

PRESS RELEASE
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Pensions Policy Institute appoints new Director

The Pensions Policy Institute (PPI) is delighted to announce the appointment of Niki Cleal as its Director, in succession to Alison O'Connell, with effect from the end of July.

Alison has decided to put her time into her research interests in retirement and pension policy on a freelance basis but will remain linked to the PPI as a Governor.

An economics graduate of Cambridge University with an MBA from INSEAD, Niki has spent the last ten years in the Civil Service, at the NHS Executive and more recently at HM Treasury. While at HM Treasury, she led and managed two major independent reviews – the Review of the Actuarial Profession chaired by Sir Derek Morris, and the Review of Business – University Collaboration, chaired by Richard Lambert. For the past year, Niki has been on secondment to HBOS plc, where she was the research director in the Public Policy Unit.

Speaking of the appointment, Tom Ross, Chairman of the Council of the PPI, said “I am thrilled that someone of Niki Cleal’s calibre and background is joining the PPI. The PPI would not be the independent and authoritative voice on pensions policy issues that it is today without the leadership of Alison O’Connell, and I am confident that, under Niki’s leadership, it will continue to make significant progress in furthering its aims.”

Niki Cleal said “The effectiveness of the PPI in helping to achieve better pensions policy-making is widely acknowledged and I am delighted to be joining at such an exciting time. As the Pension Reform White Paper proceeds, there are great opportunities for the PPI to use its economic models for independent analysis and to continue to act as a focal point for debate. This will help to ensure that as far as possible, the final shape of policy meets the objectives of stakeholders and will stand the test of time. I am looking forward to meeting the many people in organisations which support the PPI’s work.”

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The PPI is an independent research organisation, focused on pension provision. Its aim is to improve information and understanding about pensions (state and private) through research and analysis, discussion and publication. It does not lobby for any particular issue or reform solution but works to make the pension policy debate better informed.