








1. Overall, do you believe that supporting a SIPP specific industry recognised qualification is the right thing for your association to be doing?

		Response Percent	Response Count
Yes		97.8%	44
No		2.2%	1
Comments			5
answered question			45
skipped question			1



2. Do you think your business would benefit from a qualification for your employees?

		Response Percent	Response Count
Yes		82.6%	38
No		6.5%	3
Don't know		13.0%	6
answered question			46
skipped question			0




3. Do you like the idea of a vocation workbased qualification (ie not exam based)?

		Response Percent	Response Count
Yes		82.2%	37
No		17.8%	8
Comments			13
answered question			45
skipped question			1



4. Would your business prefer an examination based academic qualification?

		Response Percent	Response Count
Yes		40.0%	18
No		60.0%	27
	Comments		11
	answered question		45
	skipped question		1

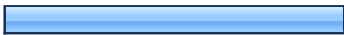

5. Would your staff prefer an examination based academic qualification?

		Response Percent	Response Count
Yes		10.9%	5
No		34.8%	16
Don't Know		54.3%	25
	answered question		46
	skipped question		0


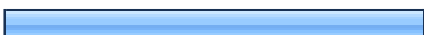



6. Are you providing your own internal training programme?

		Response Percent	Response Count
Yes		76.1%	35
No		23.9%	11
	Comments		5
	answered question		46
	skipped question		0



7. Do you understand how the MDPSA works?

		Response Percent	Response Count
Yes		54.3%	25
No		45.7%	21
Comments			8
answered question			46
skipped question			0

8. Do you consider any of the following to be barriers to entry? Please indicate any/all that apply.

		Response Percent	Response Count
Lack of understanding		43.2%	16
Cost		67.6%	25
Not suitable for staff		13.5%	5
Syllabus isn't helpful to our needs		8.1%	3
Offer something else e.g. CII financial planning exams		24.3%	9
Other (please specify)			10
answered question			37
skipped question			9

9. If a multiple choice exam structure were put in place to help new entrants to the SIPP workplace and one for those with several years' experience would you consider this as a more attractive alternative?

		Response Percent	Response Count
Yes		79.5%	35
No		20.5%	9

Comments 9

answered question	44
skipped question	2

10. If you have any general comments you would like to make please do so here.

	Response Count
	15
answered question	15
skipped question	31

1. Overall, do you believe that supporting a SIPP specific industry recognised qualification is the right thing for your association to be doing?

1	To clarify my response in point two below. We are a very small SIPP provider and SIPPs only form a small part of the Solutions and Structures we offer to clients and their advisors. We simply do not have the volume of SIPP business to require the qualification, but for larger providers where consistency and quality of staff training is harder to manage I believe it is a very good idea to have a qualification.	Mar 18, 2011 8:46 AM
2	Yes, but not just limited to SIPP. Important to cover SSAS as well.	Mar 18, 2011 9:01 AM
3	Qualifications are important to develop staff but effort may be needed to bring appropriate qualifications to people's attention.	Mar 22, 2011 6:40 AM
4	I think any targeted learning is likely to be beneficial. Most qualifications are too broad to be particularly useful.	Mar 25, 2011 4:20 AM
5	It has so far been difficult to get on to but the internet based module was not publicised enough as I asked for further information and never received anything	Mar 25, 2011 4:35 AM

3. Do you like the idea of a vocation workbased qualification (ie not exam based)?

1	My firm doesn't handle SIPPs	Mar 18, 2011 8:37 AM
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3. Do you like the idea of a vocation workbased qualification (ie not exam based)?

2	I fear it would be too difficult to have standardised results	Mar 18, 2011 8:42 AM
3	Can be too difficult to monitor and spare the time for small employers	Mar 18, 2011 8:42 AM
4	That is not to say that vocational training should not be part of this. A hybrid of vocational training with an examination would be my preference.	Mar 18, 2011 8:46 AM
5	but there is always the difficulty of having assessments done	Mar 18, 2011 10:52 AM
6	If the work involved is proportionate to the outcome.	Mar 21, 2011 2:53 AM
7	for Administrators	Mar 21, 2011 10:49 AM
8	Some staff members struggle with examination format for any number of reasons.	Mar 22, 2011 6:40 AM
9	We would have concerns over resourcing the assessments and the costs involved.	Mar 25, 2011 2:41 AM
10	But the costs of assessment are currently prohibitive	Mar 25, 2011 4:18 AM
11	For certain people, this is better than the stress of an exam room. Personally though, I prefer the exam room.	Mar 25, 2011 4:20 AM
12	It should not be too cumbersome to administer as small companies like us have not the resources to deal with that	Mar 25, 2011 4:35 AM
13	I have put this to our employer but they find it rather expensive	Mar 25, 2011 5:47 AM

4. Would your business prefer an examination based academic qualification?

1	See 3	Mar 18, 2011 8:37 AM
2	Alas they are the most proven form of demonstrating ability	Mar 18, 2011 8:42 AM
3	see above	Mar 18, 2011 8:46 AM
4	Depends on the individual concerned - can both options be available	Mar 20, 2011 5:11 AM
5	Enough exams already out there.	Mar 21, 2011 2:53 AM
6	Both work based and examination based qualifications are suited to the business, however different types suit different areas / delegates.	Mar 21, 2011 7:34 AM
7	There are exam based courses available and choice is perhaps important	Mar 22, 2011 6:40 AM
8	We have a good voluntary take-up on the CII qualifications Certificate in Financial Administration and Cert Life and Pensions	Mar 25, 2011 2:41 AM
9	To keep costs to a minimum	Mar 25, 2011 4:18 AM
10	Staff, especially experienced ones, shy away from exams	Mar 25, 2011 4:35 AM
11	Balance between the two may be appropriate	Mar 25, 2011 8:07 AM

2. Are you providing your own internal training programme?

1	See 3	Mar 18, 2011 8:38 AM
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2. Are you providing your own internal training programme?

2	Unstructured real life examples of different scenarios that face administrators in the company are being addressed.	Mar 22, 2011 6:43 AM
3	Endeavouring to follow CII route however it is not specific enough to SIPP to be able to apply rules and regulations to the operational side of the business.	Mar 25, 2011 4:23 AM
4	But would like to see this recognised by gaining MDPSA and would boost the confidence of those learning	Mar 25, 2011 4:37 AM
5	But not leading to a qualification that can directly be used as evidence of competency.	Mar 25, 2011 8:10 AM

3. Do you understand how the MDPSA works?

1	See 3	Mar 18, 2011 8:38 AM
2	only just become aware	Mar 18, 2011 8:43 AM
3	I have read the contents previously, but not of most recent times	Mar 18, 2011 8:45 AM
4	I understand the theory but now how it works in practice.	Mar 18, 2011 9:09 AM
5	I was part of the working party established by AMPS and PMI to develop the VQ	Mar 21, 2011 7:37 AM
6	I will now read the linked literature to make myself better informed	Mar 22, 2011 6:43 AM
7	Asked for information which was not forthcoming	Mar 25, 2011 4:37 AM
8	Not yet , but will read up on it.	Mar 25, 2011 8:10 AM

4. Do you consider any of the following to be barriers to entry? Please indicate any/all that apply.

1	Not really applicable to my Company,	Mar 18, 2011 8:47 AM
2	INERTIA OF STAFF	Mar 18, 2011 8:55 AM
3	Providing support system and verifier is not workable	Mar 18, 2011 8:58 AM
4	It has never been clear as to how staff are monitored and how this is set up	Mar 21, 2011 1:58 AM
5	The assessment of individual cases is very time consuming and the online support is very poor	Mar 21, 2011 2:20 AM
6	We are a small company so the problem is organising internal assessors.	Mar 21, 2011 3:42 AM
7	Since developing the VQ the organisation has restructured and now completes it's administration functionally rather than cradle to grave. Therefore staff no longer have the skill set / work to cover all aspects of pension admin.	Mar 21, 2011 7:37 AM
8	Other barriers may be more evident once I look in more detail to try and understand the qualification	Mar 22, 2011 6:43 AM

4. Do you consider any of the following to be barriers to entry? Please indicate any/all that apply.

9	Would prefer to sit an exam rather than work base assesment. Please do not introduce CII as these are geared toward advisers not system administrators	Mar 25, 2011 4:23 AM
10	If staff are looking to advance their career then any relevant formal qualification will help.	Mar 25, 2011 8:10 AM

1. If a multiple choice exam structure were put in place to help new entrants to the SIPP workplace and one for those with several years' experience would you consider this as a more attractive alternative?

1	But only if it really tests knowledge and is not too easy.	Mar 18, 2011 8:47 AM
2	MULTIPLE CHOICE NEEDS TO BE PRECURSOR TO MORE ADVANCED. WOULD WANT MORE ADVANCED TO BE REAL QUALIFICATION	Mar 18, 2011 8:57 AM
3	MDPSA as it stands is fine. The structure changed in 2009 if I recall correctly, and we have a task to review it to see if our previous views have changed.	Mar 18, 2011 10:53 AM
4	The current syllabus is based on administration and is very thorough. A multi choice exam might not necessarily mean someone is competent in admin in reality.	Mar 21, 2011 2:23 AM
5	possibly.	Mar 21, 2011 2:54 AM
6	For administrators it needs to be work based but the levels should be graded from new entrant to one with several years experience.	Mar 21, 2011 11:17 AM
7	probably would provide a good 'halfway house' alternative that can be easily take and measured, but with the gravitas of a formal exam process.	Mar 25, 2011 4:21 AM
8	Although I do believe that it should be a combination of the two. The factual knowledge based can be multiple choice and the more complex in normal format	Mar 25, 2011 4:42 AM
9	One exam for all would be better.	Mar 25, 2011 8:11 AM

2. If you have any general comments you would like to make please do so here.

Response Text		
1	I don't handle SIPPs	Mar 18, 2011 8:38 AM
2	My comments/answers have been made based on the understanding that the Questions asked specifically relating to SIPPs are also pertinent to SSAS.	Mar 18, 2011 8:44 AM
3	We have a new internal T&C policy and KPI structure inclusive of CII exams in progress and it may be that we are not able to offer staff this exam at this moment in time, due to costs.	Mar 18, 2011 8:46 AM

2. If you have any general comments you would like to make please do so here.

Response Text		
4	I FIND CII MULTIPLE CHOICE TO BE A JOKE AND DO NOT REALLY EXAMINE KNOWLEDGE IF YOU ARE GOOD AT LOGIC YOU CAN WORK OUT ANSWER PARTICULARLY AS TAX TABLES SUPPLIED	Mar 18, 2011 8:57 AM
5	We have our own established training programme which means that the MDPSA qualification would need very careful consideration on our part. I would think the qualificatuion would be of most use to new entrants to the market who may have difficulty in attracting sufficient numbers of adequately knowledgeable and experienced staff.	Mar 18, 2011 10:53 AM
6	How would the SIPP qualification fit in with RDR requirements	Mar 20, 2011 5:13 AM
7	Staff will see qualifications such as CII as being more recognised and having wider application, and they will want to choose such qualifications as a result.	Mar 21, 2011 2:11 AM
8	If you could relax the assessment progress could be made more quickly. we have suggested to the PMI ways to rewrite the syllabus to make it more user friendly by having a basic and more advanced paper for each area.	Mar 21, 2011 2:23 AM
9	As a small company it is difficult to provide the resources required for work-based assessment.	Mar 21, 2011 2:25 AM
10	Our Pensions department is quite small with low staff numbers. This makes uptake of the qualification difficult due to the need to have an extrenal assessor or have one of our Staff trained up in the internal assessor capacity.	Mar 21, 2011 4:18 AM
11	I firmly believe the VQ developed is a good qualification for individuals working with member directed pension schemes, even though it is no longer suitable for the business I represent.	Mar 21, 2011 7:44 AM
12	Please see previous comments	Mar 25, 2011 4:23 AM
13	I believe that this is a really powerful instrument which will eventually gain industry recognition but it needs to be made very easy to enter and administer. May be we should just run a session for reps so that they can then take it to their businesses. I would be keen for this to happen. Also I am not sure what information there is on our website. If it is already there then it should be far more prominent	Mar 25, 2011 4:42 AM
14	It is a good thing to have an industry recognised qualification. It is equally difficult to find a route to further qualifications which suits both new and more experienced staff and is workable to both large and small firms	Mar 25, 2011 4:49 AM
15	I welcome the idea of something specifically for SIPPs (and SSAS) but where a Company is likely to do exams elsewhere (CII) then cost is an issue in smaller organisations	Mar 25, 2011 5:49 AM