

Minutes of a meeting of the CFA - Local Pensions Board held at Leicestershire Fire and Rescue Service Headquarters, Birstall on Wednesday, 12 December 2018.

PRESENT

Mr. W. Liquorish JP CC
Alison Greenhill
Richard Hall
Ian Howe

Cllr. A. Thalukdar
Adam Stretton
Graham Vaux
Elena Johnston

22. Election of Chairman.

RESOLVED:-

That Mr. W. Liquorish CC be elected Chairman of the CFA Local Pension Board for the period ending with the Annual Meeting of the Combined Fire Authority in 2019.

Mr. W. Liquorish - in the Chair

23. Apologies.

Apologies were received from Adam Taylor.

24. Minutes of the Local Pension Board meeting held on 27 September 2018.

RESOLVED:

That the minutes of the meeting of the CFA Local Pension Board held on 27 September 2018 be taken as read, confirmed and signed.

25. Conflicts of Interest.

The Chairman invited members who wished to do so to declare any interest in respect of items on the agenda for the meeting.

No such declarations were made.

26. Key Performance Indicators; KPI overview, Estimate breakdown, Metric data.

The Board considered a report of the Pension Scheme Administrator which provided an overview of the key performance indicators, an estimate breakdown and details of metric data. A copy of the report marked 'Agenda Item 5' is filed with these minutes.

The Pension Scheme Manager commended the Leicestershire County Council Pensions Team for their excellent performance in achieving 100% of targets despite requests for re-estimates being high.

RESOLVED:

That the update provided regarding the key performance indicators for Leicestershire Fire and Rescue Service Pension Scheme be noted.

27. Scheme Administrators Update.

The Board considered a report of the Pension Administrator regarding the administration of the pension scheme for the period 1 July – 30 September 2018 for the Leicestershire Fire and Rescue Service. A copy of the report marked 'Agenda Item 6' is filed with these minutes.

Arising from discussion, the following points were raised:

- i. The Annual Benefit Statements for active and deferred members had been sent out by the deadline of 31 August 2018. The three people highlighted in the report, for whom the Pensions Team were awaiting a scheme pays options form, had now been cleared.
- ii. The Pensions Team worked closely with the Leicestershire Fire and Rescue Service staff to ensure the quality and accuracy of the data and records maintained.
- iii. A tender process had been completed for a new administration system for the pension scheme, the server for which would be hosted by an external provider. A parallel run of the local government and LFRS systems had been completed and it was expected that the new system would 'go-live' in January 2019.
- iv. Development of the system for self-service by pensions scheme members was progressing positively; this would enable members to run their own estimates and payslips. The initial system had been signed-off by all three Fire Authorities and would now be tested operationally. It was anticipated that it would go-live in the summer of 2019. The Fire Brigade Union stated that members were interested to see the new system in operation.

RESOLVED:

That the update on the administration of the Leicestershire Fire and Rescue Service Pension Scheme for the period 1 July to 30 September 2018 be noted.

28. Scheme Manager's Update.

The Board received a verbal update from Alison Greenhill, Pension Scheme Manager, regarding the Leicestershire Fire and Rescue Service Fire Fighters' Pension Scheme.

Members were informed that there were no significant issues to report although it was highlighted that a case had been considered by the Pensions Ombudsman regarding a retained firefighter issue. The Ombudsman had ruled in favour of Leicestershire Fire and Rescue Service.

It was agreed that it would be beneficial for the Local Pension Board to consider the remit of the Local Pension Board at their next meeting on 6 February 2019. It was also agreed

to include a regular item on the agenda for the meeting for employee representatives to input and raise any issues for discussion.

RESOLVED:

That

- a) a report be presented to the meeting of the Local Pension Board held on 6 February 2019 regarding the remit and purpose of the Board.
- b) "Employee Representatives input" would be included as a standing item on the agenda for LPB meetings.

29. LFRS Firefighters' Pension Scheme Risk Register.

The Board received a report from the Pension Scheme Manager, which presented the risk register for the Leicestershire Fire and Rescue Service Pension Scheme. A copy of the report marked 'Agenda Item 8' is filed with these minutes.

Members were informed that there had been no change since the last meeting. The Board noted the risks identified and the scoring used.

The employee representatives were concerned that a review of HR Policies needed to be undertaken to determine any potential impact on firefighter pensions. It was agreed to invite the new Head of LFRS Human Resources Team to the next meeting of the LPB on 6 February 2019.

RESOLVED:

That a presentation would be given to the Local Pension Board at its meeting on 6 February 2019 concerning an "Update and Review of HR Policies, processes and potential effect on Firefighter Pensions".

30. Firefighters' Pension Scheme Breaches Register.

The Board considered a report of the Pension Scheme Manager concerning the Firefighters' Pension Scheme Breaches Register. A copy of the report marked 'Agenda Item 9' is filed with these minutes.

Members were informed that no breaches had taken place this quarter.

RESOLVED:

That the report on the Firefighters' Pension Scheme Breaches Register be noted.

31. Joint Pension Board - update.

The Board received a verbal update from the Pension Scheme Manager regarding proposals for a Joint Pension Board.

Members were informed that the proposal to form a joint Pension Board had not been progressed; the Local Government Association had paused the submission due to the

availability of Ministerial time. The submission would be progressed once Brexit had been resolved.

RESOLVED:

That

- a) the update on the Joint Pension Board be noted.
- b) an item to provide a verbal update on the Joint Pensions Board would be retained on the LPB agenda.

32. Date of next meeting.

The next meeting of the Local Pension Board will be held on Wednesday 6 February 2019 at Leicestershire Fire and Rescue Service Headquarters, Birstall following the meeting of the Combined Fire Authority.

11.35 - 11.59 am
12 December 2018

CHAIRMAN

DRAFT