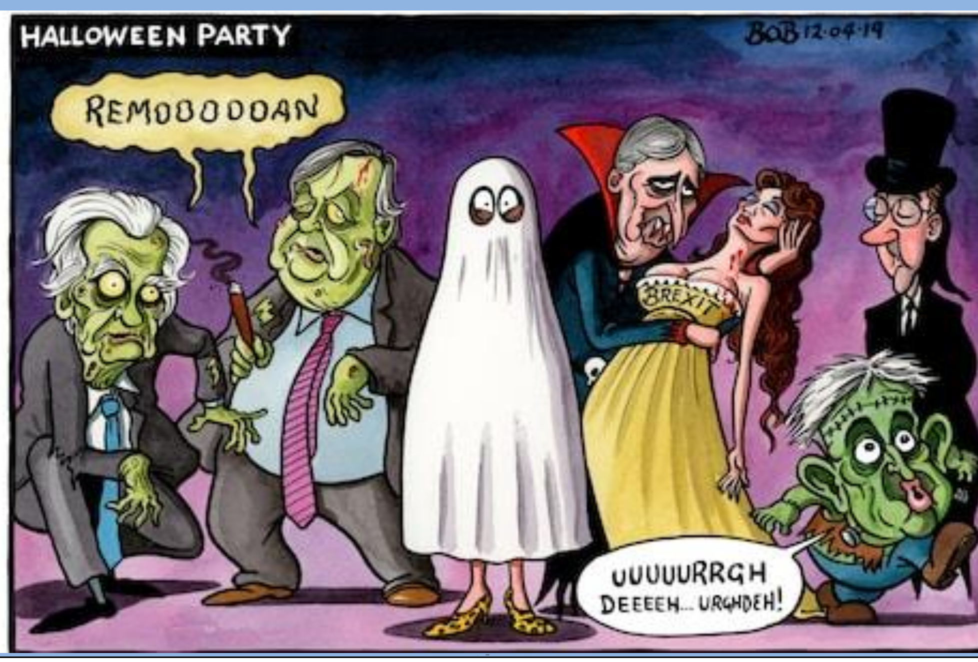


Priscum

October Newsletter

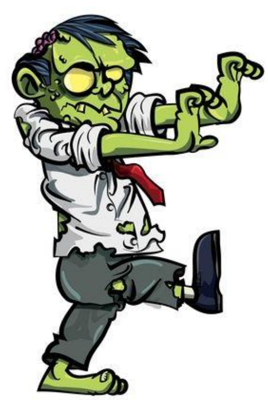
BREXIT A HORROR STORY

IN THIS ISSUE

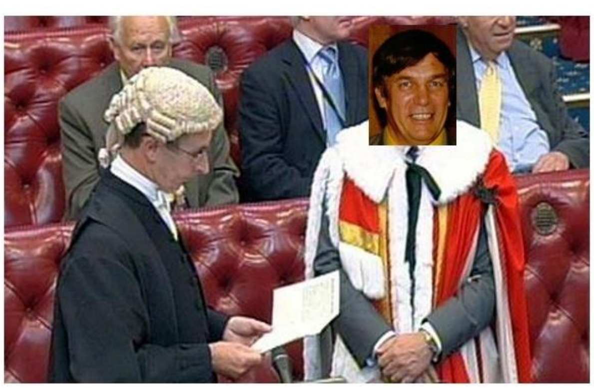
Welcome to the October Edition of the Priscum Newsletter

By Alex Wrightson

Happy Halloween MUHAHAHAAA!!!!



Welcome to the spooky Halloween edition of the Priscum newsletter. WeWork Schroders said it was a good thing to invest in and then a day later on the BBC News it was announced they were in trouble after their playboy boss was drinking away all their profits. There is also a few Articles on Ethical Investing and The End of the Woodford Saga. I have put these on a separate sheet that is well worth a read. The government also have plans for Green Houses and schools in all the new Housing estates that are being built. The Brexit saga is now dragging on past another deadline it doesn't look like this will ever end Brexit is quickly turning into a Zombie that won't die. I think we need Keith in the House of lords that will soon sort everything out. Or if not try Keith as the Queen further in the Newsletter, in an article about the Queens Speech. There are still places for our Xmas meal if you want to come.



Priscum Update

It's the Most Wonderful Meal of the Year.

That's right it is the annual Priscum Christmas Lunch this Year we are holding it at the **Ansty Hall Hotel on the 5th of December**. (yes we have gone Posh) Coincidently this was a possible choice for a wedding venue as well before I chose the Golf Club in meridden. The Picture on the right was taken when I went to a weding fayre there.
Assemble for **12:00 dinner will be at 12:30. The 5th of December** is also Keith's birthday he will be 21 again for the 30th time.
Main Road, Ansty, Nr Coventry, Warwickshire, CV7 9HZ
Dinner choices are:

Starter	Main	Pudding
Chicken liver parfait	Turkey roulade	Traditional Christmas fruit pudding
Smoked salmon, creamed cheese & dill	Pan-fried fillet of wild Hake	Chocolate & cherry delice
Celeriac & apple soup	Winter vegetables with cream cheese & sage Wellington	Caramelised toffee apple tart
		Festive cheese plate

- [Govt claims PII works well for majority of firms]
- [Mend the system and bridge the finance gap]
- [Five key points to becoming SM&CR ready – TMA]

Gabriel changes

Gabriel users share suggestions for our new data collection platform. Our online survey was completed by Gabriel users. The feedback will be used to improve the user experience. Over 1,000 users and other Gabriel stakeholders shared their thoughts on the current system in our online survey. Their feedback will help shape how we develop the new platform, with some key changes reflecting the priorities they highlighted.

3 key areas for improvement

The feedback highlighted these key areas for improvements:

1. Accessing Gabriel – the feedback focused on the need for improvements to the speed of the system and support when accessing the system.
2. Viewing your Gabriel reporting schedule – largely related to the need for changes in the layout of the schedules and in viewing previous data submissions.
3. Submitting data – included the need for better guidance when making a data submission and advancements to the system's data validation processes.

Changes we will make

The new platform will allow us to fix issues quicker and sooner. We will also improve the support guidance to make it easier to know where to go for help. You will be able to see previous submissions made in Gabriel and we are exploring ways to improve validations. Whilst we won't be able to implement all planned improvements when the platform is first launched, a number of key changes will reflect the priorities highlighted in the survey. Early changes to our platform will be technology focused, so initially there will be no change to the way firms currently provide data to us.

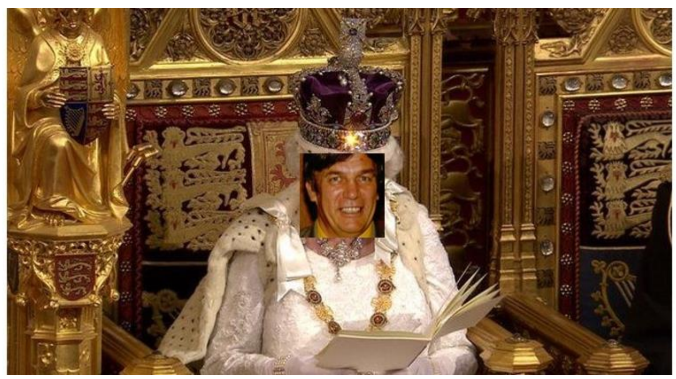
Next steps

We will continue to use your feedback to make further improvements.
There will be a further opportunity to those interested in working with us, to help design and test the new platform. Our survey is still open (link is external) to feedback and we will continue to provide stakeholders with regular updates. We will contact you in good time before your firm moves to our new platform.

Pensions Update

- Pensions could be worth more than property after Brexit
- Advisers warned they are still not customer focused
- Abridged advice met with caution
- Labour promises solution for 1950s women
- Mark Devlin: Seismic changes ahead if DB contingent charging is banned
- Warning sounded on 'disastrous' pension tax proposal
- Savers wary of privately run pension dashboards
- Doctors cut hours despite pension proposals
- Queen's Speech: Govt announces Pensions Bill
- Queen's Speech: Govt to consult on 2% precept for social care
- Industry points to missed opportunities in Pensions Bill
- OTS tells govt to sort out state pension credit for parents
- Govt body urges review of pension allowances

Govt to set new pension transfer rules

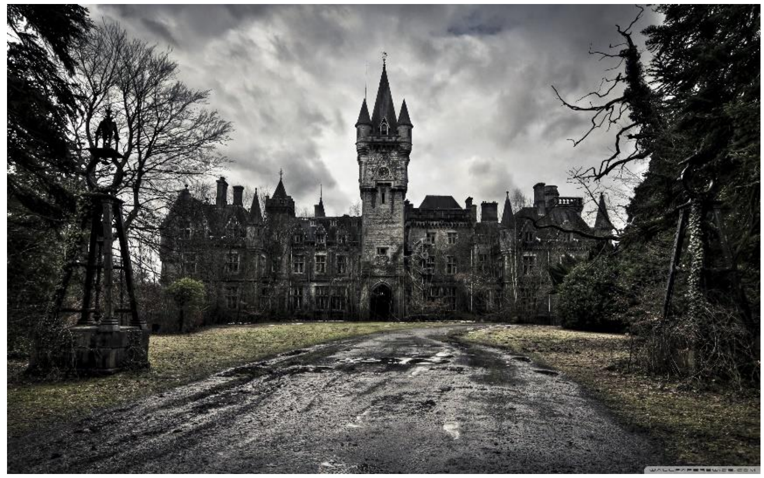


The Pensions Bill announced today (October 14) in the Queen's Speech is set to introduce additional pension transfer rules to prevent scams, as first announced in 2017. A background briefing document to the speech detailed regulations that will define the circumstances under which a pension scheme member will have the right to transfer their savings to another scheme. This will apply to both defined benefit and defined contributions schemes. The government pointed to estimates from the The Pensions Regulator that there were 100,000 pension switching transactions in 2017/18. In 2017, the consultation which introduced the cold-calling ban – in place since January this year – also included new rules on limiting the statutory right to transfer. These were aimed at preventing fraud in pensions and included tougher action to help prevent the transfer of money from legitimate pension schemes into fraudulent ones.

Mortgages Update

- Growth in number of first-time BTL deals hits record high
- Stamp duty receipts fall as transactions decline - HMRC
- Brokers need to push 'Bank of Mum and Dad' borrowers to get legal advice – analysis
- FCA plots pricing restrictions and auto-renewal ban to tackle uncompetitive insurance market
- Labour's right to buy policy a land grab with many unintended consequences – Bamford
- Buy to let for the many, not the few
- 'We're losing at least 25 per cent of product transfer business'
- 'It's our duty to ensure buy-to-let clients are constantly aware of market changes'
- First-time buyers and holiday lets boost Welsh property market

How to get a £1m mortgage

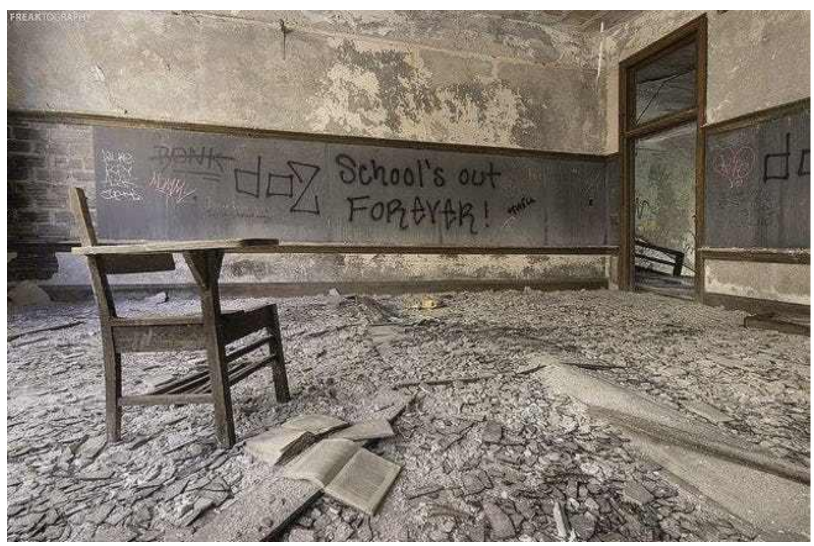


As we approach 31 October 2019, the possibility of a no-deal Brexit is still a possibility. Yet for all the uncertainty that has ensued since the country first voted to leave the EU over three years ago, investor demand for UK-based assets seems to have remained robust. According to the Office for National Statistics, UK house prices have increased by 1.2 per cent in the year to May 2019. A top destination for high-net-worth (HNW) individuals and wealthy UK residents, is still London. PCL property prices increased by 2.7 per cent between Q1 and Q2 2019. With the average price of a PCL house estimated to be £1,878,004, the property investment consultancy also revealed that the number of transactions increased between the two quarters by an impressive 23 per cent.

New-build starts continue falling putting government under pressure

According to official data from the Ministry of Housing, Communities and Local Government, construction on 37,220 new homes was started in April to June, the lowest in England since January to March 2016.
The figures, which include private and housing association developments, suggest that the government is falling further behind its aim to build 300,000 new homes each year. Annual new-build housing starts totalled 160,640 in the year to June 2019, a one per cent decrease compared with the year to June 2018. And more than a decade on, the number of starts has still not broken the peak immediately before the financial crisis.

Government pledges £20m loans to build schools near new homes



Housing developers will be given loans to build thousands of school places up front, making them ready for communities before the properties are finished. To meet increasing demand for more places at good schools, and help families get on the property ladder, the education secretary Gavin Williamson has said up to £20m per school would be made available to builders. It means new school places will be financed and delivered up-front as opposed to builders having to wait for new homes to be built and sold before having the money to deliver the development. The loan will be charged at interest, and repayable once new homes are sold. The scheme will incentivise developers to build more properties in the areas most in need – including on sites that have stood empty for a long period of time, the government said. It is also expected to boost the viability of new housing estates, particularly those led by small and medium sized developers where cashflow is a significant issue. The Developer Loans for Schools programme will be piloted from 2019 to 2021, in areas that meet a specific criteria. Housing developers are already expected to contribute to the costs of new schools to help meet the need arising from new housing, but can struggle to raise the funds to get schools ready in time for families moving to new developments.

Government kicks off plans for green new-build homes
A 'green standard' for new-build homes to tackle climate change and keep household bills low. **The Future Homes Standard** will ensure houses built after **2025** use clean energy sources and are constructed in an energy efficient way. Developers will need to use new technology such as air source heat pumps and the latest generation of solar panels instead of traditional gas boilers to heat homes. This will include changes to the ventilation and efficiency requirements as well as the role of councils in getting the best energy standards from developers. The changes to building regulations aim to improve the environment by cutting carbon emissions by up to 80 per cent.

Proportion of FTBs helped by family has tripled since 1989
The proportion of First-time buyers (FTBs) helped by family members rose to 31 per cent during the nine years from 1989 to 1998 and went up again to 54 per cent in the nine years 1999 to 2008. This figure rose still further, to 67 per cent during the four years 2009 to 2013, before easing slightly. It also investigated the current proportions of FTBs helped by parents or grandparents by region. Perhaps unsurprisingly London topped the list, at 56 per cent, followed by the North East at 45 per cent and Yorkshire & the Humber at 43 per cent. At the other end of the scale, FTBs in Northern Ireland were helped the least, at 24 per cent, with East of England at 32 per cent and East Midlands third lowest at 33 per cent.

Brexit

The year is 2192. The British Prime Minister visits Brussels to ask for an extension of the Brexit deadline. No one remembers where this tradition originated, but every year it attracts many tourists from all over the world.

FCA to take 'pragmatic' approach to Brexit day preparation
Is your firm prepared for Brexit?
Unless a deal is approved or a further extension is agreed the UK will leave the EU without an implementation period on 31 October 2019. We continue to monitor developments and firms should **check our website** for updates and more information. We expect all firms to continue to plan for all scenarios, including a no-deal Brexit at the end of October 2019. You should consider the impact of Brexit on your business. You should have plans in place to address any risks for your firm and any impact it could have for your customers.

It was supposed to be a make or break weekend in the Brexit saga. Against all the odds Boris Johnson managed to re-work a **'great new deal.'** a deal with the EU and attempted to present it to parliament. Shame his apparent U-turn on Northern Ireland, sucked away the support of the DUP and they appear to have short-circuited any deal. Boris is pulling out all the stops, but with the opposition parties uniting, the odds look against him.

Saturday's special sitting of Parliament, designed to help PM Boris Johnson get Brexit over the line by 31st October, **has in fact provided further delay**, thanks to an amendment to the Benn Act from Oliver Letwin. The PM has had to send a letter to the EU requesting a further extension. A Brexit bill is being attempted to be represented today, but House Speaker John Bercow will need to be persuaded. Boris Johnson is still intent on Brexit on the 31st October. Meanwhile, the EU 27 need to agree to an extension and agree to the Withdrawal Agreement. **Despite last week's EU rhetoric, the chances of a no-deal Brexit on the 31st October, appear to have receded, for now.** If Parliament does not ratify the deal and a general election is called, Boris Johnson will most likely campaign on the platform of having secured an agreement to deter 'Leave' voters being drawn to the Brexit party. The Labour Party, on the other hand, has confirmed it will push for the new agreement to be put to a second referendum. Without enough buyers of the project, will Brexit be unplugged?

A Labour Party spokesperson has called it 'scaremongering'. The Confederation of British Industry (CBI) has forecast that Labour's plans to nationalise the UK's water and energy utility companies, train firms and Royal Mail would cost at least £196bn. Whether this figure is close to being correct or not, the mere threat, along with Brexit has put many global fund managers off investing in the UK.

Today he failed another Vote to rush through the regulations and is trying to get an election. But that doesn't look like it will happen either so we are stuck with a Zombie Parliament until Judgement Day when the trumpet sounds.

FCA Regulation Roundup

- Government rejects calls for FCA to request regulatory extensions
- FCA consults Google on financial promotions
- Govt denies new powers for regulator

Financial Advisers

Register for Connect today

Register for Connect today. You will need to use our online platform, Connect, to submit your firm's details - also known as a mandatory annual update. **This will be a requirement from January 2020**, so we suggest you register now in good time. If you need help to register and update your firm details, visit our website, watch our video guide, or call 0300 500 0597. From January 2020, you will be required to update and confirm the accuracy of your firm details annually (even if there is no change), in line with your Accounting Reference Date (ARD). This **must** be done using Connect. We are currently emailing, calling and writing to firms to provide the necessary information and encourage registration.

Help shape the pensions dashboard

The Money and Pensions Service recently appointed an Industry Delivery Group (IDG) to lead the delivery of the pensions dashboards programme. A pensions dashboard is a digital interface that will enable people to see all their lifetime pension savings in one place. The IDG is currently looking for individuals to join its working groups. This is an exciting opportunity for representatives from different sectors to be directly involved in developing and testing the pensions dashboards. Find out more about the working groups and how to join them.

Mortgage Lenders

FCA and PRA changes to mortgage reporting requirements

We have published new rules that affect the data that mortgage lenders and administrators send us through Product Sales Data (PSD) and the Mortgage Lending and Administration Return (MLAR). If your firm is affected you must ensure you meet the requirements – our policy statement sets out timeframes. We plan to publish the technical documents (Data Reference Guide) in October 2019 and give firms access to our reporting system (Gabriel) test environment from November 2019. Firms that do not currently have access can request it through our contact centre.

Unfair terms – latest undertaking published under the Consumer Rights Act 2015 (CRA)

We have published an undertaking from The Co-operative Bank plc. (trading as Platform) about an unclear term in their mortgage contracts. We had concerns the term was not sufficiently transparent, as it was not clear what interest rate consumers would pay if the firm provided additional borrowing. The firm cooperated in resolving our concerns, including agreeing to pay an estimated £3.4m redress to affected consumers. We remind all firms to ensure their contracts comply with requirements for fairness and transparency under the UTCCRs and CRA. Find out about our other undertakings on our website.

Information for P2P platforms for residential secured lending

P2P platforms for residential secured lending are likely to be carrying on regulated home finance arranging. If so, they will require the relevant permissions. Recent rule changes also mean that P2P platforms arranging home finance must take on the responsibilities of the home finance provider where this person is not required to be authorised as a provider. Firms should review our changes to see if they are affected and make any necessary changes.

Live & Local 2019/20 events

Our new series of monthly Q&A roundtable discussions for mortgage intermediaries and lenders across the UK begins in Glasgow on 29 October. There is no set agenda for these sessions; attendees at each session decide the topics for discussion. We will be joined by Financial Ombudsman Service and an industry expert at each session. These informal monthly 'Ask the regulator' events will run until March 2020. Visit our Live & Local webpage for further details and to register.

General Insurance

General insurance pricing practices interim report

We have published the interim report of our market study into the pricing of home and motor insurance. We found that competition is not working well for all consumers in these markets. While many people shop around, many loyal customers are not getting a good deal. We believe this affects around 6 million consumers. We also found that 1 in 3 consumers who paid high prices showed at least one characteristic of vulnerability. Industry has acknowledged the need to address concerns about pricing practices and has been taking some steps to do this. However, we think we also need to intervene. We have set out a package of potential remedies to address the problems we have uncovered and we expect industry to work with us as we do so. We invite your feedback on the interim report by 15 November 2019. We will take your views into account in our final report. We will also undertake further analysis, including into potential remedies, their costs and benefits. We will publish our final report in Q1 2020. Our market study is part of a wider package of work we have underway in this sector. This includes working with firms following our Dear CEO letter to improve the oversight of pricing practices, implementing changes following the Insurance Distribution Directive and our work on value in the distribution chain.

Motor Finance Discretionary Commission Models consultation

On 15 October, we published a consultation paper proposing a ban on motor finance commission models that can incentivise a broker (including motor dealers) to charge a customer a higher interest rate. This follows on from our motor finance report in March and our subsequent policy and economic analysis. We are also consulting on minor amendments to our commission disclosure rules and guidance to give consumers more relevant information in all consumer credit markets. The consultation closes on 15 January 2020. We aim to publish a policy statement in early Q2 2020.

Launch of fourth value measures pilot

We have announced plans to launch the fourth General insurance (GI) value measures pilot. Participating insurers will start to report their value measures data to us from 3 areas: claims frequencies, claims acceptance rates and average claims pay-outs. We aim to publish this data in Q1 2020. Publishing value measures data was one of the remedies we proposed in our general insurance add-ons market study in 2014. This found poor value in both add-on and some stand-alone products. Value measures is part of a wider package of work we're undertaking in this sector to make sure the market is delivering competitive and fair prices for consumers. Other work includes pricing practices and the distribution chain.

Next steps for general insurance value measures

We consulted earlier this year on our plans to make reporting value measures data a requirement. An update outlining our next steps was included in the General insurance pricing practices (GIPP) market study interim report. We have postponed the publication of a Policy Statement on these rules, so that we can consider this work alongside other relevant regulatory developments. These include remedies from the GIPP market study interim report. Following consultation feedback, we also need to complete further work to refine our proposals.

Banks, Building societies, Brokers

Letter to Remuneration Committee Chairs

We're sorry - the link to the letter in September's Regulation round up was broken. Please see the 2019 Remuneration Committee Chair letter here. This letter was sent to Level 1 firms (deposit takers and investment firms with total assets exceeding £50bn). We have published the letter on our website to share our findings from the 2018/19 remuneration round with all firms. The findings cover accountability, post-event risk adjustments and diversity and inclusion. The letter also explains our approach to assessing the remuneration policies and practices of Level 1 firms in 2019/20.

Overdraft pricing and competition remedies

We published a Policy Statement on Overdraft Pricing and Competition Remedies. Our new rules require firms to publish a range of overdraft pricing details as part of the quarterly information on current account services from July 2020. This information will clearly show the interest rates and the refused payment fees that firms charge consumers for an overdraft. We have also included details of an industry agreement which will be delivered by UK Finance and member firms. This agreement will help consumers by standardising the way firms show the cost of using an overdraft in pounds and pence.

Consumer Credit

Overdraft pricing and competition remedies

We published a Policy Statement on Overdraft Pricing and Competition Remedies. Our new rules require firms to publish a range of overdraft pricing details as part of the quarterly information on current account services from July 2020. This information will clearly show the interest rates and the refused payment fees firms charge consumers for an overdraft. We have also included details of an industry agreement which will

be delivered by UK Finance and member firms. This will help consumers by standardising the way firms show the cost of using an overdraft in pounds and pence.
Life Insurance & Pension Providers
Directory data collection is underway for insurance companies We're a month into collecting directory persons data to go on the Financial Services Register. Banks, building societies, credit unions and insurance companies (and their appointed representatives) must send us their data by 9 March 2020. All other (solo) regulated firms must send us their data between 9 December 2019 and 9 December 2020. We laid out plans for the directory in our Policy Statement. The Directory provides the clear, simple-to-access information and makes it more difficult for unsuitable people to operate in the UK market. More information on the Connect submission process and materials are on our website. **Letter to Remuneration Committee Chairs** We're sorry - the link to the letter in September's Regulation round-up was broken. Please see the 2019 Remuneration Committee Chair letter here. We sent this letter was sent to Level 1 firms (deposit takers and investment firms with total assets exceeding £50bn). We have published the letter on our website to share our findings from the 2018/19 remuneration round with all firms. The findings cover accountability, post-event risk adjustments and diversity and inclusion. They also explain our approach to assessing the remuneration policies and practices of Level 1 firms in 2019/20.
News & Publications
FCA culture Webinar available on demand On 4 October, the FCA hosted a webinar on transforming culture through employee motivation and recognition. Jonathan Davidson (Executive Director of Retail Supervision and Authorisations, FCA) was joined by expert panelists Sarah Ellen O'Farrell (Lead Inventor, ?Whatif! Innovation), Parmjit Flora (Senior Operations Manager, Ocado) and Duncan Brown (Head of HR Consulting, Institute for Employment Studies) The panel explored what motivates employees and how financial services leaders can use motivation and recognition to transform organisations' cultures. If you missed the discussion, register here to watch it on demand.

Naughty people!

HMRC reports itself to watchdog over tax charge deaths

HMRC said it was aware of four customers who used the schemes and. HMRC reported itself to the watchdog over **one death in April** and 4 other people who had taken their own lives. HMRC's activities are regulated by the Independent Office for Police Conduct, IOPC, which regulates the activities of both the police and the taxman. The loan charge relates to people who worked and received their remuneration through loans, which are not taxable, rather than a salary, which is. The loans were never intended to be repaid resulting in the tax office treating them as tax avoidance, although the loans were legal at the time. In the 2016 Budget the government confirmed it intended to ban the practice and have the tax repaid, and those affected by the policy were given an April 2019 deadline to settle or declare their tax bills and failing that would be levied the additional loan charge. HMRC chiefs also applied the law to previous cases and are pursuing people who used a loan payment scheme as far back as 1999.
Earlier this month prime minister Boris Johnson **backed a 'thorough' review** of the loan charge following mounting pressure from MPs and campaigners, a promise which earlier this month came to fruition when chancellor Sajid Javid **commissioned a review** to examine if the legislation was fair.

- HMRC accused of neglecting helpline in favour of online
- HSBC scraps £1,000 advice entry
- Investors pull £625m a month from Invesco
- Warning over VCT risk as popularity rises
- Ombudsman shrugs off botched buyback complaint
- FSCS receives 78 claims against firm linked to collapsed DFM
- Rogue landlord fined £40,000 over 'dangerous' and unlicensed HMO
- Invesco fund boss exits as outflows mount
- Pension schemes could be hit with more fraud claims
- FCA appeals to victims of £8.5m "Ponzi" scheme
- Business raided for pensions cold calling in ICO's first move since ban
- Clients of failed wealth manager to reclaim cost of transfer
- FCA warns Sipp providers to own up to financial struggles
- FSCS shuts investigation into Sipp provider
- Regulator blasts standards at adviser academy
- Ombudsman to launch online complaints system
- Banned landlord fined after threatening tenant
- Failed DFM in charge of £1bn assets
- Misleading financial advice advert banned
- Clients of failed wealth manager to reclaim cost of transfer
- Adviser to pay out over carbon credit Sipp
- Companies wound up in £1m art investment fraud

Council launches possession proceedings for home of disgraced football chairman

Northampton Borough Council has opened possession proceedings against David Cardoza, the former chairman of Northampton Town Football Club. The council handed the club a loan worth £10.25m, which was supposed to go towards redeveloping its stadium. However, a police investigation is now ongoing into whether some of those funds were 'misappropriated' – as the council claims – with Cardoza and his wife accused of using the money to rebuild their home. At the start of the year the Cardozas, as well as David's father Anthony, were ordered to hand back more than £2m of the initial loan by Birmingham High Court. While that rebuilt home has since been sold by the Cardozas, Northampton Borough Council has now launched proceedings for the sale of their current property. In its published enforcement strategy update it said it intends to reclaim almost £366,000 through the possession of the property, though this is being defended by Christina Cardoza.

Letting agent fined for HMO breaches following fire

They were fined £80,000 for failing to licence four houses of multiple occupation (HMOs).
Potential problems with one of the properties was flagged up with the council last year following a fire in the attic of a three-storey building. The fire service had discovered a host of issues, including the fact that smoke detectors were battery powered only, with some batteries missing, the detector did not sound very loudly, and the lack of fire doors along the escape route.

Latest News

- Asset allocations over the next ten years
- Mend the system and bridge the finance gap
- Never too young to learn about money
- Govt U-turns on probate fee hike
- How facial recognition tech could prompt new business opportunity.
- Platform costs could go up as tech firms merge
- HMRC collects £600m through tax probes
- Nutmeg spends £3 for every £1 of revenue
- Warning sounded on 'disastrous' pension tax proposal