

MEETING : LOCAL PENSION BOARD (LPB)

DATE : 22 November 2023

VENUE : Teams

PRESENT: Steve Beaton (Chair), Caz Lee (notes), Helen Scargill, John Tyrell, Tracey Sergent, Stuart Smith, Ann Read

Ref	Item	Decision/Outcome	Action By
1.	Apologies: Andrea Batchelor		
2.	Agree notes of last meeting held on 21/08/23 Notes were reviewed and agreed as a true record.	Caz to publish and add to internet page.	Done 22.11.23
	Updates on Actions Arising		
2.1	<u>Steve to link up with Helen to agree suitable Teams session date with wider staff and circulate invite.</u> Now online pre-retirement courses provided by West Yorkshire which are accessible to all members of FRAs. 30 th October and 30 th November are the two scheduled dates. Steve to publicise the online pre-retirement courses provided by West Yorkshire.	Comms sent out by Steve 24.11.23	

2.2	<p><u>Steve to make contact with Rob Allport to see if wishes to remain as employee representative on LPB and advertise for replacement as appropriate if not. Update 27.02.23: Remains ongoing. Update 13.06.23: Steve spoken to Rob, need to get another employee rep. Have put out advert for it twice internally but not had any interest. John advised recently spoke with retired member (Phil McQuillan) who might be interested - will get Phil to email Steve.</u></p> <p>Update 22/08/23: John advised that Phil is not keen however has provided another name of another retired member who may be interested and will get them to email Steve.</p> <p>Update 22/11/23: still not had anyone come forward. Discussion around next steps, not been successful in recruiting an employee rep putting it out to advert. Concern as with only one employee representative should John not be able to attend/go off sick this board won't be quorate.</p>	Steve will speak with FBU and FRSA representatives and if that doesn't work will look at putting out advert again.	Steve
3.	Steve provided verbal overview of Pension Board Notes Wednesday 22nd November 2023.docx		
4.	<p>Declarations of Interest</p> <p>None to discuss.</p>		
5.	<p>Feedback from Training</p> <p>Steve advised nothing particular of note from the Fire Pension Annual Conference 20 Sept 2023, helpful to speak to other FRS as to how they run their LPBs and networking but not really worth attendance from knowledge point of view. John advised he attended</p>		

	<p>the communications section and it was them asking for ideas from attendees for ideas to communicate.</p> <p>Everyone was asking for a pensions calculator (there is one on the Welsh FRS website) but was advised not possible for English pension schemes. Concern that if people from CFRS try to use it will get incorrect results as the schemes are different. Helen advised believe decision was made between LGA and SAB not to do one for England - believe related to costs and push back from administrators as believe it would be better to provide calculated estimations if looking to retire within 12 months. Believe will end up with more questions, queries and issues using a calculator on potentially incorrect information.</p>	<p>Helen will update an example she has created which provides basic breakdown if someone retired at 30 years or aged 55 and send which can be shared for information. Clearly shows there is no detriment in staying beyond 30 years; some are under misapprehension that commutation figures will go down from 30 years date which isn't true anymore. Personal choice for members. From workforce planning perspective will help to make things clearer for people.</p>	<p>Helen</p>
6.	<p>Regional Pensions Group Update</p> <p>Not discussed.</p>		
7.	<p>Review of Risk Register</p> <p>LPB - Risk Register.XLSX</p> <p>Board reviewed the risk register, no changes required.</p>		

8.	<p>Review of Issues Log</p> <p>Not reviewed - carried over.</p>		
9&10.	<p>Recent Case Law Affecting Pension Scheme and Review of recent LGA Bulletins and WYPF monthly updates</p> <p>Covered under item 3.</p>		
11.	<p>Annual Benefit Statements</p> <p>Helen confirmed all completed and sent out, ahead of schedule.</p>		
12.	<p>End of Year Report</p> <p>Not covered.</p>		
13.	<p>Any Other Business</p>		
13.1	<p>John asked Helen if we've heard any more about aggregation. Helen confirmed not, still sitting with HO and FBU Lawyers.</p>		
13.2	<p>Helen advised for info a Contingent Decisions Guidance Note and has been made available for opt outs - need to be aware and prepare potential comms around that. Same for Added pension 2015.</p>		
13.3	<p>Stuart asked how return is looking regarding the OC pension stuff? Steve confirmed going well, had quite a few come in and need to</p>		

	write to everyone by 31st December anyway which will ensure covered.		
	Date of Next Meeting 26 February 2024		