

**SOUTH WALES FIRE & RESCUE AUTHORITY**

**MINUTES OF THE LOCAL PENSION BOARD MEETING  
HELD ON MONDAY 25 JUNE 2018 AT  
SOUTH WALES FIRE & RESCUE SERVICE HEADQUARTERS**

**55. PRESENT:**

**Councillor**

**Left**

S Bradwick (Chair)  
V Smith (Deputy Chair)  
K McCaffer  
A Psaila  
R Prendergast

Rhondda Cynon Taff  
Monmouthshire  
Vale of Glamorgan  
Fire Brigades Union  
Association of Principal Fire Officers

**APOLOGIES:**

J Harries  
D King

Rhondda Cynon Taff  
Retained Firefighters Union

**ABSENT:**

L Jones

Fire Brigades Union

**OFFICERS PRESENT:-** A/ACO M Malson – Director of People Services, DCO S Chapman – Monitoring Officer, Mr C Barton – Treasurer

**56. DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST**

All Members declared a personal non-prejudicial interest in each agenda item which affected their Authority.

**57. CHAIR'S ANNOUNCEMENTS**

There were no new announcements to report.

**58. MINUTES OF PREVIOUS MEETING**

The minutes of the previous Local Pension Board Committee meeting held on 26 February, 2018, were received and accepted as a true record of proceedings.

## **59. LOCAL PENSION BOARD – TRAINING STRATEGY & FRAMEWORK**

The Acting ACO People Services informed Members that the Local Pension Board was required to have a Training Strategy and Framework to meet the statutory requirements of ensuring all Board Members had the requisite knowledge, skills, and understanding to enable them to fulfil their role on the Board.

### **RESOLVED THAT**

- 59.1 Members agreed to approve the Local Pension Board Training Strategy as outlined in Appendix 1 attached to the report.
- 59.2 Members agreed to approve the skeleton outline of the Local Pension Board Training Framework as outlined in Appendix 2 that would be developed by Officers for approval at a future Board meeting.
- 59.3 Members of the Board agreed to approve the development by Officers of a Local Pension Board 'Training Needs Analysis' for approval at a future Board meeting.
- 59.4 Members of the Board agreed to approve the development by Officers of the Local Pension Board, a Training Record Log for approval at a future Board meeting.
- 59.5 Members of the Board agreed to approve the development by Officers of the Local Pension Board Members Handbook for approval at a future Board meeting.
- 59.6 Following a request by Members, Officers agreed to change the required timeline for Members to complete their necessary Local Pension Board training from 6 months to 12 weeks, and to amend the 'Training Strategy' accordingly.

## **60. ALL WALES SCHEME ADVISORY BOARD (SAB) - UPDATE**

The Acting ACO People Services informed Members that the Scheme Advisory Board (SAB) was a body established by Welsh Government to oversee the various Firefighters' Pension Schemes in Wales. The purpose of the report was to appraise the Local Pension Board of the most recent Scheme Advisory Board's discussions which could impact on the Fire & Rescue Authority's role as Pension Scheme Managers.

### **RESOLVED THAT**

- 60.1 Members agreed to accept the report and the information contained therein.
- 60.2 Following lengthy debate and a question and answer session on 'Age Based Retirement', and 'Mortality Rate', Members stressed that the data available should be based on the figures for Wales and not England, as life expectancy was longer in England compared to Wales. Officers agreed to contact members of the Scheme Advisory Board for data which related to Wales, and to provide Members with more detailed information at October's Local Pension Board meeting.
- 60.3 Officers agreed to amend the typing error in paragraphs 2.4.3 and 2.4.4 from 'Cost Gap' to read 'Cost Cap'.
- 60.4 Following a request by Members, Officers agreed to provide clarification and further information on the Scheme opt-out data for South Wales Fire & Rescue Service, at the next Local Pension Board Committee meeting.
- 60.5 Members noted that Officers would provide a more detailed report on Firefighters' Pension Scheme Amendments at the next meeting.

## **61. GENERAL DATA PROTECTION REGULATIONS (GDPR) – MAY 2018**

The Acting ACO People Services presented a report which provided Members with details of the background to the General Data Protection Regulations (GDPR) that came into effect on 25 May, 2018. The GDPR required data protection and privacy by design and default. There was a new emphasis on stricter conditions for obtaining valid consent, transparency, and accountability, by ensuring there was a legal basis for collecting and holding individual data.

The report detailed the work being undertaken to ensure compliance with the GDPR, and the work of the internal and external pension administration processes and protocols.

### **RESOLVED THAT**

- 61.1 Members agreed to accept the report and the information contained therein.

61.2 Members agreed to receive a report on the revised Service Level Agreement at October's meeting.

61.3 Members agreed to receive a further report detailing the work undertaken to ensure compliance with the new GDPR Regulations at October's meeting.

## **62. THE FIREFIGHTERS' PENSION (WALES) SCHEME (AMENDMENT) ORDER 2014 – PENSIONABLE PAY**

The Acting ACO People Services reminded Members that at the Fire & Rescue Authority meeting held on 26 March, 2018, a report was received on the Firefighters' Pension (Wales) Scheme (Amendment) Order 2014.

Due to the timings of both the Fire Authority and Local Pension Board Committee meetings, and the research required to draft the report, it was not possible to present the report to the Local Pension Board before the Fire & Rescue Authority meeting.

The purpose of presenting the report to Members was to scrutinise the decisions taken by the Fire & Rescue Authority at its meeting held on 26 March, 2018, to implement all of the recommendations within the report.

Alex Psaila took the opportunity to raise his disappointment that it had taken 5 years for the Amendment Order on Pensionable Pay to be introduced, and highlighted the effects it had had on a number of Fire Brigade Union members.

Richard Prendergast acknowledged the work undertaken to address the issue, and to reduce the impact on Scheme members.

### **RESOLVED THAT**

Members agreed to endorse the decision taken by the Fire & Rescue Authority at its meeting held on 26 March, 2018, to implement all the recommendations within the report.

## **63. THE PENSIONS REGULATOR – STATEMENT 'MANAGING SERVICE PROVIDERS'**

The ACO People Services presented a report to provide Members with a copy of the recently published Pensions Regulator's Statement on 'Managing Service Providers', which was for information only.

### **RESOLVED THAT**

63.1 Members agreed to accept the report and the information contained therein.

63.2 Officers confirmed that a copy of the Statement 'Managing Service Providers' would be uploaded to the Service's pensions website in due course.

**64. SURVEY OF FRA LOCAL PENSION BOARDS (ENGLAND) 2017**

The Acting ACO People Services presented a report which provided Members with information on the recently published report on the Survey of FRA Local Pension Boards (England) 2017.

In order to place some context to the survey the report provided some comparison for Members on the key findings of the survey.

**RESOLVED THAT**

64.1 Members agreed to accept the report and the information contained therein.

64.2 Following discussion on holding 3 Local Pension Board Committee meetings per year, Members agreed that they could hold an extra meeting at any time if required.

64.3 Following lengthy debate, Officers agreed to invite RCT Pensions Officers to attend the next Local Pension Board meeting in October, to provide an update on the Service Level Agreement, and other issues.

**65. FORWARD WORK PROGRAMME 2018/2019**

The Acting ACO People Services presented the Forward Work Programme for 2018/2019.

**RESOLVED THAT**

Members accepted the Forward Work Programme for 2018/2019.

**66. TO CONSIDER ANY ITEMS OF BUSINESS THAT THE CHAIRMAN DEEMS URGENT (PART 1 OR 2)**

There were no items of urgent business for Members to consider.