

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

35th CLASS AGM

ALTRINCHAM – 15th June 2010

The 35th CLASS Group AGM was hosted by Warwickshire County Council on 8 - 9 June 2010 at Warwick Racecourse.

The theme of the meeting was “What next for the LGPS?” and there was a strong line up of speakers including Anthony Meyer of LPFA, Patrick Draycott of Johnson Matthey, and Brian Town of the Department for Communities and Local Government. They were joined by speakers from *aquilaheywood* and the CLASS Group and topics covered included the drivers for change in the LGPS and their validity, what form any changes might take, and the external factors that will influence the timescale for change.

Outside of the main keynote speeches attendees were also able to learn more about *altair* and *AXISe* products with demonstration sessions including Image, Process Automation, Member Self Service, Word Integration, Payroll and Multiple Employment functionality with a number of *heywood* consultants on hand to help. There were also workshop sessions on improving the quality of data using the capabilities of ATMOS Data Services Ltd and on the processing of non defined benefit arrangements.

On the night of 8 June the attendees were treated to a spectacular mediaeval banquet at Warwick Castle in magnificent surroundings and with a cast of themed characters providing the entertainment.

heywood would like to thank Warwickshire County Council for their hospitality as well as Barnett Waddingham, Hewitt, Hymans Robertson, Mercer and Prudential for all of their support.

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Contact:

Prue Burrlock
Group Marketing Communications Manager
prue.burrlock@aquilaheywood.co.uk
Direct line: 01737 857 125

Notes to editors

CLASS Group

CLASS Group stands for Computerised Local Authority Superannuation System and was formed in 1975 with eleven members. The idea behind the CLASS Group was to develop a system to computerise their pensions administration and the selection of *heywood* and the close working relationship *heywood* has had with the CLASS Group since its formation is one of the most successful examples of Public and Private Sector co-operation. The CLASS Group now has 84 members.

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 9 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, Aviva, BBC, Asda, BP, Diageo, the European Central Bank, Aon Consulting, Hewitt Associates, most local authority schemes, and Central Government schemes in Scotland and Northern Ireland.

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.