

PRESS RELEASE

AllenbridgeEpic Investment Advisers Ltd (AllenbridgeEpic), a leading investment consultant to major UK pension funds, is pleased to announce that Grant Ballantine is to join its team of consultants.

Grant qualified as an actuary with Scottish Widows and, after a short spell working overseas, he joined the Government Actuary's Department (GAD). For a large part of his career of over 30 years at GAD, he led the teams of actuaries providing GAD's actuarial advice on occupational pension schemes. These included some of the largest UK pension schemes, both in the public and private sectors. Other clients included overseas governments and supervisory bodies.

During his career, Grant was also involved in providing advice to some countries in Eastern Europe and Africa. This included the Russian authorities following the fall of Communism and, in 2000-2001; he helped to establish pension provision in Kosovo after the breakup of Yugoslavia.

Grant is currently Chairman of Trustees of a private sector pension scheme and sits on the investment committee of a funded public sector scheme.

Karen Shackleton, Chief Executive of AllenbridgeEpic, said:

"We are delighted that Grant has decided to join us. Not only does he bring a wealth of actuarial and investment experience to the table, but his industry knowledge will be of enormous benefit to both colleagues and clients. I have personally known Grant for many years and he is highly respected.

We anticipate that Grant will act as independent adviser to both local authority and larger corporate pension schemes. We are currently seeing significant interest in our investment advisory service, so I have no doubt that Grant will acquire a full portfolio of clients extremely quickly."

Grant Ballantine said:

"I am very pleased to be joining AllenbridgeEpic and look forward to working with their talented panel of independent investment consultants. I was particularly attracted by the nature of their tailored investment advisory service for pension schemes, including for FTSE 250 companies and funded public sector pension schemes."

Notes for Editors

About AllenbridgeEpic Investment Advisers Limited

AllenbridgeEpic Investment Advisers Ltd was established in 2002 and is based in London's Mayfair, with representative offices in Glasgow and Lancaster. It provides independent investment experts who have all held senior positions in the investment industry to advise local government (LGPS) and corporate pension schemes, charity trustees, investment committees, pension managers and sponsors on investment-related issues.

The services it provides to pension fund clients in the public and private sector include:

- Developing and reviewing investment policy
- Assisting with long-term strategy and benchmarking
- Informing discussion and assisting with technical concepts
- Improving market timing
- Monitoring and reviewing investment managers
- Strengthening trustee governance
- Reviewing and monitoring the scheme's Statement of Investment principles
- Advising on LGPS specific governance and compliance regulation
- Constructively challenging Fiduciary Managers and Implemented Consulting relationships
- Providing bespoke trustee training

Mandates from large local authority pension funds and leading FTSE index constituents have built assets under advisement to £25 billion. Clients include Dorset, Derbyshire, North Yorkshire, Durham County Councils, Islington and Hounslow Borough Councils, British Airways, Hays Group, Fullers and DS Smith.

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