

## DRAFT

### **Minutes of a meeting of the Leicester, Leicestershire and Rutland Combined Fire Authority Pension Board, held at the Leicester City Council, City Hall, Charles Street, Leicester on Thursday, 28<sup>th</sup> September 2017.**

#### **PRESENT**

Mr P Bedford CC (Chair)

Cllr A Thalukdar

Mr G Vaux (Fire Brigades Union)

Mr I Howe (Pensions Manager, LCC / Scheme Administrator)

Ms A Greenhill (CFA Treasurer / Scheme Manager)

Mrs J Green (Minutes)

#### **1. Apologies**

Apologies were received from Mr K McKee, FBU Regional Representative.

#### **2. Minutes of the Local Pension Board meeting held on 8<sup>th</sup> February 2017**

##### **RESOLVED:**

The minutes of the Local Pension Board meeting held on 8<sup>th</sup> February 2017 were confirmed as a correct record.

#### **3. Key Performance Indicators**

The Board received the metric data for Leicestershire, Nottinghamshire and Derbyshire for the quarter ending 30 June 2017.

The Board compared all the data from the three regions and discussed what benefits could be gained in the future by having one joint regional board. It was noted that similar information is provided to each region and it was recognised that working towards a mutual process was supported as a possible approach to be taken as a way forward.

##### **RESOLVED:**

The Board noted the information presented.

#### **4. Scheme Administrators Update**

Ian Howe (IH), Pensions Manager, Leicestershire County Council provided a verbal update.

The following matters were discussed:

##### *Annual Benefit Statements*

IH confirmed that following last years' software issues all was in order this year and active and preserved members received their Statements in August before the statutory deadline. 3 active members who transitioned from the 92 scheme to the 15 scheme during the statement run did not get a statement in August and will receive

theirs in October. The Board considered this and decided it was not a material breach so did not need to notify the Pension Regulator.

#### *Contribution Holiday Payments*

IH confirmed that 45 cases had been finalised and there was nothing further outstanding to date.

#### *GMP Reconciliation*

IH confirmed GMP reconciliation continues for pensioners and preserved members and is on track for the 31 December 2018 deadline. Actives members GMP work has not yet commenced.

#### *Annual Allowances*

IH informed the Board that work is currently ongoing in order to meet the deadline of 6 October 2017.

AG confirmed Leics Fire Authority have agreed to allow voluntary scheme pays.

#### *Tender Update*

IH confirmed the procurement tender document had been signed off in respect of the Pensions Administration System. It was anticipated that the process would be complete and the successful bidder announced in a couple of months at which time, the Board would consider receiving a demonstration of the on-line facility.

#### *Data Quality and GDPR May 2018*

IH informed the Board that the Pensions Regulator was working towards data quality and record keeping. IH is looking to encourage employers in implementing monthly contribution postings ahead of Members being able to access the information online. Leicestershire Fire is already engaging with the Pension Team on this improvement.

IH confirmed that LCC is looking at GDPR and pension implications where providing a service.

#### **RESOLVED:**

The Board noted the information provided.

### **5. Scheme Manager's Update**

Alison Greenhill (AG), Scheme Manager provided a verbal update.

#### *Pensionable Allowances*

AG reiterated that as Scheme Manager, it was her responsibility to make decisions regarding the pensionable status and allowance payments. It is the intention to review the status of all allowance payments to ensure compliance following the Norman V Cheshire ruling. It is also intended to complete the work on ensuring that there is a consistent approach to allowances across Leicestershire, Nottinghamshire and Derbyshire. This would strengthen the approach of aiming to have a joint pension board.

#### **RESOLVED:**

The Board noted the update information provided.

### **6. Conflict of Interest**

There were none to note.

## **7. Impact on Annual Allowance Changes**

The Board received a report informing it of the changes to the annual allowance and of the Scheme Manager's decision to agree a discretion to use Voluntary Scheme Pays for scheme managers.

AG confirmed she would discuss the matter further with IH.

### **RESOLVED:**

The Board noted the contents of the report.

## **8. Date of next meeting**

### **RESOLVED:**

The Board agreed that future meetings would take place following each Combined Fire Authority meeting. The next meeting to be held on Monday, 11<sup>th</sup> December 2017.

### **Future Meetings:**

7<sup>th</sup> February 2018

20<sup>th</sup> June 2018

## **9. Any other business**

Graham Vaux informed the Board that he had been made aware of Karl McKee's imminent retirement. He confirmed he would discuss the matter with his regional colleagues and hoped to propose another member before the next meeting to ensure future meetings are quorate.

**28<sup>th</sup> September 2017**  
**10:55 am – 11:45 am**

**CHAIR**