

Dear All

We thought that you might appreciate hearing about a couple of recent announcements that will benefit some or all of you.

- **Equitable Life Policyholders.**

The Treasury has recently announced the compensation arrangements for eligible With Profit Policyholders. We are aware that a number of TRH clients held or continue to hold these policies. The resolution of this long drawn out saga (where the last government took a number of years first to recognise their failings in protecting Policyholders and then to agree compensation) will be welcomed by those clients.

Full details of the arrangements can be found on the Treasury website at [http://www.hm-treasury.gov.uk/fin\\_equitable\\_life\\_faq.htm](http://www.hm-treasury.gov.uk/fin_equitable_life_faq.htm) . The extract below from the website confirms which Policyholders are eligible.

*'If you have a 'With Profits' policy or had one during the period of maladministration you may have sustained a loss, and therefore may be eligible for a payment. Policyholders need to have made a premium payment between 31 December 1992 and 31 December 2000, or had a policy that started between 1 September 1992 and 31 December 1992.*

*If you took out a policy before September 1992, you will not be eligible for payment, as maladministration did not affect investment decisions until September 1992.'*

The website provides more detail on the compensation and the different arrangements for With Profit Annuities and other With Profit policies. Compensation payments are expected to commence in mid 2011. We will monitor this closely for all clients where we are aware of their existing Equitable policies. Whilst Gareth and I have some recall of clients who may have had historical policies with Equitable may we request that anyone who feels they might have had a policy that qualified to send us details so we can make sure you are registered for compensation in due course.

- **Transact reduce charges.**

As most of you are aware we arrange and manage the majority of our client's investments on the Transact administration platform. We are delighted to confirm that Transact last week announced a reduction in their annual charges.



Transact's base annual charge is 0.60% of a portfolio's value each year; this will reduce to 0.55% a year from 1<sup>st</sup> January 2011 and to 0.50% a year from 1<sup>st</sup> January 2012. It should be noted that these charges only apply to portfolios valued up to £60,000. TRH clients generally benefit from substantial discounts due to the size of their portfolios. By way of example a portfolio of £1 million currently has an annual charge of 0.33% a year, £2million a charge of 0.225% a year. Portfolios over £60,000 will continue to benefit from the same discounts albeit applied to the new lower base charges. Apologies if this sounds a rather tortuous explanation but we assure you this is good news!

These might seem small percentage changes but over the longer term this type of charge reduction will make a considerable difference to the value of a portfolio. As we say on our website 'Investment cost saved = performance gained' .

As ever, if any of you have any questions please do not hesitate to contact any of the TRH team.

With very best wishes for a very Happy Christmas and healthy and prosperous 2011 from all at TRH.

Best wishes

Ruth