



ASSOCIATION OF
PENSION LAWYERS

APL ANNUAL CONFERENCE 2025

The Queen's Hotel, Leeds | Wednesday 19th - Friday 21st November

Wednesday 19 November

18:00 - 20:00	Registration and welcome reception
20:00	Junior Networking Dinner

Thursday 20 November

Time	Session Title	Speakers
08:30 - 09:00	Welcome Tea & Coffee	
Session chaired by Sarah Parkin (Linklaters)		
09:00 - 09:15	Welcome Address	David Gallagher, APL Chair
09:15 - 09:55	Pension trustees and proper purpose	Michael Aherne (Herbert Smith Freehills Kramer) Robert Klepka (Herbert Smith Freehills Kramer)
09:55 - 10:35	ESG in action - a trustee perspective	Louise Howard (Universities Superannuation Scheme)
10:35 - 11:10	Tea and Coffee (35 mins)	
Session chaired by Keith Rowley KC (Radcliffe Chambers)		

11:10 - 11:50	Professional negligence: where are we now?	Elizabeth Ovey (Radcliffe Chambers)
11:50 - 12:30	The 7 habits of happy, effective pension lawyers	Mark Grant (Durham University)
12:30 - 13:10	“Certain or Reasonably certain, that is the question?” A look at the new covenant guidance in practice	Karina Brookes (EY) Ian Wright (Arc Pensions Law)
13:10 - 14:25	Lunch (1hr 15)	
Session chaired by Dawn Heath (Freshfields)		
14:25 - 15:05	With great surplus comes great responsibility: a practical and technical look at some of the current issues facing trustees and employers	Sarah Swift (Eversheds Sutherland) Vanessa Wells (Eversheds Sutherland)
15:05 - 15:45	Managing Tail End Risk	Charles Cameron (Slaughter and May) Rachel Hunter (Slaughter and May)
15:45 - 16:15	Tea and Coffee (30 mins)	
Session chaired by Paul Newman KC (Wilberforce Chambers)		
16:15 - 16:55	Trustee Act 1925: some useful sections for pension clients	Edward Brown (Hogan Lovells)
16:55 - 17:25	Current issues in DC	APL Investment and DC Committee: - Jonathan Gilmour (Travers Smith) (Moderator) - Tom Trennery (L&G) - Carly Kisanga (Smart) - Helen Quarrell (Coutts/NatWest)
17:25	Close day 1	
19:30	The Gala Dinner will be held at the Royal Armouries. Dress code: Black tie.	

Friday 21 November		
Time	Session Title	Speakers
09:15 - 09:30	Tea and Coffee (15 mins)	
09:30 - 10:00	Annual General Meeting	
Session chaired by Chris Edwards-Earl (Stephenson Harwood)		
10:00 - 10:40	The Regulator and Moral Hazard - where are we now?	Michael Uberoi (XXIV Old Buildings)
10:40 - 11:20	Smoothing the journey to buy-out: A litigator's perspective	Dispute Resolution Committee: - Liam Young (Burness Paul) - Jennifer Miles (Eversheds Sutherland) - Sarah Opie (Linklaters)
11:20 - 11:50	Tea and Coffee (30 mins)	
Session chaired by Clare Pollard (ARC Pensions Law)		
11:50 - 12:30	The PPF at 20: Reflections on two decades of the PPF and the future that lies ahead	Dana Grey (PPF) Miriam Kimber (PPF)
12:30 - 13:10	What can trust law bring to solving potentially defective pension scheme amendments?	Jonathan Hilliard KC (Wilberforce Chambers)
13:10 - 14:10	Lunch (1hr)	
Session chaired by Alexandra Tomlinson (CMS)		
14:10 - 14:50	Statutory and Pension Trust Deed Interpretation – How to do it in the 21st Century	Clive Weber (Wedlake Bell)

14:50 -15:30	From Code to Culture: Strengthening Pension Scheme Governance and Risk Practice	Helen Rowan (Sackers) Vicki Mance (Vidett) Iain MacKenzie (Willis Towers Watson)
15:30	Closing remarks	Matthew Swynnerton, APL Chair