

At a meeting of the HAMPSHIRE FIRE AND RESCUE AUTHORITY PENSION BOARD held at Hampshire Fire and Rescue Service Headquarters, Eastleigh on 27 July 2015.

PRESENT:

p	Cllr Mark Cooper	p	Charlie House
p	Malcolm Eastwood	p	Alex Rhodes
a	Cllr Hannah Hockaday	p	Cllr John Wall

1 INTRODUCTION TO PENSION BOARD MEMBERS AND APOLOGIES

Apologies were received from Councillor Hockaday.

Members of the Board introduced themselves, outlining their background and experience.

2 ELECTION OF CHAIRMAN OF THE PENSION BOARD

The Clerk called for nominations for a Chairman, noting the requirements of the Terms of Reference. Cllr Cooper was nominated, seconded and in the absence of any further nominations duly appointed Chairman of the Pension Board until the first meeting of the Board following the Annual meeting of the Fire Authority in 2016.

3 ELECTION OF VICE-CHAIRMAN OF THE PENSION BOARD

The Chairman called for nominations for a Vice-Chairman, noting the requirements of the Terms of Reference. Charlie House was nominated, seconded and in the absence of any further nominations duly appointed Vice-Chairman of the Pension Board until the first meeting of the Board following the Annual meeting of the Fire Authority in 2016.

4 DISCLOSURES OF INTEREST

Members were mindful of their duty to disclose at the meeting any disclosable pecuniary interest they had in any matter on the agenda for the meeting, where that interest was not already entered in the Authority's register of interests, and their ability to disclose any other pecuniary or non-pecuniary interests in any such matter that they might have wished to disclose.

There were no declarations of interest received for the meeting.

5 CHAIRMAN'S ANNOUNCEMENTS

The Chairman had no announcements.

6 DEPUTATIONS

There were no deputations.

7 TERMS OF REFERENCE

The Board received a report from the Chief Finance Officer regarding Firefighters' Pension Board Terms of Reference (Item 7 in the Minute Book).

It was noted that the Terms of Reference were based on a standard template and some areas may develop over time.

RESOLVED:

That the Board formally adopt the Terms of Reference and Code of Conduct, with no recommendations back to the Finance and General Purposes Committee at this time.

8 PENSION BOARD ISSUES

The Board received a report and an additional appendix from the Chief Finance Officer regarding a range of practical and planning issues relating to the future smooth running of the Board (Item 8 in the Minute Book).

Training for Board Members was discussed, it was noted that this was provided through the LGA and that those Members who had not yet attended would be booked onto a future session. Online resources for the Board were highlighted, in particular the LGA forum and the pension regulator's online tools.

Mechanisms for agenda setting and forward planning were discussed and options outlined. It was agreed that future meetings of the Board should receive a standing "Work Programme" item.

With regards to forthcoming meetings, the Board considered the issues set out in the report and agreed that a number of matters should be included on the Work Programme. In particular:

- Conflict of Interest Policy
- Pension data for Hampshire Fire and Rescue
- Data quality arrangements
- Performance report from the Pension Administrator
- Compliance with the Regulator's Code of Practice

The frequency of meetings was discussed and it was felt that more than two per year would be required. It was agreed to schedule meetings for the Autumn 2015 and January 2016 and then to evaluate the requirement further.

Specific lead Member roles were considered and it was agreed that Alex Rhodes be appointed training lead Member and Malcolm Eastwood be

appointed LGA link Member. It was further agreed that Malcolm should seek a position on the National Scheme Advisory Board.

RESOLVED:

That a "Work Programme" item be included on all future Pension Board agendas.

That meetings of the Board in Autumn 2015 and January 2016 be scheduled.

9 EXCLUSION OF PRESS AND PUBLIC

RESOLVED:

That the press and public be excluded from the meeting as it is likely, in view of the nature of the business to be transacted or the nature of the proceedings, that if members of the public were present there would be disclosure to them of exempt information within Paragraph 4 of Part I of Schedule 12A to the Local Government Act 1972, being information relating to any consultations or negotiations or contemplated negotiations in connection with any labour relations matter arising between the authority or a minister of the Crown and employees of, or office holders under, the authority, and further that in all the circumstances of the case, the public interest in maintaining the exemption outweighed the public interest in disclosing the information, for the reasons set out in the report.

10 TRANSITIONAL PENSION ARRANGEMENTS (EXEMPT)

The Board received an exempt report from the Chief Finance Officer regarding transitional arrangements for the Firefighter's Pension Scheme (Item 10 in the Minute Book).

The Pension Board resolved to note the report.

(Summary of an exempt Minute)