

## BPIA notice of Annual General Meeting

### The Annual General Meeting (AGM) of British Pensions in Australia Inc. for 2022 will be held at 6.00 pm (AEDT) on Tuesday 6th December 2022

The Committee has decided to hold a virtual meeting using Zoom

#### Agenda

To confirm the minutes of the previous annual general meeting

To consider any business arising from those minutes

To receive and consider the President's Report

To receive and consider the Treasurer's Report

To receive and consider the Financial Statements for the year ended 30th June 2022

To elect office-bearers and ordinary committee members

To consider and, if thought fit, pass the Special Resolution set out below.

To conduct any other business

The Annual Report which includes the Financial Statements is available on the BPIA website.

#### How to Join the meeting

A link will be sent by email to all members with email addresses to facilitate joining the meeting together with instructions on how to participate. If you don't have an email address but have a friend who can help you join the meeting, please let us know by telephoning 1300 308 353 and we will send them the link.

#### Your Committee

All positions on the committee will become vacant at the annual general meeting. We welcome nominations from all members to ensure we have a diversity of skills and a range of opinions on the committee.

The positions under the constitution are the President, the Vice President, the Treasurer and the Secretary and at least three Ordinary Members. The committee must consist of seven members. Retiring committee members may nominate for re-election.

In accordance with the constitution, nominations for office-bearers or

ordinary committee members: (a) must be made in writing, signed by two members of the association and accompanied by the written consent of the candidate, and (b) must be delivered to the chairperson at least seven days before the date of the meeting.

A suitable form can be downloaded from the website to facilitate nomination. Scanned forms may be emailed to: [membership@bpia.org.au](mailto:membership@bpia.org.au) or originals posted to BPIA, PO Box 438 Gordon NSW 2072.

All members are entitled to attend but only financial members (i. e. those who have paid their current annual subscriptions) are eligible to vote. Under article 35 of our constitution proxy voting is not permitted.

#### Special Resolution

The meeting will be asked to consider and, if thought fit, pass the following special resolution:

That the constitution of British Pensions in Australia Inc. be amended to replace the existing objects clause with the following:

*"The objects of the association shall be:*

*a. to contribute to the well-being of people who are entitled to or, with the passage of time or the payment of contributions to the UK National Insurance Scheme, will be entitled to a UK State Pension ("recipients of UK State Pension").*

*b. to advocate on behalf of recipients of UK State Pension with the objective that they receive the same rate of UK State Pension as people living in the UK.*

*c. to enable recipients of UK State Pension to obtain their proper entitlement by guiding them to information concerning UK State Pension.*

*d. to network with such other organisations that have the same or similar objectives."*

#### Explanatory Note

The existing objects clause of our constitution does not accurately describe the objects of British Pensions

in Australia Inc. ("BPIA"). The existing objects clause is:

*"The objects of the association shall be;*

*By whatever means available to secure the regular cost of living indexation of the British State age pension for all expatriate British pensioners irrespective of the country in which they should live.*

*To provide advice and assistance to British expatriate pensioners in Australia regarding British State age pension matters."*

The existing objects clause is unrealistic because our membership is not limited to British expatriates.

We have members who are Australians, and New Zealanders and several other nationalities. Some members are entitled to UK State pension based on the National Insurance contributions of their spouses and may not have worked in or visited the UK. To describe our members and potential members as "expatriate British pensioners" is limiting and does not accord with reality.

Neither BPIA nor any of our volunteers is licenced to provide financial advice. We provide information in our Fact Sheets and guide people as to where they can obtain the necessary forms and further information regarding National Insurance and UK State Pensions. We never advise people as to what they should do.

Under the Associations Incorporation Act 2009 (NSW), a change in the constitution of BPIA can only be made by passing a special resolution.

A special resolution is only valid if passed by three-quarters of those present and eligible to vote at the meeting. BPIA has adopted the model constitution. As such, updates to the model constitution are automatically adopted by BPIA.

An update to the model constitution occurred on 1st September 2022. A copy of the constitution incorporating the existing objects clause is available on our website [www.bpia.org.au](http://www.bpia.org.au).