Reviewer's report

Title: A survey of retirement intentions of Baby Boomers. An overview of health, social and economic determinants.

Version: 1 Date: 13 January 2014

Reviewer: Caroline Bulsara

Reviewer's report:

Overall: This is an extremely informative paper using the commendable strategy of utilising an existing database to conduct the survey and linking to variables and demographic info already accounted for. The results are clear and provide useful information in terms of workforce and change management.

MINOR COMPULSORY REVISIONS:

1. ABSTRACT: methods - suggest changing 'were working' to 'in paid employment'. Also, could the authors clarify in respondents had been in the workforce full time for previous 5 years (or is this not really important?). The question about 'time spent thinking about retirement' needs clarification both here and in the main body of the manuscript. could the authors provide explanation for both what qualified as 'thinking about' and is this 'actively' - ie they are seeking out information about the transition from paid work". Also, what were the categories provided for 'thinking about' and was this measured in some way? Finally, do the authors mean 'uni-variable' or univariate' analyses? Similar query on 'multi-variable'?

Abstract Results: At what point did the people state intention to retire indicate that they would do so? Timeframe - five years, ten years?

3. METHODOLOGY: methodology is sound. However, would like some clarification around how the respondents were selected. That is, sampling methods etc.

DISCRETIONARY REVISIONS

Abstract conclusion: I would suggest changing the wording from, '...large number of baby boomers who will be happy to...' to 'large number of baby boomers who indicated that they would be happy to...'.

2. BACKGROUND: 1st paragraph, sentence beginning 'Moreover, this was a phase...'. What was the period of time referred to? I know it was stated earlier but it would be clearer if stated again. E.g. 1946-1965.

Final line Page 3 - suggest inserting 'long term' after the word 'adequate'.

3. METHODOLOGY: Page 6: 1st paragraph - In terms of hours worked per week, the authors need to indicate if this is actual hours rather than contract hours.

Page 7 - Table 5 explanation - 'having a savings habit' needs to be clarified.
DISCUSSION

4. PAGE 8 - The potential link between the GFC and extending working life is a strong one. It would have been really useful if the researchers had asked this question in some form or other on the survey and mentioned here.

Page 10: In stating weaknesses, I think that the authors should also qualify that their difficulty in self report is a common one in survey research methodology! Not unique to their study! This should also be linked into some form of statement around validity.

**Level of interest:** An article whose findings are important to those with closely related research interests

**Quality of written English:** Acceptable

**Statistical review:** No, the manuscript does not need to be seen by a statistician.

**Declaration of competing interests:**

I declare that I have no competing interests