

SOUTH WALES FIRE & RESCUE AUTHORITY

MINUTES OF THE LOCAL PENSION BOARD COMMITTEE HELD ON MONDAY, 4 JULY 2022 VIA STARLEAF

1. PRESENT

Councillor

P Drake (Chair)	Vale of Glamorgan
J Morgan	Blaenau Gwent
D Naughton	Cardiff
C Elsbury	Caerphilly
D King	Fire & Rescue Service Association
G Tovey	Fire Brigades' Union
Mr I Traylor	Pensions Service Director, Rhondda Cynon Taff BC

Apologies:

R Prendergast	Association of Principal Fire Officers
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No Attendance:

OFFICERS PRESENT:- ACO A Reed – Director of People Services, Mr C Barton – Treasurer, Mr G Thomas – T/ACO – Corporate Support; Ms K Jeal - Accountant

2. DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST

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

3. CHAIR'S ANNOUNCEMENTS

There were no Chair's announcements.

4. MINUTES OF PREVIOUS MEETINGS

The minutes of the Local Pension Board Committee held on 31 January 2022 were read and accepted as a true record of proceedings.

5. SCHEME PAYS REVIEW

The Director of People Services introduced the report which was a review of the current “Scheme Pays” arrangements and invited Local Pension Board Members to undertake a review of the current procedure and make recommendations to the Fire Authority, as Scheme Manager.

It was confirmed that if the tax charge was £2,000 or less, this will be paid by the fund and the individual’s annual pension will be reduced, upon retirement. Following a question and answer session in relation to the changes the Board agreed with the recommendation.

Ms Jeal also confirmed by making changes to the procedures it will provide individuals with more streamlined access to the system, without a charge.

RESOLVED THAT

Members reviewed the current procedure and agreed to the changes as noted within the report.

6. REVIEW OF KEY PERFORMANCE INDICATORS & SCHEME DATA FOR THE FIREFIGHTERS PENSION SCHEME

The Pension Service Director reported on the Service Level Agreement (SLA) between South Wales Fire & Rescue Service and Rhondda Cynon Taf County Borough Council which sets out the manner in which certain duties and responsibilities are expected to be carried out. A key element of the SLA is the reporting on actual performance activity against the agreed key delivery Service Standards. The report is intended to provide Members with an update on key activity undertaken during the reporting period and shares the performance data for the period 01 April 2021 to 31 March 2022 and 01 April 2022 to 30 May 2022.

RESOLVED THAT

Members noted the performance data included at Appendix 1 attached to the report and the key activity at Appendix 2.

7. INTERNAL DISPUTE RESOLUTION PROCEDURES (IDRP)

The Director of People Services presented the procedures for resolving internal disputes in relation to pension matters. It also updates Members on the cases that were considered under this procedure during 01 April 2021 to 31 March 2022.

RESOLVED THAT

- 7.1 Members noted the procedures for resolving internal disputes.
- 7.2 Members noted the cases considered under the IDRP procedure during the period 01 April 2021 to 31 March 2022.

8. MCCLOUD - TAPERING

The Director of People Services reported that, in July 2021, the Fire & Rescue Authority, as Scheme Manager, agreed to provide pension benefit options for those individuals who were considered to be in scope for Immediate Detriment (ID), i.e. those who are currently in service but intending to retire and have provided notice of their intention to do so. This policy decision came into effect from October 2021. The report provides an update on the number of ID cases that have been processed since October 2021. It also confirms next steps in relation to remedying all cases of age discrimination cases.

RESOLVED THAT

Members noted the content of the report.

9. PUBLICATIONS, UPDATES, INFORMATION (STANDARD ITEM)

The Director of People Services shared a number of publications, updates and information relating to pensions matters with the Board, advising this will form part of the agenda as standard.

RESOLVED THAT

Members reviewed and noted the publications which were shared for information and awareness purposes, as attached at Appendix 1.

10. NEW MEMBER TRAINING SESSION: MEMBERS' HANDBOOK, TERMS OF REFERENCE AND TOOLKIT

Ms Jeal provided a training session on the Members' Handbook, terms of reference and toolkit

RESOLVED THAT

Members noted the contents of the training session and thanked Ms Jeal for her informative update.

**11. FORWARD WORK PROGRAMME FOR LOCAL PENSION BOARD
2022/2023**

The Director of People Services presented the Forward work Programme for 2022/2023.

RESOLVED THAT

Members noted the content of the Forward Work Programme for 2022/2023.

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

There were no items of business that the Chair deemed urgent.