

<b>REPORT REFERENCE NO.</b>	<b>DSFRA/15/26</b>
<b>MEETING</b>	<b>DEVON &amp; SOMERSET FIRE &amp; RESCUE AUTHORITY</b>
<b>DATE OF MEETING</b>	<b>14 DECEMBER 2015</b>
<b>SUBJECT OF REPORT</b>	<b>LOCAL PENSIONS BOARD – ADDITIONAL APPOINTMENTS</b>
<b>LEAD OFFICER</b>	<b>Director of Corporate Services</b>
<b>RECOMMENDATIONS</b>	<p><i>(a) That consideration be given to the appointment of a Member of the Authority as an additional Scheme Manager representative on the Authority’s Local Pensions Board, with the term of office to be initially until the Authority Annual Meeting in May 2017, and thereafter annually with appointments to be made at the Annual Meeting of the Authority each year;</i></p> <p><i>(b) that the Director of People and Commercial Services be delegated authority to undertake an appropriate process to appoint an additional Scheme Member representative to the Board.</i></p>
<b>EXECUTIVE SUMMARY</b>	This report sets out a request from the Local Pension Board, established by the Authority in February of this year in compliance with legislative revisions to Firefighter Pensions Schemes, to increase the size of the Board by both an additional Scheme Manager and Scheme Member representative.
<b>RESOURCE IMPLICATIONS</b>	Nil.
<b>EQUALITY RISKS AND BENEFITS ANALYSIS (ERBA)</b>	The contents of this report are considered compatible with existing equalities and human rights legislation.
<b>APPENDICES</b>	Nil.
<b>LIST OF BACKGROUND PAPERS</b>	<p>A. Report DSFRA/15/5 – “Establishment of Local Pensions Board for Firefighters’ Pensions Schemes – to full Authority meeting on 20 February 2015.</p> <p>B. The Public Services Pension Act 2013.</p> <p>C. The Firefighters’ Pension Scheme (England) Regulations 2014.</p> <p>D. The Firefighters’ Pension Scheme (Amendment) (Governance) Regulations 2015.</p>

## **1. BACKGROUND**

- 1.1 At its budget meeting in February this year the Authority considered a report on revisions to public sector pension schemes brought in by the Public Services Pensions Act 2013 and specifically the need to establish, by 1 April 2014, a Firefighters' Pensions Schemes Local Pensions Board to assist the Authority, as Scheme Manager, in securing compliance with legislation on the governance and administration of Firefighters Pensions Schemes and ensuring the effective and efficient administration of the schemes.
- 1.2 At that time the Regulations requiring the establishment of the Local Pensions Board were only in draft form and guidance was still awaited. Consequently, to satisfy the indicative legislative requirement to have a Board in place by 1 April, the Authority resolved to establish a Board comprising initially the minimum requirement of two Scheme Manager and two Scheme Member representatives (the draft and subsequently final Regulations requiring there to be an equal number of Scheme Manager and Scheme Member representatives on the Board).
- 1.3 The Authority resolved to appoint the Director of Corporate Services (in his capacity as Authority Monitoring Officer) and the Treasurer as the two Scheme Manager representatives and delegated authority to the Director of People and Commercial Services to undertake a process to determine the two Scheme Member representatives. This process resulted in the appointment of Bob Walker (FBU Chair) and Peter Redbourn (a former Station Manager with the Service).

## **2. CURRENT POSITION**

- 2.1 Following the initial appointment, the Board has met on two occasions, the second of which proved particularly beneficial in considering and subsequently advising the Authority on the exercise of discretions as provided for by the various Firefighters' Pensions Schemes.
- 2.2 While the Board is still continuing to find its feet, discussions at the two meetings held to date have been productive but the Board feels that further benefit would accrue from increasing its size to a total of six to provide for an additional Scheme Manager representative – the suggestion being that this is a Member of the Authority – and an additional Scheme Member representative.
- 2.3 Accordingly, the Authority is invited:
- to consider the appointment of a Member as an additional Scheme Manager representative to the Board, the initial term of office to be until the Annual Meeting in May 2017 and thereafter annually, with the appointment to be made at the Annual Meeting of the Authority in each year; and
  - to authorise the Director of People and Commercial Services to undertake a process to secure the appointment of an additional Scheme Member representative to the Board.

**MIKE PEARSON**  
**Director of Corporate Services**