



NATIONAL NEWS: Review into investments

By Lina Saigol

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Sir Richard Sykes, former chairman of GlaxoSmithkline and rector of Imperial College London, will today announce the launch of an inquiry into the effectiveness of the UK investment system, backed by some of the City's biggest business leaders.

The inquiry team includes John Sunderland, chief executive of Cadbury Schweppes, the confectionery and soft drinks group, Tony Watson, chief executive of Hermes Pensions, and Stephen Hadrill, director-general of fair markets for the Department of Trade and Industry. Unlike other reviews such as the government-backed Higgs report into the role of non-executives, published last month, 21st Century Investment aims to look at the whole system from savers to intermediaries to companies.

The team, which met for the first time this week, has announced five topics on which it is inviting evidence. They are: the design of the current investment system; the impact on companies; the impact on pension funds and the individual saver and government interventions.

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