

YORK & NORTH YORKSHIRE COMBINED AUTHORITY

FIRE & RESCUE AUTHORITY

Pension Board

Approved Minutes of the meeting of the Pension Board held on Thursday 30 January 2025

PRESENT:

Employer Representatives: Jonathan Dyson – Chief Fire Officer (Chair)
 Mat Walker – Deputy Chief fire Officer
 Marc Warren – Group Manager Scarborough & Ryedale District
 Louise Branford-White – Head of Finance

Member Representatives: James Manning - FOA

Advisors in attendance: Helen Scargill – West Yorkshire Pension Fund
 Catherine Hulbert - People Services Operations Manager

Minute Number	ITEM OF BUSINESS
1.	APOLOGIES FOR ABSENCE / REPRESENTATION AT MEETINGS
	<p>Apologies received from Leanne Patterson & Sarah Mekins</p> <p>It was noted there were no employee attendees from the Fire Brigade Union. The Chair understood quorum had not been met without an employee's representative, and their continued lack of attendance meant the meeting had to proceed. No points were raised for consideration from the FBU.</p>
2.	PREVIOUS MINUTES AND MATTERS ARISING
	The minutes of the meeting on 24 October were agreed as an accurate record.
3.	ACTION / DECISION LOG REVIEW
	The action log was reviewed and updated.
4.	DECLARATIONS OF ANY PERSONAL OR PREJUDICIAL INTERESTS
	No conflicts of interest were declared.
5.	ITEMS FOR DISCUSSION
	<p>LBW gave an update to the Board and took them through her report, highlighting the problems causing the delay in issuing some IC-RSS due to technical issues with regards to calculating the tax charges due on the remediable lump sum.</p> <p>The Board were updated on the current position for active and deferred members due to receive their ABS/RSS and Pension Saving Statements.</p>

	<p>A second senior Pension Advisor has joined the team, and two further roles are being advertised. The lack of resources for the Payroll and Pension Team has been recorded on the risk register.</p> <p>LBW reported on the current data processing position and following advice from the LGA, 40 cases are being reviewed for accuracy and that work should be completed very soon.</p> <p>Our Pension Dashboard is due to go live on 31 October 2025 and the Board is required to formerly nominate WYPF and their integrated service provider Bravura as NYFRS preferred choice to join with the Pension Dashboard ecosystem. DECISION: Agreed</p> <p>CFO asked if we are doing all we can to engage with members relating to Matthews, HS outlined the actions other Services are undertaking and it was confirmed we are doing the same or similar actions to inform members and Louise confirmed they will chase those outstanding.</p> <p>ACTION: LBW will bring an update to the next meeting on the tribunal, point 7.9 in the report.</p>
6.	WEST YORKSHIRE PENSION FUND UPDATE Report of the Pension Provider
	<p>HS reported on behalf of the WYPF, and it was confirmed the Monthly reports have been circulated to all members.</p> <p>Helen reported on the KPIs and the reasons for the target dates not being met as set out in the report. WYPF is aware of the issues producing Pension Estimate due to work pressures and is looking to improve the service by amending the process to include the date of the request as well as the retirement date.</p> <p>Helen confirmed that an email was sent in December to confirm the distribution of ABS-RSS is likely to be 31 March and scheme members have been informed.</p> <p>The actions in section 12 of the WYPF monthly report are in red to ensure it was clear what work needed to be undertaken and who was responsible. ACTION: It was requested LBW's Pension report to the Board contained a progress update of the work undertaken/completed in relation to these actions.</p> <p>The Board discussed member web registrations and Helen advised it would be best to promote online registration when the ABS-RSS are being produced as a useful tie-in to encourage registration. ACTION: LBW to ask Nellie to work with Sarah and ensure comms are ready to go out as advise by Helen (a hot topic will be sent out when the production of the ABS – RSS has commenced).</p> <p>It is valuation year for Fire, Valuation 2024, and Helen confirmed the data for NYF has been submitted to GAD. GAD will report on any issues with data quality, and nothing has been heard back so far.</p>
7.	RISK REGISTER
	<p>LBW gave an overview and the reasons for the changes as set out in the report and expects two of the risks to return to green by the time of the next meeting.</p>
8.	BREACH REGISTER

	As highlighted at the last meeting, it was agreed to bring this back for information and it was confirmed everyone that required a pension saving statement received one and WYPF is processing and no breach to report.
9.	ANY OTHER BUSINESS
	CFO requested all responses to Consultations need to be sent via Michael Porter to the Authority as the employer and authorised before submission. LBW will pass this on to the Team. ACTION: CFO will formally write to FBU regarding requirement to be represented.
10.	MEETINGS DATES - 2025
	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • 24 April 2025