



# Minutes

## Local Pension Board

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Date: 20 January 2023

Time: 12:15pm

Venue: FSHQ

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Present: John Roberts (Scheme Manager representative) in the chair, Councillor Peter Harrand (Scheme Manager representative), Ian Dunkley and Jim Davies (Scheme Member representatives).

In Attendance: James Clarkson Technical Advisor

Apologies: Councillor Fozia Shaheen (Scheme Manager representative), Ryan Binks (Scheme Member representative)

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### **16 Chairs Announcements**

There were no chairs announcements

### **17 Admission of the public**

No items require the exclusion of the public and press

### **18 Urgent items**

There were no urgent items

### **19 Declarations of interest**

There were no declarations of disclosable interest in any matter under consideration at the meeting.

### **20 Minutes of the previous meeting held on 5 August 2022**

#### **RESOLVED**

That the Minutes of the meeting held on 5 August 2022 be signed by the Chair as a correct record.

## **21 Local Pension Board Activity Report**

Members considered a report submitted by the Chief Employment Services Officer concerning performance in key areas for the period 1 July 2022 to 31 December 2022.

### **RESOLVED**

That the report be noted.

## **22 Scrutiny and Review**

The Chief Employment Services Officer submitted information on the following areas for scrutiny and review for the period from 1 July 2022 to 31 December 2022;

- a) Discretions - one discretion has been exercised by the Scheme Manager during the relevant period
- b) Pensions Breaches register - no breaches have been exercised by the Scheme Manager during the relevant period
- c) Pensions Risk register - attached at appendix A to the report
- d) Compliance deadlines - the deadlines were set out for year end, ABS and Pension Saving Statement. Full details attached at appendix B to the report

### **RESOLVED**

That the report be noted.

## **Legislative update**

The Chief Employment Services Officer submitted a report which provided an update with regard to the following legislation;

- Age Discrimination Remedy
- Remedy Tax Legislation
- Treasury Directions for PSPJOA 2022
- Age Discrimination Injury to Feelings claim
- Matthews – Second Options Exercise
- Pensions Dashboards
- Judicial Review into 2016 Cost Cap Valuation

### **RESOLVED**

That the report be noted.

## **23 Pension Ombudsman – update**

Members received a report of the Chief Employment Services Officer which advised there have not been any FPS-related Ombudsman decisions since the last meeting. However, there has been a decision relating to Police Pension Scheme regulations where similar ones exist in the FPS, which highlighted the importance of being clear and consistent in staff policies and communications.

### **RESOLVED**

That the report be noted

## **24 West Yorkshire Pension Fund – key performance indicators**

Consideration was given to a report of the Chief Employment Services Officer which advised of West Yorkshire Pension Fund (WYPF) performance in key areas for the period 1 July 2022 – 31 December 2022.

### **RESOLVED**

That the report be noted

## **25 Firefighter Pension Scheme bulletins 59 – 64**

Consideration was given to the content of bulletins 59 – 64

[FPS Bulletin 59 – July 2022](#) contained the following actions:

- Administrators to consider the recommendations set out in section 5 of the report – Completed
- FRAs to revisit all special members leavers and opt outs to ensure that correct options have been given at deferment – Completed
- FRAs to have a process in place to ensure that their administrator is informed of any unpaid breaks in service for transitional FPS 2015 members – Completed
- FRAs to share pensionable data for members who are subject to age discrimination remedy and have had an inter-brigade transfer during the remedy period with the current FRA's administrator - As and when required
- FRAs to review the information in the factsheet to ensure they do not fall short of TPO's expectations – Completed

[FPS Bulletin 60 – August 2022](#) contained the following action:

- FRAs to review the eligibility factsheet and ensure that appropriate action is taken where necessary - completed

[FPS Bulletin 61 – September 2022](#) contained the following action:

- FRAs to send appropriate follow up communication to all originally determined out of scope individuals - completed

[FPS Bulletin 62 – October 2022](#) contained the following action:

- FRAs to inform the LGA of the IQMPs they use and to provide contact details - completed

[FPS Bulletin 63 – November 2022](#) contained the following actions:

- FRAs to review the ill health re-assessment factsheet and ensure that appropriate action is taken where necessary - completed
- FRAs to provide a valid purchase order number, stating the number of employees eligible to join one of the Firefighters' Pension Schemes as of 1 April 2022, using the form provided with the SAB 2022-23 levy letter - completed.
- FRAs and administrators are encouraged to respond to the consultation – completed.

[FPS Bulletin 64 – December 2022](#) contained the following actions:

- FRAs who meet the limited circumstances and want to apply to defer dashboard connection, must email [pensionsdashboard@DWP.gov.uk](mailto:pensionsdashboard@DWP.gov.uk) as soon as possible and before 12 December 2023 - completed.
- FRAs should decide as soon as possible if they want to connect early to dashboards and apply to MaPS when application forms are available - WYFRA will not be connecting early
- FRAs and administrators to remind members who do not have enough carry forward to offset a tax charge for 2021 to 2022 to declare this on their self-assessment tax return – completed.

#### **RESOLVED**

That the content of bulletins 59 – 63 be noted

#### **26 Scheme Advisory Board Minutes**

#### **RESOLVED**

That the Minutes of the Scheme Advisory Board meeting held on 23 June 2022 be noted.

Chair