PASA update on co-ordinating AVC information for Dashboards

Trustees/Scheme Managers are responsible for ensuring the AVC component of an individual's pension is made available to dashboards when requested and this is achieved in line with the Regulations and the scheme's overall staging date.

The new pensions dashboard standards recognise the challenges and variation which exist when it comes to AVC arrangements forming part of a DB scheme and where the administration of the AVCs is undertaken by a different administrator to the main scheme benefits. To maximise consistency, PASA has drafted industry good practice Guidance which details three potential options which are set out below. This Guidance will be published on 8th June 2023 (you can sign up to the webinar launch [here](#)).

- **Single Source -** The main administrator will make both the DB and the AVC values available to the ecosystem
- **Multiple Sources but Linked** - If the benefits are to be provided separately but displayed together on dashboards, the main administrator must generate a unique identifier and pass this identifier to the AVC provider. Both the main administrator and the AVC provider will then need to populate a 'Pension Link' field in their view data message, so dashboards can connect the benefits
- **Multiple Sources Unlinked** - The Trustees/Scheme Managers could decide it is reasonable for the two sets of data to be displayed apart from each other (for example, if the AVC benefit was suitably named). In this case the Trustees/Scheme Managers may choose not to create a unique identifier. However, Trustees/Scheme Managers remain responsible for ensuring all of their members' benefits are displayed on dashboards, even if they are shown separately

In the meantime, there are real benefits to all stakeholders, i.e. Trustees/Scheme Managers, AVC providers and administrators, in providing the industry with information on the options available from different AVC providers. Some of the potential benefits are:

- Rather than field each enquiry separately, AVC providers will be able to share consistent information enabling Trustees/Scheme Managers to consider the options and activity needed
- The provision of the information provides absolute clarity on the approaches, any work which might be needed plus an indication of whether there will be any additional project costs
- The industry working collaboratively on the provision of information maximises the opportunity for a positive saver experience when accessing a pensions dashboard
- The risk of non-compliance and breaches is reduced

To support this approach, PASA is proposing to issue a questionnaire to AVC providers to understand which of the options for making data available to pensions dashboards they will support and to ask them if

they would be happy for PASA to publish their responses centrally with a view to reducing the number of queries they receive from schemes.

The questionnaire is close to being finalised and we expect to start issuing during June. Once we have started this process we will start to provide updates via the PASA website.

Geraldine Brassett, Chair of the Saver Experience sub-group of the PASA Dashboards Working Group.