

Social Use – the next area of scrutiny?

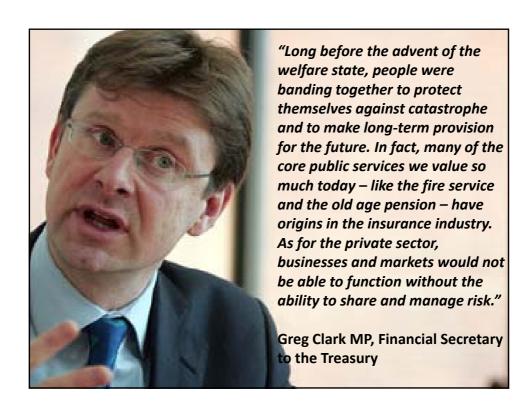
Greg Clare & Kiran Kamath, Aviva UK Life Risk, November 2013

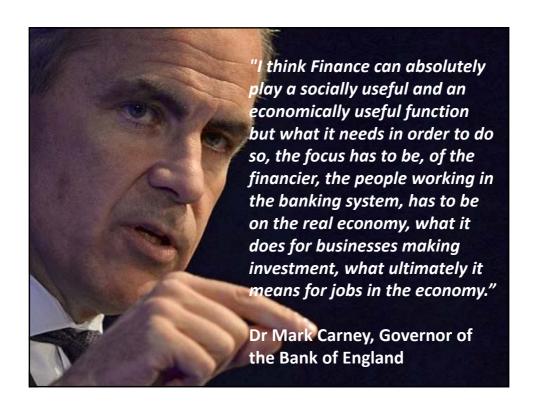
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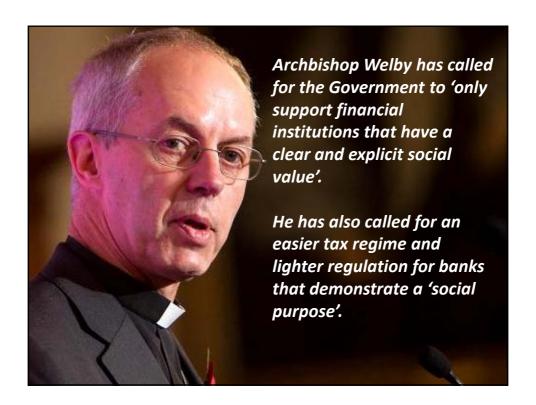
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"While Finance has been maligned as a socially useless activity, some financial services are essential contributors to human wellbeing. Insurance is among them. Next to technology, insurance is one of humanity's great inventions to free itself from dominance by nature and vulnerability to acts of God"





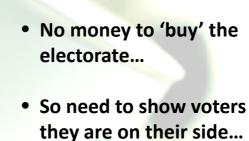




Background

Has the trust gone?

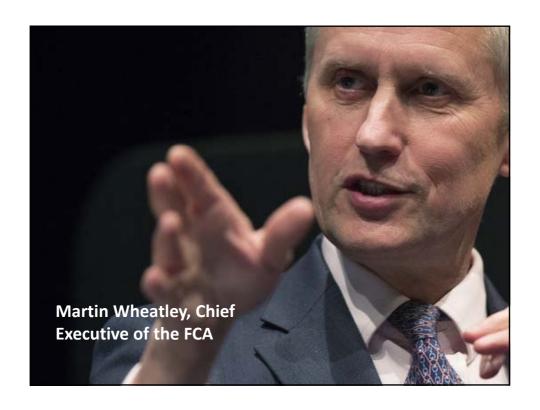
- Damaged reputation.
- Do people just blame bankers?
- 'Genie is out of the bottle'
- Times are hard...



- Social value, ethics, moral behaviour – increasingly important
- What does this mean for insurers?











Consumer Access

Why do we need to boost consumer access?

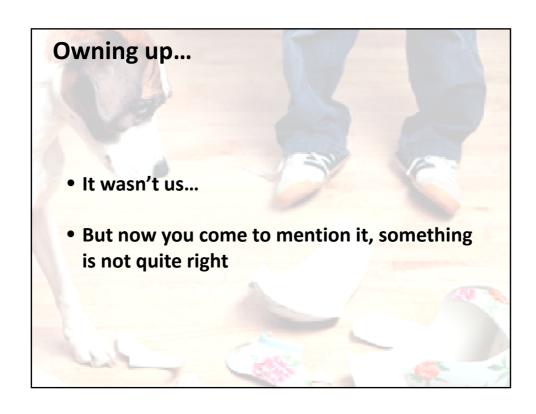
- Social challenges
- Government austerity
- Do people need what we offer?
- Saving / Protecting / Credit



What does this mean for us?

- New experience for us
- We like TIME
- We need to adapt
- The age old challenge



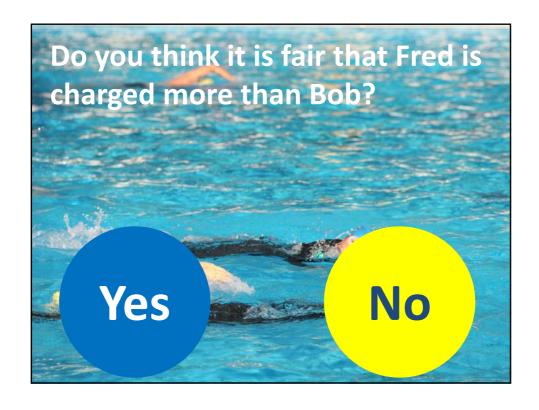


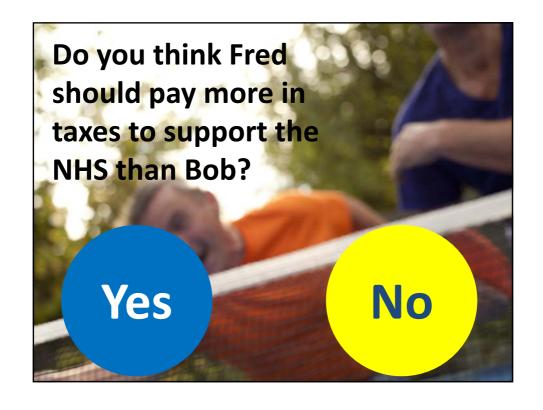


Risk Pricing

Individual Risk Pricing

- It's simple! We charge the customer a premium linked to the risk they pose to us.
- Actuaries and others in Finance are generally supporters of individual risk pricing, but not everyone agrees.





The pros of risk pricing...

- Economic efficiency for insurance companies
- Fairness for customers
- Promotes positive behaviours
- Encourages insurers to innovate

An External Perspective...





Middle class annuity pensioners punished by annuity providers

Harry Wallop, Consumer Affairs Editor (ex), Daily Telegraph

An External Perspective...



"Individual risk pricing...could cause more segmentation in the market, reduce the tolerance for risk sharing, and potentially cause a shift with some consumers being priced out of the market altogether, leaving them completely uninsured."

Mark Hoban, MP (ex Financial Secretary to the Treausry)

An External Perspective...



"The problem is that the models used by insurance companies are so crude. Just because you have saved a lot during your life does not mean you will live longer. There needs to be radical overhaul of how annuities are priced"

Dr Ros Altmann, DG Saga (and ex Economic Adviser to New Labour)

... and the cons

- At the extreme risk pricing goes against one of the central pillars of insurance – pooling of risk.
- Does it encourage a fractured society?
- If statistics are used badly, or in a way which is hard to explain to people, it can lead to poor customer outcomes
- Is it fair to treat customers in a particular way just because they are similar to other customers?
- Could there be a public backlash? Some forms of risk pricing aren't used –e.g. race, and of course gender is now illegal

What could happen next?

- •Does the insurance industry believe in risk pricing?
- •If yes, are there any limits to this?
- •Do we feel a need to provide everyone with affordable insurance? Who would pay for this?
- -Insurance companies
- -Other customers
- -The State
- •What could regulators and governments do next? Should we act before they do?



Recap

- Since the financial crisis, trust has gone
- We play an essential role in society and have a duty to maximise consumer access
- Risk pricing is here to stay but we need to explain it or limits may be imposed
- It is in our interest to take a lead on this or regulators and the government will do it for us



