

NORTH YORKSHIRE POLICE FIRE & CRIME COMMISSIONER FIRE & RESCUE AUTHORITY

Pension Board

Minutes of the meeting of the Pension Board held on Tuesday 8th June via Teams.

PRESENT:

Employer Representatives: Jonathan FOSTER (JF) (Chair)
Stuart SIMPSON (SS)
Leanne CONSETT (LC)

Member Representatives: Edmund BILLING (EB) – FBU Representative
Alistair BIGGS (ABi) - FBU Representative
James MANNING (JM) FOA Representative

Advisors in attendance: Sarah MEKINS (SM) (Pensions Administrator/Manager)
Sam LAW (SL) ((Interim Secretariat to NYPFCCFRA)
Helen SCARGILL (HS) WYPF (West Yorkshire Pension Fund)

The agenda, reports and minutes for this meeting are on NYFRS's website.

PLEASE NOTE: All actions are recorded in section 10 of the minutes

Minute Number	ITEM OF BUSINESS	To be actioned by: -
1.	WELCOME AND INTRODUCTIONS	
	JF welcomed everyone to the meeting and introduction were made by Sarah Mekins and Leanne Consett who joined for the first time.	
2.	APOLOGIES FOR ABSENCE / REPRESENTAION AT MEETINGS	
	Apologies received from Jonathan Dyson, Steve Howley, Andy Blades and Marc Warren; quorum met.	
3.	DECLARATIONS OF ANY PERSONAL OR PREJUDICIAL INTERESTS	
	No conflicts of interest were declared.	
4.	PREVIOUS MINUTES AND MATTERS ARISING	
	Minutes The Minutes of the Board's meeting held on 3 rd March 2021 were accepted as a correct record. The agreed actions arising from those minutes were updated by David Hood before he left.	
5.	PENSIONS UPDATE Report of the Pensions Administrator/Manager	
	<u>Scheme Membership Information</u>	

	<p>There has been little movement within the schemes and the Wholetime recruits accounted for most of it. The figures are set out in the Report of the Pensions Administrator/Manager.</p> <p><u>Internal Dispute Resolution Procedure (IDRP)</u> There have been no new IDRP applications since the previous meeting.</p> <p><u>Pension Board Training Update.</u> No formal training had been arranged for this meeting. Sarah Mekins recommended training on scams and scammers.</p> <p><u>Other Work Items</u> Sarah Mekins confirmed the Office of the Police, Fire and Crime Commissioner are looking at the role of the Scheme Manager with regards to the scheme manager's discretion and will report back at the next Board meeting.</p> <p><u>Firefighters' Pension Schemes Bulletins Update</u> Legislative updates have been circulated.</p> <p><u>West Yorkshire Pension Fund Key Performance Indicators</u> Helen Scargill answered a question regarding the target met percentage for deferred benefits set up on leaving which is low in comparison to the rest of the figures in the table. Helen was able to confirm this is due to a delay in calculating the pension but has no detrimental effect on the member. It also meets with the overriding legislation.</p>	
6.	<p>WEST YORKSHIRE PENSION FUND UPDATE Report of the Pension Provider (Helen Scargill)</p>	
	<p>Helen Scargill reported the Home Office is expected to release amended guidance on Immediate Detriment very soon.</p> <p>Remedy data collection is underway to provide information on wholetime, part-time and retained firefighters. The information is readily available, and the software suppliers are in the process of setting up a new system that will run the report and populate the spreadsheet. Once this is complete, the spreadsheet will require a review for accuracy.</p> <p>There was no update to be given on Matthews and it is still under discussion, the expectation is for a decision within 12 months and dependent upon the scope of that decision, 18 months to deal with it.</p> <p>There was a discussion about what might be expect and Helen agreed it would be a good idea to start to think about ways to contact eligible members.</p> <p>West Yorkshire Pension fund will be removing all data from their site and signposting to the relevant parts of the National Fire website. This site is run by the LGA (Local Government Association) and will be used as the central information point. Helen advised this will be a long-term piece of work.</p> <p>Annual Benefit Statements will become available on-line and a message will be sent out to members on how to register and access. The numbers for those who have registered on-line is low and it was</p>	

	<p>agreed a Comms message should be sent out to encourage registration.</p> <p>ACTION – Comms message to be arranged to encourage on-line registration.</p> <p>It was reported that those who are currently protected in one of the final salary schemes will not have a projection in their Annual Benefit Statements due to their final salary scheme membership ending on 31 March 2022 and the projections would not be accurate.</p>	
7.	RISK REGISTER	
	<p>The risk register was reviewed, and it was agreed Op5 should be separated into 2 risks – Remedy and Matthews.</p> <p>ACTION – Stuart Simpson agreed to undertake this work.</p> <p>Helen shared feedback from an inspection by the Pensions Regulator and reported they were keen to see cyber security as a separate risk. Sarah confirmed this was something she was looking at with Barbara Doolan and would report back.</p>	
8.	BREACH REGISTER	
	Information re pay for retired officers had not been sent through within the correct time.	
9.	ANY OTHER BUSINESS	
	<p>It was confirmed that North Yorkshire has signed up to the national framework for guidance on Immediate Detriment to ensure a consistent approach by all Fire and Rescue Services.</p> <p>The Annual Report was noted and will be taken to the Senior Leadership Team on 17th June for approval.</p>	
10.	AGREED ACTIONS	
	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Comms to encourage members to register on-line. Stuart Simpson will amend Risk Register – Op5 to become separate risks. 	SM SS
11.	PROPOSED FUTURE MEETINGS	
	Date of next meeting – 8 September 2021 at 14:00	