



All Party Parliamentary Group on Insurance & Financial Services

News Bulletin

No 30 Sept 2011

Autumn session promises a packed programme

RIOTS, REGULATION and referral fees are likely to dominate the autumn session for the All Party Group.

There is no doubt that the issues around paying for the damage caused by the riots and the insurance industry's response in terms of claims handling will be topics that many MPs will have views on and questions about. The Association of British Insurers and many member companies have been pro-active during the summer in keeping the public, policyholders and politicians informed and the group will be following up on this as the autumn session gets underway.

Regulation has been one of the dominant themes of the group's programme since last year's general election with the Retail Distribution Review and the Financial Services Compensation Scheme levy featuring prominently in its programme. As we move into the autumn the government is expected to publish detailed legislative proposals for the new regulatory system following a series of consultations over the last 12 months.

Referral fees and their impact on the



Riots: political scrutiny of how the riots will be paid for will be intense

motor insurance market have been the subject of controversy with strong criticism coming from both ministers and former ministers. The group's chairman, Jonathan Evans, has said that the group is keen to hear a range of views so that it can help inform and shape the debate.

If you, your company or organisation would like to meet the group to discuss any political or policy issue that affects the insurance or retail financial services sectors please contact Jonathan Swift (details below).

Leigh and Wheeler voted in as officers

AT ITS ANNUAL MEETING the group elected two new Hon Secretaries, Conservative MPs Edward Leigh and Heather Wheeler.

Edward Leigh has been MP for Gainsborough since 1983. He was a trade and industry minister in the last Conservative government and then served as chairman of the influential Public Accounts Select Committee for many years. Heather Wheeler became MP for South Derbyshire at last year's general election. Before entering Parliament she worked for an insurance broker and qualified as an Associate of the Chartered Insurance Institute in 1985.

New faces:
Edward Leigh
and Heather
Wheeler take on
key roles



Other officers were re-elected with Jonathan Evans as chairman, supported by Andy Love MP, Lord Hunt of Wirral and Lord Newby as vice-chairs.

New era for group as Swift takes admin role

JONATHAN SWIFT, editor-in-chief of Incisive Media's insurance publications, has taken over the principal role in the administration of the group from David Worsfold. This change was confirmed at the group's annual meeting in July.

Mr Worsfold, now Incisive Media's group editorial services director, was instrumental in setting up the group in 1991 and was the secretary of the group for 20 years. He said that with the group now well-established in the new Parliament and Mr Swift, previously editor of *Post*, taking on a wider role in the insurance division it was an ideal opportunity to bring in someone fresh to work with the officers of the group to take it forward.

"This change reinforces Incisive Media's commitment to ensuring this group acts as a vital conduit for the insurance retail financial services sectors to communicate effectively with Parliament. With so many major issues affecting the reputation of the industry there has never been a greater need for this group", said Mr Swift.

Chairman: Jonathan Evans MP

Deputy Chairmen: Andy Love MP, Lord Hunt of Wirral, Lord Newby

Hon Secs: Edward Leigh MP, Heather Wheeler MP

Technical Consultants

PRICEWATERHOUSECOOPERS 

Contact: David Morey,
020 7804 2684
david.morey@uk.pwc.com

Administration



Contact: Jonathan Swift,
Editor-in-Chief, Insurance Division,
Incisive Media, 020 7316 9321
jonathan.swift@incisivemedia.com

For regular up-dates on the group go to <http://blog.appgifs.org.uk>