

## Press Release

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PR/25/09

12<sup>th</sup> June 2009

Immediate Release

### **BUILDING KNOWLEDGE AND CONFIDENCE IS KEY TO IMPROVING PENSION SAVING**

Findings from the fourth National Association of Pension Funds' (NAPF) Workplace Pensions Survey<sup>1,2</sup> show that tackling a lack of knowledge and confidence amongst those who choose not to join a company pension scheme when one is available could create a step change in improving the country's pension saving.

The findings show that for the estimated 4.7 million<sup>3</sup> employees who choose not to join an available company pension:

- 60% are unaware how much their employer would contribute to their pension if they did join;
- 66% did not check whether there was a pension on offer when they were recruited; and
- 45% did not know they received tax relief on the contributions made to their pension.

**NAPF Chief Executive, Joanne Segars, said:** "With confidence in pensions remaining low – the NAPF Pensions Confidence Index stands at just +7% (a small but significant increase from December 2008's all-time low of just +1%), building knowledge will go hand in hand with building confidence.

“This will be especially important in the run-up to 2012 when millions of people will be automatically enrolled into a pension for the first time.”

“It is vital there is a co-ordinated campaign to build understanding and confidence. It should be led by the Government, and actively supported by the pensions industry, worker representatives and business.

“The NAPF has been playing its part as its PENSIONSFORCE initiative offers a free, independent service for employers and people at work. It helps workers understand the importance of planning for their retirement.”

#### **Notes To Editors**

- 1 The research was carried out by TNS among 1,232 GB full and part-time employees (self-employment excluded from research) aged 16 - 64 between 24<sup>th</sup> February 2009 and 2<sup>nd</sup> March 2009.
- 2 The NAPF Workplace Pensions Survey report can be found:-  
<http://www.napf.co.uk/policy/research.cfm>
- 3 The DWP estimates that 4.7 million people with access to a workplace pension have not joined.  
<http://www.dwp.gov.uk/mediacentre/pressreleases/2008/may/pens068-160508.asp>

#### **About PENSIONSFORCE**

PENSIONSFORCE, is a free-of-charge workplace education service designed to help employers help their employees plan for retirement. Further information can be found at [www.pensionsforce.co.uk](http://www.pensionsforce.co.uk).

#### **About The National Association of Pension Funds**

The NAPF is the leading voice of workplace pensions in the UK. We speak for 1,200 pension schemes with some 15 million members and assets of around £800 billion. NAPF members also include over 400 businesses providing essential services to the pensions sector.

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