

NORTH YORKSHIRE POLICE FIRE & CRIME COMMISSIONER FIRE & RESCUE AUTHORITY

Pension Board

Draft Minutes of the meeting of the Pension Board held on Wednesday 13 December 2023

PRESENT:

Employer Representatives: Jonathan Dyson – Chief Fire Officer (Chair)
Marc Warren – Group Manager Scarborough & Ryedale District

Member Representatives:

Advisors in attendance: Catherine Hulbert - People Operations Manager
Sarah MEKINS - Senior People Advisor
Helen Scargill – West Yorkshire Pension Fund

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

Minute Number	ITEM OF BUSINESS	To be actioned by: -
1.	APOLOGIES FOR ABSENCE / REPRESENTATION AT MEETINGS	
	Apologies received from Mat Walker and James Manning. It was noted that there were no attendees from the FBU and no response has been received.	
2.	PREVIOUS MINUTES AND MATTERS ARISING	
	The minutes of the meeting on 13 September 2023 were agreed as an accurate record. An update was given on the ill health retirees raised in AOB at the last meeting. It was confirmed the correct governance route had been followed but finance had not been informed. This has now been rectified and a process is in place to ensure Payroll inform Finance.	
3.	ACTION / DECISION LOG REVIEW	
	The action log was reviewed, and updates given.	
4.	DECLARATIONS OF ANY PERSONAL OR PREJUDICIAL INTERESTS	
	No conflicts of interest were declared.	
5.	PENSIONS UPDATE (by exception)	
	Sarah Mekins gave an update on the pension remedy; the legislation	

	<p>is now in place; the GAD calculator was issued 2 days after the legislation and work is in progress to issue the 2024 remedial Service Statements.</p> <p>Letters have been sent out to all members setting out the options, however, we do not keep up-to-date information of individuals once they have left the Service and a variety of social media platforms are being utilised to make contact.</p> <p>Members using the self-service portal continue to increase. Marc Warren asked about those who do not register for self-service and if there are alternatives methods of sharing information, Sarah and Helen confirmed individuals can opt out but need to choose to receive updates/information via paper.</p> <p>ACTION: Sarah was asked to link in with Comms to put out a message on this point.</p> <p>Sarah will email all board members with the Training dates and how to book when they are released.</p> <p>Sarah confirmed all risk registers have been updated and available and can be discussed at the next meeting.</p> <p>Monthly returns are up-to-date as of 4th December. Helen again raised the issue of being unable to contact NYFRS.</p> <p>J Dyson went through the checklist provided by Claire Johnson at the Chief's Council Meeting for remedial activity to identify eligible individuals relating to Sargent remedy and asked for an update on the work. Sarah confirmed it was all in progress, Helen reported queries are outstanding on pending cases and pensions packs cannot be completed until the information is confirmed.</p> <p>Contingent Decisions were discussed and the opt-out and transfers, two sets of data are required to complete the remedy financial data extract and WYPF have not got this data from North Yorkshire and a new data requirement using the GAD contribution calculator which will give the growth contribution adjustment. WYPF cannot provide pension figures without that first financial data extracts.</p> <p>Helen was told there would be a delay (in August/September) due to issues with the Police data that needed to be resolved and the return for NYFRS was delayed because of this, Helen confirmed WYPF have not received the data and it is outstanding. In response to a question, Helen confirmed this will impact on active and deferred members and the ability to provide remedial service statement within the required time.</p> <p>Helen raised the added pension 2015 cases and the need to have acted to ensure a refund is made in time to avoid a complaint or IDRP, NYFRS have 3 members.</p> <p>The meeting was concerned that this highlighted a significant risk and needed to be addressed. Helen again raised the issue with contact and getting no response from emails and calls.</p> <p>ACTION: J Dyson will speak Leanne and Nellie.</p> <p>Sarah confirmed all other items on the checklist are progressing.</p>	
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	<p>Sarah reported Nellie has produced a process for contingent decisions using the LGA guidance. It has been sent to Simon Dennis and Michael Porter and currently awaiting their response.</p> <p>ACTION: J Dyson will speak to Michael Porter about contingent decisions.</p>	
6.	WEST YORKSHIRE PENSION FUND UPDATE Report of the Pension Provider	
	<p>The Client report for December was forwarded yesterday and Sarah confirmed that had been uploaded.</p> <p>Helen reported the process for providing estimates has been signed off and now in a position to produce those figures.</p> <p>Helen updated on remedial service statements which can be used for ill health retirements and immediate choice cases. The LGA will produce a covering letter to go with ill health retirements.</p>	
7.	RISK REGISTER	
	<p>Sarah confirmed the Risk registers have been updated and Sarah will upload so they can be viewed.</p> <p>It was confirmed that none of the risks had an increased risk.</p>	
8.	BREACH REGISTER	
	Nothing to report.	
9.	ANY OTHER BUSINESS	
	JD updated on recent case regarding Pensions Principles relating to temporary duty allowances. Leanne Consett is preparing report which will be taken to SLB and then brought to the March meeting	
10.	PROPOSED MEETINGS - 2024	
	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • 20 March 2024 • 20 June 2024 • 26 September 2024 • 11 December 2024 	