

Background to The UK Pensions Dashboard Programme

Research shows that an average individual in the UK will have up to 11 employers over their working life; and with each job comes a pension. When each person has around 11 pensions with different employers / providers it can not only become cumbersome to manage, it can also be confusing. Government and the pensions industry have agreed an approach that provides consumers with one single view of their pension entitlement - a pensions dashboard.

Legislation is currently passing through the UK parliament to make pensions dashboards a reality by compelling every pension provider to participate. The Money & Pensions Service, an arm's-length body sponsored by the UK Government's Department for Work and Pensions has been tasked with delivering the overall Pensions Dashboard Programme. The core design principles:

- put the individual at the heart of the process by giving people access to clear information in one place online;
- ensure individuals' data are secure, accurate and simple to understand – minimising risks to the user and the potential for confusion;
- ensure the individual is always in control over who has access to their data.

About Origo

Origo is one of the UK's leading FinTech businesses, an organisation with a not-for-profit ethos owned by, and operating at the heart of, the UK Pensions Industry.

Origo has supported the Pensions Dashboard initiative from its inception over 5 years ago and has been a passionate advocate and champion for the initiative and its founding principle: increased consumer engagement with all of their pension pots.

Background to the UMA Profile

Origo worked with Government and industry to show that secure delegated access for Financial Advisers to a consumer's data can be enabled as a core part of the pensions dashboard architecture. This has the potential to reduce the cost of advice to consumers (a key Government objective). We have strongly promoted the use of User-Managed Access in this context.

UMA strongly meets the characteristics of the domain. In particular: UMA defines federated authorisation which is a core requirement of the domain as most of the pension providers do not have any authorisation services (and those that do are not based on standards).

Origo has created a draft profile document for the domain based on UMA2 which is supplier agnostic and has an accompanying design document.

Urgency to Publish a Draft UMA Profile

The next six months will move the project forward at pace – with procurement of components for the digital architecture, identity verification, publication of data standards, and development of an onboarding strategy being key practical elements.

The Pensions Dashboard Programme would like the security architecture for Pensions Dashboards to refer to a publicly available profile of UMA. Origo has recently been asked to make its draft profile and design public to allow the programme to use this to meet aggressive delivery timescales.

Origo believes that contributing the profile to Kantara's UMA WG is the best mechanism to achieve this in an open, transparent and controlled manner with suitable peer review. However, in order for the programme to use this (and potentially even adopt UMA at all) the draft profile needs to be publicly referenceable by mid-December 2020 in draft form. Subsequent progression of the profile to a final version would be according to the group's usual timescales.