

26 October 2015

Dear Trustees

We wrote to you on 3 March 2015 to let you know that, Equitable Life has agreed to transfer its non-profit annuity business to Canada Life. I am writing to confirm which of the annuities within your pension scheme will be transferring to Canada Life and which ones will remain with the Society. These are shown on the attached schedule. Any other policies the scheme holds with Equitable Life will not be included in the transfer.

We have enclosed a guide which provides important details about the proposed transfer and the arrangements regarding your members. We strongly recommend that you read this.

### **How the transfer happens**

In order to complete the transfer to Canada Life, it is necessary for us to make an application to the High Court using a legal process known as a Part VII transfer, as set out in the Financial Services and Markets Act 2000. This legal process concludes with a hearing at the Rolls Building, Fetter Lane, London EC4A 1NL. This is expected to take place on 8 February 2016.

If the High Court approves the transfer, it is expected to become effective on 19 February 2016. In the run up to that date, the Equitable will continue to pay annuities and your members will notice no change. Once the transfer is complete, the responsibility for the administration and payment of the transferred annuities will pass to Canada Life and, from then onwards, your relationship and that of your transferring members will be with Canada Life for the transferred annuities rather than the Equitable.

### **Protection for policyholders**

Policyholders are protected in several ways. Importantly, the enclosed guide will help you understand our proposal, so you can consider if the scheme or its members may be adversely affected. Should this be the case, you have the right to object, as explained later.

In order to assist the High Court, Mr Nicholas Dumbreck, partner of the Actuarial consultancy Milliman, has been appointed as an Independent Expert to provide an opinion on how the proposed transfer is likely to affect policyholders. This is a standard requirement for a Part VII transfer. A summary of Mr Dumbreck's conclusions are included in the attached Scheme Summary. His full report can be found on our website.

We are also consulting with our regulators, the Prudential Regulation Authority and the Financial Conduct Authority, about the proposed transfer. They will both provide the High Court with reports containing their views on the transfer.

The High Court will only approve the transfer if it is satisfied that the proposals meet all the necessary legal requirements and it is appropriate in all circumstances.

**What if we consider that we may be adversely affected by the transfer?**

If you consider that the scheme or its members may be adversely affected, you have the right to raise an objection and be heard by the High Court. The details of how to go about this, either in writing or by telephone to Equitable Life, as well as in person to the High Court are set down on page 8 of the guide.

**What should we do next?**

We strongly recommend that you read the enclosed documents.

We have written to your members who we pay direct. If your members have a unit-linked annuity, they can find details of the funds they will be moved into at Canada Life, the switching process and annual charges on page 5 of the guide.

If some members have other types of policy with the Society, they may well receive a similar letter. We consider it important that all Equitable policyholders, no matter what type of investment they hold, should be aware of our transfer proposal.

You do not need to do anything else at this stage unless you believe that the scheme or its members may be adversely affected as referred to earlier in this letter.

Following the High Court hearing, we will place a notice on our website to advise of the High Court's decision.

We have also published the relevant documents relating to the transfer on our website [www.equitable.co.uk](http://www.equitable.co.uk) or you can get copies by calling the number below.

Yours faithfully



Chris Wiscarson  
Chief Executive

<b>How can I contact the Society about the transfer?</b>	By phone: from UK 0330 159 1531 from overseas +44 [0] 1296 386242 By email: AnnuityTransferEnquiries@Equitable.co.uk By letter: The Equitable Life, Walton Street, Aylesbury HP21 7QW.
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