

# 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 Wednesday 8<sup>th</sup> February 2017.**

### **PRESENT**

Mr G Hart CC

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 Karl McKee.

### **2. Minutes of the Local Pension Board meeting held on 26<sup>th</sup> September 2016**

#### **RESOLVED:**

The minutes of the Local Pension Board meeting held on 26<sup>th</sup> September 2016 were confirmed as a correct record.

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

The Board discussed the information provided in respect of the metric data for the quarter ending 31 December 2016.

The Board reaffirmed they were happy to continue to share information between the three fire authorities as it was felt beneficial to have comparisons.

#### **RESOLVED:**

The Board noted the information presented.

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

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

Annual Benefit Statements – It is anticipated that this work will be undertaken more positively this year. Some issues are still outstanding but are being resolved as quickly as possible. Work has commenced on a 2016/17 template and comments/feedback received from firefighters about the 2015/16 statement have been incorporated into the new 2016/17 template.

Contribution Holiday Payments – it was confirmed that payments are expected to go through by the end of February. Those expecting a payment should have been informed of how much they are to receive.

**RESOLVED:**

The Board noted the information provided.

**5. Scheme Manager's Update**

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

Pensionable Allowances:

It was discussed that by calculating payments using a generic criteria some Members would benefit from the outcome, some would see no change and some would be worse off. AG felt issues could arise in the workplace dependent on the outcomes. Mark Andrew (MA), Head of HR, Leicestershire Fire and Rescue Service has been approached to engage in any potential HR issues.

AG is looking to be guided by a preferred option to take this forward. Members will need to be informed of any potential tax implications and unexpected costs.

AG also noted that an appropriate timescale needs to be set and agreed for Members who will be required to pay monies back. AG and IH will look to agree the period proposed for any payback and take into account any notice of hardship on an individual basis. AG will seek an opinion from the Monitoring Officer re best practice.

Further discussions touched on how reclaiming from retired members would provide a recalculation of benefits, also those who leave suddenly could receive a bill with no benefits and there could be problems when trying to reclaim the money back. IH again mentioned the tax implications specifically for the Fire Authority. It was suggested that Adam Stretton (AS), Head of Finance, Leicestershire Fire and Rescue Service arrange a meeting between AG, Cllr Hart, IH, Graham Vaux (FBU) and MA to discuss this matter further with the aim to get things progressing.

**RESOLVED:**

- a) The Board noted the information provided.
- b) That a meeting be arranged by Adam Stretton to further discuss the issues around tax implications for the Fire Authority.

**6. PSPS Survey Research**

The Board reflected on the results of the survey and discussed the following:

- The need to offer training for new Board members but more importantly to try and maintain continuity of Board members;
- To ensure the correct information is being published in accordance with the Pensions Regulator;
- Risk Register, a need to highlight issues and matters to be aware of;
- Monitoring data, IH raises any issues with the Chair and AG. It was felt it would be beneficial to have an annual update report to the Board.

**RESOLVED:**

The Board agreed:

- a) That Conflicts of Interest be on the Agenda for each meeting.
- b) That governance matters are discussed by the Board annually. IH to provide the items for the Agenda.

**7. Date of next meeting**

**RESOLVED:**

The Board that a future meeting date would be arranged for late April 2017.

**8. Any other business**

None.

**8<sup>th</sup> February 2017  
11:45 – 12:25**

**CHAIR**