



## **Equitable Members Action Group Ltd**

**PO Box 889, Canterbury CT4 7WQ**

April, 2010

Dear Equitable Life member,

You may be surprised to find this letter from the Chairman of EMAG (Equitable Members' Action Group) in with the report and accounts from Equitable Life; however, since the success of EMAG's Judicial Review of the Government's actions last year, it is evident to the boards of both Equitable Life and EMAG that we have a clear common cause.

Both of us want to win the fight to obtain just and fair compensation for the regulators' maladministration. In July 2008, the Parliamentary Ombudsman found this had occurred for more than a decade, from at least 1990 to 2001.

In this battle we have recently had welcome assistance from the new Chief Executive of Equitable, Chris Wiscarson, and helpful input from his officers. However, we and they can only go so far in influencing the Government.

Right now you can help us to help you by applying direct pressure on MPs and rival election candidates who will make the key compensation decisions early in the next Parliament. Please, seek to find out the views of the leading candidates in your constituency. We're not suggesting how you should vote; simply that you should make known your feelings about the failure to address Equitable as an unsatisfactory and unresolved issue. Don't let them divert you by expressing sympathy but providing little commitment.

We want every candidate to sign up to a pledge to the voters in their constituency. The promise is that, if elected, they will support and vote for proper compensation and the setting up of a swift, simple, transparent and fair payment scheme.

Please contact your candidates to make your voice heard. The more messages they receive, the better the prospects are of us achieving a fair and just result.

In most parts of the country EMAG has set up a local regional committee to coordinate this campaign and they have the contact details for all the candidates (see **[www.emagregional.org.uk](http://www.emagregional.org.uk)** for details). Please, if you have the time, offer to help your local committee and also tell your friends and family what we are doing and ask for their support too.

I am proud to say that we simply could not have reached this point where real compensation is in sight early in the next Parliament without the consistent efforts of my EMAG board of eight members, who give their director services free. It has been a long and expensive nine-year campaign which could not have been waged without the subscriptions of 24,000 of your fellow Equitable mutual member sufferers who have supported us financially. You can help contribute by joining up on the EMAG website at **[www.emag.org.uk](http://www.emag.org.uk)** where you'll also find news of all the latest developments.

We're grateful to the Equitable for offering EMAG the opportunity to address you directly. Please show your support by joining us.

Together we can win this fight for justice!

Yours sincerely,

A handwritten signature in blue ink that reads "John Newman". The signature is written in a cursive style with a prominent flourish at the end.

John A Newman MA FCA  
Chairman  
EMAG