

***heywood* signs contract with the Scottish Public Pensions Agency**

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heywood, the market leader in the provision of pensions software to the Public Sector, has signed a contract with the Scottish Public Pensions Agency (SPPA), the largest provider of pensions administration in Scotland. This latest success closely follows *heywood's* recent win with the Northern Ireland Department of Health, Social Services and Public Safety (NI DHSSPS).

This new contract with the SPPA, worth £7.5 million over a minimum 8 year term, will see *heywood's* software being used to administer both the Scottish NHS and the Scottish teachers' pension schemes. *heywood's* calculations software will also be implemented for several other Public Sector schemes administered by the Agency.

heywood is already the provider of pensions software to the majority of Local Government, Police and Fire pension schemes and this new agreement with the SPPA affirms *heywood's* strategy of targeting the Central Government market.

Neville Mackay, the SPPA's Chief Executive, said:

"The SPPA works on behalf of more than 225,000 active scheme members and around 110,000 pensioners. We were thoroughly impressed by *heywood's* system and the expertise of its staff and we are delighted to select *heywood* as our long term software partner following a rigorous procurement exercise. We are confident that their products and proven track record will enable us not only to successfully implement the changes brought about by pension reform but also to extend the range and quality of services available to our customers."

heywood's Head of Public Sector, Pat Marchbank, also commented:

"*heywood* is very excited to be signing another major contract within the Central Government market. This win provides further recognition of our capabilities and expertise within this very important market and confirms our leading position within Central Government pensions. SPPA has some clear objectives and we are looking forward to working with them to ensure they are met."

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Notes to editors

heywood

heywood was established in 1975 and has been part of *aquilaheywood* since 2002. *aquilaheywood*, the Group comprising *aquila* and *heywood*, is the leading supplier of pensions administration software solutions in the UK. The pension schemes for over 7 million members in more than 200 major organisations are run using the Group's administration software solutions. These solutions cover the whole range of available schemes including DB, DC, hybrid, career average, cash balance and stakeholder.

The Group provides solutions to the Financial Services, Third Party Administration, Corporate and Public Sector pension scheme markets in the UK, Ireland and the rest of Europe. Its clients include Prudential, Norwich Union, BBC, Asda, BP, Diageo, the European Central Bank, Aon Consulting, JLT, and most local authority schemes.

altair is *heywood's* next generation pensions software solution, which is fully browser-based with advanced web capabilities and takes full advantage of modern technology.

For those clients who wish to out-source their pensions IT function, *altair* can be offered via a fully hosted or ASP service. To ensure a low risk implementation, the Group provides experienced consultancy services for business management comprising project management, process engineering, data migration, management information and system integration.

SPPA

The Scottish Public Pensions Agency is an Executive Agency of the Scottish Executive. It was previously known as the Scottish Office Pensions Agency which was created on 1st April 1993 and employs around 200 staff.

The Agency administers and regulates the NHS and teachers' pension schemes in Scotland, and other occupational pension schemes for which the Scottish Ministers are responsible. It also regulates the local government, police and fire pension schemes administered by Scottish local authorities.