



ASSOCIATION OF PENSION LAWYERS
Professional not for profit organisation for those practising pension law throughout the UK

APL ANNUAL CONFERENCE 2026

The Hilton Antwerp | Wednesday 25th - Friday 27th November

Wednesday 25 November

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

Thursday 26 November

Time	Session Title	Speakers
08:30 - 09:00	Welcome Tea & Coffee	
Session chaired by		
09:00 - 09:10	Welcome Address	Matthew Swynnerton (APL Chair)
09:10 - 09:50	Signed, Sealed, Delivered: Issues with the proper execution of pension scheme documentation	Wendy Mathers (Radcliffe Chambers) Tom Robinson, KC (Wilberforce Chambers)
09:50 - 10:30	DC reforms - guided retirement, CDC and regulatory challenges	Mark Baker (Pinsent Masons) Paul Armitage (Muse Advisory)
10:30 - 11:00	Tea and Coffee	
Session chaired by		
11:00 - 11:40	We Are Diamonds Taking Shape - How Pension Lawyers Can Add Cut, Clarity and Polish to Pensions Legislation	Isobel Carruthers (Eversheds Sutherland) Katy Marcus (Eversheds Sutherland)
11:40 - 12:20	AI in Pensions: Where are we now?	Chris Edwards-Earl (Stephenson-Harwood) Naomi L'Estrange (Isio)
12:20 - 13:40	Lunch	
Session chaired by Claire Carroll		
13:40 - 14:50	Issues arising from Verity Trustees	Andrew Spink, KC (Outer Temple Chambers) Nicholas Stallworthy, KC (Outer Temple Chambers)
14:50 - 15:15	Tea and Coffee	
Session chaired by Patrick Kennedy (Gateley Legal)		
15:15 - 17:00	Investment Fiduciary Duty Debate: This house believes pension trustee investment duties require improvement by legislative change	For: Simon Evans (CMS) Stuart O'Brien (Sackers) Against: Jane Kola (Arc Pensions Law) Hywel Robinson (Temple Bright)
17:00	Close day 1	
19:15	The Gala Dinner will be held at the Botanic Sanctuary 19:15: Drinks Reception 20:00: Call for Dinner Dress Code: Black Tie	

Friday 27 November

Time	Session Title	Speakers
09:15 – 09:30	Tea and Coffee	
09:30 – 10:00	Annual General Meeting	
Session chaired by		
10:00 – 10:40	And who shall guard the guards themselves? Can/should trustee members profit from a windfall (and other scenarios)?	David E Grant, KC (Outer Temple Chambers)
10:40 – 11:20	Amendment powers: some recent cases and old chestnuts	Edward Sawyer (Wilberforce Chambers)
11:20 – 11:50	Tea and Coffee	
Session chaired by		
11:50 – 12:30	IHT on pensions: where are we now?	Jill Clucas (Hogan Lovells) Susie Daykin (Pinsent Masons)
12:30 – 13:10	UK Buy-Outs and Irish Members: Navigating the Cross-Border Challenge	Daniel Watters (Arthur Cox LLP)
13:10 – 14:20	Lunch	
Session chaired by		
14:20 – 15:00	Pensions issues in restructuring and insolvency in today's funding environment	Charles Magoffin (Slaughter and May)
15:00 – 15:40	Potential Future Sources of Litigation: 2016 revisited and 2036 predicted	Suzanne Burrell (Shoosmiths) Lynette Lewis (Shoosmiths)
15:40	Closing Remarks	Matthew Swynnerton (APL Chair)