ros Altmann SECONDSIGHT ANNUAL HR MASTERCLASS

28 June 2017

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## Employer role in pensions

- Auto-enrolment
- Encourage contributions explain benefits of pensions
- Use good scheme suitable for the workforce
- Financial education help plan pensions and work income
- Access to financial advice £500 tax deductible
- Auto-escalation to put part of pay rise into higher pension contributions

#### information about state pension

- Help ensure full NI record
- Link to on-line State Pension forecast
- Check State Pension age
- Higher earners not entitled to Child Benefit still need to claim it or lose NI pension
- If part-time workers caring 16 hours pw should claim NI credits for state pension
- Grandparent credits available, little used



# The future of pension saving

OPPORTUNITY

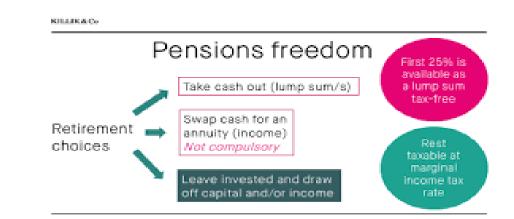
- DC pensions are the future for private sector
- Auto-enrolment brings millions of workers into employer pensions
- But doesn't cover all consider promoting more widely
- Good behavioural benefits financial planning and education vital
- Freedom and choice reforms make pensions much more user-friendly
- Lifetime Pension Accounts Growth phase, Income withdrawal phase?

# Pension freedoms



Backed by HM Government

- Flexibility and choice to help pensions fit increasingly flexible lives
- Pensions are most attractive form of saving like 'free' money
- 25% bonus for basic rate taxpayers, 66% bonus for 40% taxpayers
- IHT free last money you should spend help with care saving or family finance
- Working longer can give higher lifetime income and larger pensions



## BUT Beware NET PAY SCHEMES

- Two types of administration for pensions tax relief Net Pay, Relief at Source
- Net Pay schemes automatically pay contributions net of tax
- Relief at Source scheme just adds basic rate relief
- Higher earners have to reclaim higher rate relief
- BUT those earning <£11,500pa in Net Pay scheme can't get relief they're due
- Lowest earners lose 25% taxpayer bonus pay more for same pension blame?
- Net Pay scheme is not suitable for low earners have you checked?



## Employer role in retirement

- Encourage and facilitate later life working
- Flexibility
- Mid-career reviews
- Ongoing training don't overlook older workers
- Mentoring, keep in touch, part-time roles
- Prepare for care



## Older women

- Biggest risk of premature labour market exit
- Ageism or unconscious bias as well as loss of confidence
- Managing the menopause the last workplace taboo
- Temporary health issues, recognise and support
- Networks, information, discussions
- Specific issues around caring may require flexibility



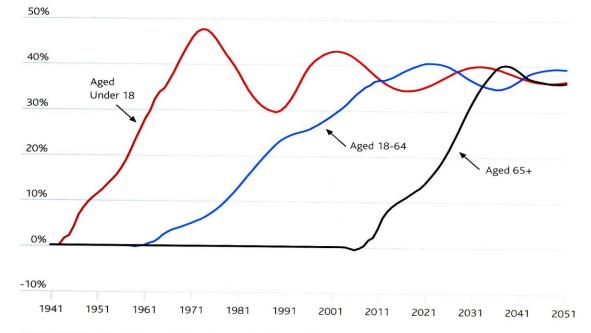
## Social care crisis

- Worse crisis than pensions crisis
- Massive policy failure
- Can employers help?
- Flexible working and carers leave
- Support groups and information
- Savings, vouchers, insurance?



#### Demographics demand action Now!

- Fastest-growing segment of population is the over-85s set to triple
- Pensions Crisis moves on to Care Crisis NHS vs. social care
- No money set aside at national, local or individual level massive policy failure



Source: Pensions Commission analysis based on a synthetic model of the England and Wales population

#### How can we improve funding?



- There is no single solution
- Savings-based solutions may need incentives
  - Pension withdrawals tax free if used for care
  - Care ISAs IHT-free if not used for care
  - Workplace Savings or Insurance Plans with auto-enrolment?
  - Care Annuities/Equity release
- Insurance-based solutions for younger workers

## Workplace help with care

- Employers could help with saving for care
- Similar principle to pensions auto-enrolment, tax relief?
- e.g. auto-enrolment contribution/auto-escalation for care
- Eldercare vouchers use for homecare, care home or telecare?



#### Retirement revolution

- Longer, healthier lives, less physical strain at work
- Retirement can be a process, not a one-time event
- Whole new phase of life for 21<sup>st</sup> Century new social norm?
- Policy has helped by ending Default Retirement Age manage by merit not age
- Businesses and HR catching up
- Line managers training, aim to keep more older workers



# Benefits to Business

- Retain knowledge, firm-specific skills and experience
- Maintain productivity avoid skill shortages after Brexit
- Increase customer satisfaction and profitability
- Larger pool of talent to choose from, especially if part-time
- Staff loyalty



## Boost for economy and society

- Higher output and long-term growth if more people work longer
- Older and younger workers are not substitutes
- More older people in work, creates more jobs for the young
- Increased national wellbeing
- Reduced benefit spending
- Intergenerational cohesion



## Impact of political developments

- Most focus will be on Brexit
- Light legislative agenda for other issues
- Not much about pensions
- Don't expect new burdens from auto-enrolment review
- Consultation on social care action is needed
- As immigration falls, later retirement could benefit economy





#### CONCLUSIONS



- Auto-enrolment ensures better pension coverage, but not adequacy
- Encouraging higher contributions, promoting benefits of pensions
- Facilitating later life working
- Helping address care crisis prepare for care
- Benefits business, individuals, economy and society
- A win-win for Britain

#### ...THANKYOU FOR LISTENING

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