PRESS RELEASE

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HS Trustees Celebrates Five Industry Awards in Twelve Months as Stewardship Leadership and Pension Reform Campaign Gain National Recognition

Introduction

HS Trustees is celebrating an unprecedented period of recognition after securing five major industry awards in the past twelve months, culminating in its latest successes at the PMI Pinnacle Awards and the Investors for Purpose Symposium.

The latest accolades build on a remarkable sequence of awards that has seen the firm recognised repeatedly for innovation, thought leadership and positive outcomes across the pensions sector.

More Awards

The award-winning run began with success at the PMI Pinnacle Awards in November 2025 and continued with recognition at the Pensions Age Awards 2026 and the Workplace Savings & Benefits Awards 2026. The past year has now been capped by further honours at both the PMI Pinnacle Awards and the Investors for Purpose Symposium, bringing the total to five major industry awards in twelve months.

These achievements reflect HS Trustees' commitment to advancing better outcomes for pension savers, particularly through its pioneering work on stewardship for small pension schemes and its leadership in promoting more effective approaches to responsible investment governance.

Innovative Thinking

A key factor behind the firm's growing recognition has been its groundbreaking work demonstrating how smaller pension schemes can exercise meaningful stewardship despite limited resources. HS Trustees has consistently challenged the notion that effective stewardship is the preserve of larger funds, helping schemes of all sizes engage more effectively with environmental, social and governance issues while remaining focused on delivering long-term value for members.

Alongside this work, HS Trustees has led a high-profile campaign to reform pension scheme sustainability reporting. The firm has been a prominent advocate for replacing the resource-intensive reporting requirements associated with Task Force on Climate-related Financial Disclosures (TCFD) frameworks with practical, actionable transition plans.

The campaign has argued that trustees and pension schemes should spend less time producing complex disclosures and more time implementing real-world actions that support better investment decision-making and long-term outcomes. By championing a shift from disclosure to delivery, HS Trustees has helped shape an important industry conversation around how pension schemes can achieve meaningful progress while reducing unnecessary reporting burdens.

Commenting on the milestone, Bobby Riddaway, Independent Trustee and MD at HS Trustees, said:

"These awards are recognition not only of the work we are doing to solve the unique problems of our current clients but also of the wider change that is taking place across the pensions industry. We have consistently sought to demonstrate that smaller schemes can be leaders in stewardship and responsible investment, while also advocating for a more practical approach to sustainability that focuses on action over administration. We are proud that these ideas are increasingly gaining traction across the market."

Business Growth

The heightened profile generated by this series of award wins has also translated into significant commercial momentum for the business. Over the past year, HS Trustees has seen a substantial increase in direct opportunities across multiple areas of its practice.

The firm's expertise is attracting growing interest from organisations seeking innovative Defined Contribution (DC) governance and trustee solutions, while demand has also increased for appointments to Local Authority Independent Person roles and other specialist governance mandates.

This combination of industry recognition and sustained business growth underlines HS Trustees' position as one of the sector's most influential voices on stewardship, governance and practical pension reform.

As the industry continues to evolve, HS Trustees remains committed to helping schemes focus on what matters most: delivering strong outcomes for members through effective governance, active stewardship and practical, outcome-focused sustainability strategies.

Success on the Horizon

Further recognition may yet be on the horizon. HS Trustees has recently been shortlisted for six awards in the Pensions Age Awards 2027, continuing the firm's momentum and reinforcing its growing reputation for innovation, stewardship leadership and governance excellence.

Pensions Personality of the Year – Please Vote

The recognition extends beyond the organisation itself. HS Trustees' MD, Bobby Riddaway, has been nominated for Pensions Personality of the Year 2027, reflecting both his personal contribution to the development of the pensions industry and his leadership in driving practical reforms that help schemes focus on delivering better outcomes for members.

Those wishing to support Bobby's nomination can cast their vote via the official Pensions Age Awards voting page:

Personality of the Year 2027: https://www.pensionsage.com/awards/personality27.php

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Further information:

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Notes to editors:

About HS Trustees (HST):

- HST was founded in 2022 to promote trusteeship services.
- HST are totally independent and work on a whole of market basis.
- HST will provide services for schemes of all sizes and typically up to £3Bn, for DB, DC and Master Trust.
- Co-Founder, Steve Goddard is also CEO of the Pension Playpen. He also holds NED roles with Guiide and Pension LAB.
- Managing Director, Bobby Riddaway has held several high-level pension trustee & management roles previously including roles with AON, Capita, Buck and worked with schemes including Santander, Scottish Power, A&P, Thyssen Krupp and Taylor Woodrow. He is joined at HS Trustees by Kevin O'Boyle (ex-Head of Global Pensions at BT, GECi and GlaxoSmithKline), Bob Bryant (ex BOC), Adrian Furnell (ex Uniper, Siemens, AA, IBM) and Palwinder Hare (trustee director with two large pension schemes).