## **Extending Retirement Choices**

Leslie Gray and David Riddington (United Kingdom)





### Outline

- Background
- Our approach in general
- Our approach in detail
  - Some examples
- Defined benefit schemes
- Summary



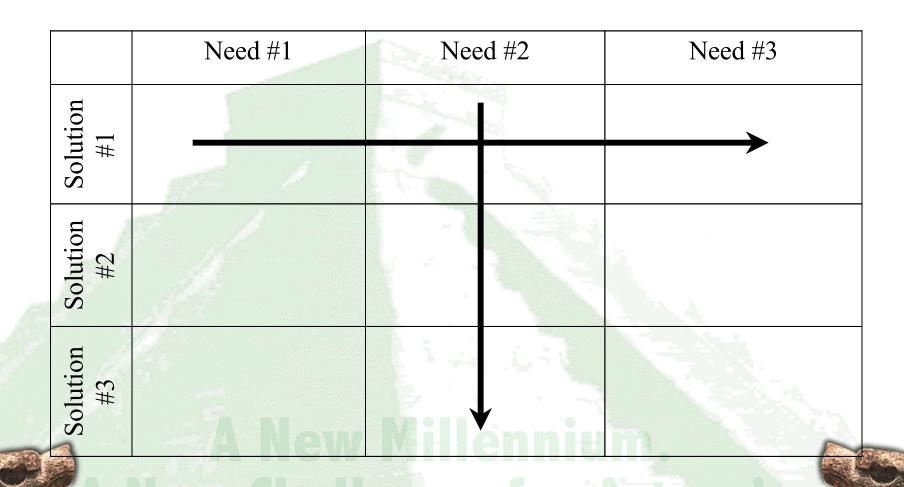
## Background

- Falling annuity rates
- Need to annuitise at retirement
  - although some can postpone
- All must annuitise by 75 at latest
- Inheritability issues
- New products
- Choices report and Curry Bill
  - Government announcements

## Our approach in general

- Add to debate on annuity reform
- Needs rather than products
- Needs will differ
  - for different people
  - for the same person, over time
- Different solutions meet different needs
- Importance of choice
- Not favouring any one option

## Our approach in detail



## Seven needs or priorities

- Choice Can it be tailored?
- Security How much risk am I running?
- Inheritability What happens if I die?
- Flexibility Can I change things later?
- Self Reliance Can I stay off the State?
- Investment efficiency Long term return?
- Cost effective Will the charges be high?

## Four possible solutions

- Traditional annuities
- Newer forms of annuities
- The Choices Report
- New variation
  - "Personal Distribution Plan"



### Traditional Annuities - Details

- Income fixed or increases at agreed rate.
- Guaranteed
- Payable throughout life
- Based on insurance cross-subsidy
- Guarantees backed by fixed interest investments.



# Traditional Annuities - Analysis

Choice	Some choice of type of annuity but limited in eg nature of increase	
Security	Absolute – based on guarantees not projections.	
Inheritability	Some provision possible but likely to be restricted to eg first five years. Concept based on mortality cross-sub.	
Flexibility	Once set up cannot be altered.	
Self Reliance	Significant due to guarantees but generally not index-linked so can lose value.	
Invest. effic.	Generally gilts so no equity growth.	
Cost effect.	High. No costs due to changes or reviews.	

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#### Personal Distribution Plan - Details

- Determine minimum income (X)
- If fund > annuity cost of X, no annuity purchase
- Invest fund. Draw down income as required.
- Check value of fund v. cost of annuitising X
- Annuitise when fund just sufficient to buy X
- Some controls over investment freedom
- Regular information on fund v. annuity cost



### Comparison of four options

	Choice	Security	Inherit.	Flexib.	Self Rel	Invst Eff	Cost Eff
Trad An	**	****	☆	☆	***	☆	<del>ተ</del> ተተተ
Ext An	***	***	***	***	***	***	***
Choices	***	***	☆☆	***	***	**	***
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- •Greater Choice generally means giving up some Security.
- Trade off between Cost and Flexibility
- Self Reliance broadly the same across all options

#### Defined Benefit Schemes

- Strong on Security, Self Reliance, Cost Effectiveness and Investment Efficiency
- Add Choice, Flexibility and Inheritability?
- Transfer funds to DC arrangement
- Alternatively, flexible income in DB scheme
  - actuarial certification of equivalent value.



## Summary

- Retirement needs are diverse
  - can vary between people and over time.
- Diversity implies greater choice
- Similar choice to that available to savers
- Flexibility to change later.
- Choice implies regular information
  - annual retirement statements



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