



PRESS RELEASE

SPC members to hear about life after the Pensions Commission report

Society of Pension Consultants' members are to receive guidance 'from the horse's mouth' about the debate surrounding state and private pension reform in the wake of the Pensions Commission report – from one of the team which compiled it.

Professor John Hills will address an evening meeting of the SPC on 25th January 2006 - under the heading of 'Building on the Pensions Commission's Report'.

He is a member of the Pensions Commission, which produced its first report in October 2004 and second report in November 2005. He is Professor of Social Policy and Director of the ESRC Research Centre for Analysis of Social Exclusion (CASE) at the London School of Economics.

His research interests include income distribution and the welfare state, social security, housing and taxation. He was Co-Director of the LSE's Welfare State Programme (1988-1997), and Senior Adviser to the Commission of Inquiry into Taxation, Zimbabwe (1984-86). He worked at the Institute for Fiscal Studies (1982-84), for the House of Commons Select Committee on the Treasury (1980-82), and at the Department of the Environment (1979-80).

Issued 6th Jan 2006

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For further details

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Notes for editors: The meeting with Professor Hills will take place at Jardine Lloyd Thompson, 6 Crutched Friars, London, EC3N 2PH on Thursday, 26th January. Drinks will be available from five o'clock, with the meeting starting at five thirty.

Professor Hills' publications include: *A More Equal Society? New Labour, poverty, inequality and exclusion* (co-editor, 2005); *One Hundred Years of Poverty and Policy* (co-author, 2004); *Inequality and the State* (2004); *Understanding Social Exclusion* (co-editor, 2002); *Private Welfare and Public Policy* (co-author, 1999); *The State of Welfare: The Economics of Social Spending* (co-editor, 1998); *New Inequalities: The changing distribution of income and wealth in the UK* (editor, 1996); *The Dynamic of Welfare* (co-editor, 1995); *Beveridge and Social Security* (co-editor, 1994); *The Future of Welfare: A guide to the debate* (1993); and *Unravelling Housing Finance* (1991).

SPC is the representative body for the providers of the advice and services needed to establish and operate occupational and personal pension schemes and related benefits. Its Members include accounting firms, solicitors, life offices, investment houses, investment performance measurers, consultants and actuaries, independent trustees and external pension administrators. SPC is the only body to focus on the whole range of pension related functions across the whole range of non-State provision, through such a wide spread of providers of the advice and services.

The vast majority of the 500 largest pension funds use the services of one or more of its Members. Many thousands of smaller funds and individuals also do so. SPC's growing membership collectively employs some 14,000 staff providing pension related advice and services.