
heywood wins contract with the Royal Borough of Windsor and Maidenhead

ALTRINCHAM – September 2011

heywood, the market leading pensions administration software provider to the public sector, is pleased to report that, following a formal EU tender process, it has recently signed a contract with the Royal Borough of Windsor and Maidenhead (the Royal Borough), the administrating authority to the Royal County of Berkshire Pension Fund. The contract is for the supply of a hosted pensions administration and pensioner payroll solution for a 5 year term and is further recognition of heywood's capabilities and expertise in a key market, confirming its leading position within local government pensions.

The basis of *heywood's* solution is its new generation product *altair*. *altair's* rich functionality supports the needs of pensions administration departments by increasing efficiency, improving service to members and reducing costs. In addition to the Royal Borough's pensions administration and payroll solutions this latest implementation will include two new web-based components – Member Self-Service and Employer Services – and is on track to go live in December 2011 in line with the Royal Borough's preferred timetable.

Philip Boyton, Assistant Pensions Manager, Royal County of Berkshire Pension Fund, said:

"We selected *heywood* based on the overall functionality of its *altair* product combined with its reputation for quality delivery and in-depth experience of dealing with the complexities found in scheme administration within the public sector".

Pat Marchbank, Client Management Director at *heywood*, said:

"We have worked closely with the Royal Borough for many years and are delighted to have been selected as their supplier for the future. Through many years of successful collaboration with the Royal Borough and our other local government clients, *altair* has been developed to meet the current and future needs of the Local Government Pension Scheme (LGPS) administrators, in terms of legislation, improved efficiency, service delivery and communications. We are looking forward to continuing our partnership with the Royal Borough".

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Notes to editors:

heywood

Based in Altrincham, *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 life and pensions administration software solutions in the UK. The benefits for nearly 10 million members and policyholders in more than 200 major organisations are run using the Group's administration software solutions. These solutions cover a wide range of pension, insurance and savings products for both Group arrangements and Individual products. Such arrangements and products include Company Pension Schemes, Personal Pensions, Group Risk, Individual Protection, Annuities, (G)SIPPs and Wraps.

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 Aviva, Aegon, Fidelity, Scottish Widows, British Airways, BBC, Asda, BP, Diageo, the European Central Bank, Aon Hewitt, most UK 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.