

SOUTH WALES FIRE & RESCUE AUTHORITY

**MINUTES OF THE LOCAL PENSION BOARD MEETING
HELD ON MONDAY 19 OCTOBER 2020 AT
SOUTH WALES FIRE & RESCUE SERVICE HEADQUARTERS
OR REMOTELY VIA STARLEAF**

19. PRESENT:

Councillor

Left

S Bradwick (Chair)

P Drake

G Holmes

V Smith

R Bailey

S Saunders

D King

R Prendergast

Mr I Traylor

Rhondda Cynon Taff

Vale of Glamorgan

Rhondda Cynon Taff

Monmouthshire

Fire Brigades Union

Fire Brigades Union

Fire & Rescue Service Association

Association of Principal Fire Officers

Pensions Service Director, Rhondda

Cynon Taff BC

APOLOGIES:

L Brown

Monmouthshire

OFFICERS PRESENT:- DCO Sally Chapman - Monitoring Officer ACO
A Reed – Director of People Services, Mr C Barton – Treasurer

20. DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST

All Members declared a personal non-prejudicial interest in each agenda item which affected their Authority.

21. CHAIR'S ANNOUNCEMENTS

Cllr Bradwick and attendees all agreed that the announcement of Cllr Davies, Chairperson of FA receiving a MBE in the Queens Honour List was very much well deserved and congratulations were noted.

22. MINUTES OF PREVIOUS MEETING

The minutes of the Local Pension Board meeting held on 6 July 2020 were received and accepted as a true record of proceedings.

23. UPDATE ON KPI STATISTICS

Mr Ian Traylor presented Members with an update on the KPI Statistics, the report was circulated prior to the meeting. The report updated members on key activity undertaken for the period 1st April to 30 September 2020. Mr Ian Traylor advised that some of KPI's were over the 10 days target and this was due to resources issues over the summer period due to the current situation with COVID-19 but things are improving now.

RESOLVED THAT

Members noted the noted the performance data, relevant pension administrative overview and update.

24. LOCAL PENSION BOARD - OUTCOMES OF TRAINING NEEDS ANALYSIS

The ACO People Services presented the report to Members outlining that there is a statutory requirement that all Board Members have the requisite knowledge, skills and understanding to enable them to fulfil their role on the board and as such there must be a Training Strategy in place. Members were invited to undertake a Training Needs Analysis and the report confirms the training plan for the year ahead. Members were invited to undertake the Pension Regulator toolkit which is an on-line toolkit to support enhancement of skills and knowledge. Members are required to undertake the tool based exercise on a yearly basis so can get a minimum standard of knowledge. The link to the training will be emailed to all Members and they will need to register and complete each section which can be completed in bite sizes chunks, they should aim to complete within a month. Hard copies will also be sent out to Members.

RESOLVED THAT:

Members agreed to all the areas of focus of the training strategy.

25. HM TREASURY CONSULTATIONS ON CHANGES TO 2015 SCHEME ARRANGEMENTS

ACO People Services presented the report around the consultation document published by HM Treasury outlining proposals to rectify unlawful age based discrimination in the 2015 Pensions Schemes and the 'employers response'. ACO People Services thanked Members for their support in shaping the response which has now been sent to HM Treasury.

RESOLVED THAT:

Members noted the 'employer's response' which was submitted in early October. And the Scheme Advisory Board Wales response which was requested for technical feedback.

26. UPDATE REPORT ON PUBLICATION OF ANNUAL BENEFITS STATEMENT

ACO People Services advised that this was previously covered in the update on KPI Statistics. ACO People Services thanked Mr Ian Traylor and the team at RCT for getting this done in a timely fashion.

RESOLVED THAT:

Members noted the update.

27. TRAINING SESSION FOR MEMBERS

Accountant Kim Jeal People Services delivered a short presentation on the role of Board Members, she stated that ACO People Services will be circulating an email to Members after this meeting and it will contain two documents 'Public Service Pension Board' and 'Governance and Administration'. If Members require any further assistance they can contact Kim Jeal direct and hard copies will be forwarded.

RESOLVED THAT:

Members noted the update.

28. LOCAL PENSION BOARD - MEMBERS HANDBOOK

ACO People Services presented further chapters 14 - 16 of the handbook to members for approval. Chapters 1 - 13 have been previously approved by Members.

RESOLVED THAT:

Members approved the further chapters 14 - 16 of the handbook. This will complete the suite of documents and a full handbook will be issued to all Members following the meeting via email.

29. FORWARD WORK PROGRAMME FOR LOCAL PENSION BOARD 2020/2021

The ACO People Services presented Members with the Forward Work Programme for 2020 / 2021, which was agreed by Members.

30. TO CONSIDER ANY ITEMS OF BUSINESS THAT THE CHAIRPERSON DEEMS URGENT (PART 1 OR 2)

There were no items of urgent business for Members to consider.