



LEICESTERSHIRE FIRE AUTHORITY
PENSION BOARD

23 SEPTEMBER 2020

REPORT FROM LEICESTERSHIRE COUNTY COUNCIL – PENSION
ADMINISTRATOR

PENSION FUND ADMINISTRATION REPORT QUARTER
1 APRIL 2020 – 30 JUNE 2020

Purpose of the Report

1. To inform the Combined Fire Authority (CFA) Local Pension Board of fire fighter pension administration in the quarter 1 April – 30 June 2020.
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 fire fighter pension scheme in the quarter 1 April – 30 June 2020.

Background

Annual Benefit Statements / Year-end / Taxation Saving Statements

4. Leicestershire County Council has issued the annual benefit statements by 31 August 2020. The pension savings statements are currently being prepared. There have been 27 cases identified for 2019 to 2020. These are on track to be completed by the deadline of 6 October 2020.

Valuation 2020

5. The Government Actuary's Department (GAD) has issued the final 2020 valuation data specifications for FPS England. The County Council's Pensions Section has started work on the valuation and aim to complete this prior to the hand over of administration to West Yorkshire Pension Fund.

Regulation Changes

6. None since the last report.

Risk and Breaches – (material or not)

7. None.

GMP Reconciliation

8. The total remaining cases is 5. HMRC is sending final data cuts to administrators. The Pensions Section will check that the remaining cases have been resolved in the final data cut once this arrives.

Update on Sargeant case (transitional protections remedy)

9. Whilst further guidance is awaited in respect of the Sargeant case, this year's annual benefit statements have not quoted any projections to retirement age. This has been agreed with all 3 fire authorities.
10. As a result of the need for further guidance, the Pension Section is currently unable to re-calculate any pension benefits already paid or to base benefits on the 1992 scheme where members are due to or have already transitioned into the 2015 scheme. Once full guidance is released, FRAs and pension administrators will be in a better position to proceed.

Termination of Administration

11. The Pension Section and Leicestershire Fire and Rescue Service are currently working with West Yorkshire Pension Fund to move the pension administration to West Yorkshire including pensioner payroll. Data extracts have been prepared for West Yorkshire as well as supplementary information that they require. West Yorkshire has sent contracts out to all three fire authorities for signing.

Key Performance Indicators - Quarter 1 April 2020 to 30 June 2020

12. Retirement benefits notified to members within 10 days of paperwork received was achieved in 100% of cases.
13. Pension payments made within 5 working days of receiving a member's election was achieved in 100% of cases.
14. Death related benefits notified to dependant within 10 working days of notification was achieved in 100% of cases.
15. Death related payments made within 5 working days was achieved in 100% of cases.

Officers to Contact

Ian Howe – Pensions Manager

Ian.Howe@leics.gov.uk

(0116) 305 6945

Elena Johnston – Fire Pensions Team Manager

Elena.Johnston@leics.gov.uk

(0116) 305 8216

This page is intentionally left blank