Financial Plan Case Study Version 3, published August 2021

The following amendments have been made to the Financial Plan Case Study:

Page 59 – text has been amended to read:

'In order to establish a base asset allocation for your risk profile, I have based my recommended asset allocation using data within the FCA's Investment Platforms Market Study: Interim Report: Annex 5 – Model Portfolio Review July 2018. Further details as to why I believe this reference is appropriate is provided in the appendices.

For planning purposes I believe the 'balanced' portfolio in figure 1 represents a level of risk appropriately aligned with an investor who is happy to take a medium level of risk because it offers the potential for long-term growth through exposure to equity and alternative investments, whilst reducing likely volatility through the use of bonds and cash.

The FCA's study looked at a range of data for differing levels of risk profiles, and provided average asset allocations for several 'imputed risk' categories. Risk category 3 was shown to be the most common level of risk for funds labelled 'balanced' or 'moderate', and so I believe it is a good starting point to help derive a suitable asset allocation for your portfolio. Whilst figure 5.3 in the FCA's study shows the average asset allocation for figure 3, amongst other risk categories, I have opted to recommend rounded figures for your asset allocation in order to keep things straightforward. Nevertheless, the recommended asset allocation is still within the ranges seen for 'medium-risk' investments in the FCA's study, as demonstrated in figure 5.6.'

Page 79 – text has been amended to read:

'The real investment return utilised in this report for retirement planning is based on the balanced portfolio asset allocation recommended within the report. These allocations have been derived using the FCA's Investment Platforms Market study: Interim Report: Annex 5 – Model Portfolio Review July 2018. Whilst there is no set standard asset allocation deemed for any given risk level, the study by the industry regulator is understood to have taken real data from a relatively wide range of unitised and non-unitised funds that are readily accessible to multiple consumers. Furthermore, I believe the FCA's study is a good source to help derive a suitable asset allocation, as I believe they have no particular bias other than the interests of the proper functioning of the financial services industry in the best interests of the consumer.

The strategy recommended is made up of alternative investments/property, and cash in varying weightings. I have assumed that this should be a simple 50/50 split between corporate bonds and gilts, giving a simple arithmetic average return of 2.5% annualised.'

Page 93 – table has been replaced as follows:

Example Financial Plan for Alan & Linda Wong

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