



West Yorkshire Pension Fund

Firefighters Pension Scheme

**LEICESTER, LEICESTERSHIRE AND RUTLAND COMBINED FIRE AUTHORITY
LOCAL PENSION BOARD**

10 November 2022

**REPORT FROM WEST YORKSHIRE PENSION FUND – PENSION
ADMINISTRATOR**

PENSION FUND ADMINISTRATION REPORT

Purpose of the Report

1. To inform the Combined Fire Authority (CFA) Local Pension Board of firefighter pension administration activity.
2. This is designed to assist the CFA Local Pension Board. It is also considered best practise to provide a report of this type.

Recommendation

3. That the Local Pension Board notes the update provided on the administration of the firefighter pension scheme for the period.

Background

Annual Benefit Statements

4. No further update since the last meeting.

Pension Savings Statements

5. No further update since the last meeting.

General Updates

6. The Monthly Client Reports have been issues for September and October and contain a lot of useful information and actions from the LGA bulletins.
7. Bulletin 60 (August 2022) had an action for Fire and Rescue Authorities to review the eligibility factsheet and take any appropriate action. Bulletin 61 (September 2022) had a follow up action following the publication of the eligibility factsheet.
8. The Fire Communications Group meeting took place on 13 June and 16 September 2022. Full minutes are available, but updates are as follows:

13 June 2022

- **Age discrimination remedy – Managing member expectations**
 - A timeline document was produced which was issued alongside the Annual Benefit Statement
- **Age discrimination remedy – Nature of communications**
 - Agreed approach for pensioners who are out of scope
 - Agreed to have a wider discussion for the other cohorts at a future meeting
- **Member benefit illustrations**
 - No feedback received
 - Website hits doubled once published

16 September 2022

- **Age discrimination remedy – Eligibility factsheet**
 - Feedback given & then it was issued with bulletin 60
- **Age discrimination remedy – Member communications**
 - General discussion on what will be required
- **Matthews**
 - Information will be available on the fpsmember website shortly
 - Warm up letters to be produced for FRAs to use

9. The Fire Technical Community meeting took place on 25 July 2022 and the full minutes are available. However, the following were the main items for discussion:

- **Matthews**
 - Update from Home Office given
 - Discussed data issues for FRAs
- **Eligibility for Sargeant remedy**
 - Signed off the content of the new factsheet. This was published with Bulletin 60
- **Data sharing Sargeant/Matthews**
 - Resolution agreed for Sargeant – published in bulletin 59
 - Further action needed for Matthews

10. Updates from the Fire Scheme Advisory Board include:

- SPPA gave an update on the impact of recent changes to commutation options
- 2020 valuation assumptions
- Contingent decisions
- Update from software suppliers on their progress with Age Discrimination
- Administrator self-assessment survey
- FPS Annual Meeting

11. The Fire Quarterly Client meeting took place on 19 October 2022; the minutes are not yet available.

12. There is no update to the Regulation amendments.

Home Office

13. The main focus currently is the retrospective legislation for Age Discrimination, which is due to go live on 1 October 2023, and Matthews where the draft consultation is due to be published in the new year.

DWP and Pensions Dashboard

14. A consultation had been published with a closing date for comments on 13 March 2022. There was a robust response from the LGA on the staging dates and presentation of data. The consultation response confirmed that the staging date will now be 30 September 2024 and the value data would be available by 1 April 2025. There would be further consultation on standards and guidance, as well as a call for input, which was out now.

WYPF Update

15. The following are updates from the WYPF:

- Monthly Returns – Received the year end return and WYPF were able to get all records updated and queries resolved for ABS production
 - There were a number of issues which needed resolving but it appears work has been done by WCC with MHR to resolve these going forward and WYPF are now receiving returns each month
- Annual Benefit Statements – 100% of Annual Benefit Statements for active members were produced by the 31st August deadline
- Pension Savings Statements – These are 17 members who breached in the 2021/22 year and they have all received their Pension Savings Statement before the 6th October deadline.
- KPI reports - These are included in your Monthly Client reports. We have also provided some updates over the last few months about the changes we are making to how we are measuring the KPIs.
- Breaches – There are no breaches to report
- Pension Fund Representative (PFR) – WYPF have just completed a recruitment for a new PFR. This means that one of our experienced PFRs will now move from LGPS to Fire. He will be looking to provide support to FRAs, provide training and produce useful pensions material

- Disaster Recovery – WYPF completed a full disaster recovery on 14th September. This went well with a couple of minor issues to investigate. Further information will be supplied in due course.

Communications

16. The following communications update is provided:

- **Annual Benefits Statements were issued**
 - Notes available on our website
 - Active member newsletter published at the same time and is available on our website
 - LGA Remedy timeline also made available with the ABS
- **My Pension**
 - A My Pension guide to registration and navigation was made available to members along with a My Pension video
- **Employer Portal**
 - An Employer Portal guide was published and is available on the website

Data Improvement Plan

17. WYPF will run reports quarterly and will supply the revised percentages. It is the intention to complete the high priority by November 2022, medium priority by November 2023 and low priority by November 2024.

Appendix A – Leicestershire Fire – Data Scores

1992 scheme	Feb 2021	Nov 2021	Oct 2022
Common	94.44	96.78	99.70
Scheme Specific	84.19	86.53	89.44
2006			
Common	87.23	87.50	89.27*
Scheme Specific	87.23	96.74	100
2006 modified			
Common	97.01	96.88	100
Scheme Specific	0	95.31	100
2015			
Common	96.14	97.60	94.85
Scheme Specific	85.21	93.10	92.01
2015 modified			
Common	100	100	100
Scheme Specific	0	71.43	77.78

*19 deferred members where the current home address is unknown

Officers to Contact

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