

10th September 2008

CANCER RESEARCH UK TEAMS UP WITH ORIGEN TO LAUNCH RETIREMENT ADVICE SERVICE

- **Cancer patients may receive a major uplift in their retirement income by using new service**
- **Origen will provide this specialist independent financial advice service**

Origen, the independent financial adviser that is part of the AEGON UK group, is launching a new service in conjunction with Cancer Research UK to help people who have been affected by cancer get the most out of their retirement income.

The Cancer Research UK Retirement Service launched on 6 September 2008 and will help people approaching retirement who have had cancer or are living with the disease to choose their most suitable financial retirement options. One of those options is purchasing an annuity, and the service will find the best annuity rates available for the pension fund at the time of retirement. This utilises the Open Market Option (OMO), which gives people the choice to buy an annuity from the pension providers offering the most competitive annuity rates at that time.

As annuities can only be purchased once and are not transferable in any way, it is important for people to get the most out of their annuity at retirement and choose the most appropriate provider for their circumstances.

However, annuity purchase is not always the appropriate route. Independent financial advice will ensure that individual circumstances are taken into account and that people get the best available product to maximise their retirement income.

Research has found that people exercising the OMO through Origen can increase their retirement income by an average of 17 per cent*, compared to opting for an annuity through their current pension provider. The service will also identify and secure any enhancements to annuity rates which are often available to those who have been affected by poor health but which many people miss out on.

Cancer Research UK's Paul Farthing, director of high value relationships at Cancer Research UK, said:

"At Cancer Research UK we want to beat cancer, and that includes improving the lives of people touched by the disease. We see the provision of this new service from Origen as an important part of this commitment."

Kevin Ceurvorst, Private Client Director, Origen said:

"We know that many people don't fully understand the range of options available at retirement, so we have launched this advice service with Cancer Research UK to provide information at an important point in people's lives.

"It's important to remember that many annuity providers pay enhanced rates for people with specific medical conditions, including cancer. It's vital for people to take expert advice, and we're looking forward to working with Cancer Research UK to provide this service."

People wishing to use the Cancer Research UK Retirement Service will be able to contact Origen online, by telephone, face to face, by letter or email.

**For more information about the service please visit
www.cancerresearchukretirement.org
or call 0845 094 1905**

ENDS

For further information please contact:

Jon Atkins
AEGON UK plc

0207 200 2502

Anna Hilton / Lisa Flanagan
Cancer Research UK

020 7061 8314 / 8308

Notes to editors:

* Average percentage increase offered by Origen for enhanced annuities through the Open Market Option for all illnesses, in the period 1/02/08 to 31/07/08

Origen was the recent winner of 'Best Retirement Planner' at the Money Marketing Awards 2008 held in March.

Origen

Origen is one of the UK's leading providers of independent financial advice.

Origen's principal areas of advice are:

- advice to small/medium sized companies including specialist planning for the owner-directors,
- communication and education to employees of large corporate clients including executive counselling services and pre-retirement seminars,
- private client advice and solutions,
- provision of advice to affinity groups such as newspaper readers.

Origen has significant expertise in the employee benefit and private client/high net worth sectors. It has its own Self Administered proposition, one of the largest advice based Retirement Services propositions in the UK, as well as Mortgage and Healthcare services.

AEGON UK

Origen is part of AEGON UK, which has assets under administration of £53.2 billion and employs over 4,000 staff. AEGON is part of the AEGON Group, which is one of the world's largest listed insurers and has assets of approximately Euro 359bn (£250 billion).

About Cancer Research UK

- Together with its partners and supporters, Cancer Research UK's vision is to beat cancer.
- Cancer Research UK carries out world-class research to improve understanding of the disease and find out how to prevent, diagnose and treat different kinds of cancer.
- Cancer Research UK ensures that its findings are used to improve the lives of all cancer patients.
- Cancer Research UK helps people to understand cancer, the progress that is being made and the choices each person can make.
- Cancer Research UK works in partnership with others to achieve the greatest impact in the global fight against cancer.

For further information about Cancer Research UK's work or to find out how to support the charity, please call 020 7121 6699 or visit www.cancerresearchuk.org.uk.