



LOCAL PENSION BOARD

Date of Meeting:

Wednesday 13 March 2024, at 10.00 am in

AGENDA

ITEM NO.	ITEM TITLE				
1.	<u>Apologies</u>				
2.	Conflict of Interest Declaration				
3.	Notes (Pages 1 - 4)				
	Notes of the meeting held on 06 December 2023 Attached				
4.	Review of Actions (Pages 5 - 6)				
	Latest Action Log attached.				
5.	Appointments to the Board				
	To provide an update on the tenure of the Boards Independent Co-opted Member.				
6.	Scheme Manager Update (Pages 7 - 10)				
	Paper attached.				
	(a) <u>Correspondence Update</u>				
	Latest Correspondence Log attached.				
	(b) Pension Officer's LGA Bulletin Overview				
	Paper attached.				
	(c) <u>Key Performance Indicators</u>				
	Paper attached.				

7.	Training Update (Pages 11 - 12)					
	Latest Training Log attached.					
8.	Risk Register (Pages 13 - 16)					
	To review the register (attached).					
9.	Self-Assessment/Assurance					
	Verbal update to be provided at the meeting.					
	(a) <u>Website</u>					
	To confirm that the website is up-to-date.					
	(b) <u>tPR Self-Assessment</u>					
10.	Topic of Interest					
	Verbal update to be provided at the meeting.					
11.	LPB Work Programme (Pages 17 - 18)					
	Attached. To review programme and items for LPB meeting in June 2024.					
12.	Date of Next Meeting					
	Thursday 20 th June 2024 at 10:00hrs.					

Board Membership

Scheme Manager Representatives:	Scheme Member Representatives:	Other Attendees:
Cllr.Simon Coles	Phil Gillbard	Zoe Smyth (Rewards & Benefits Manager)
Satnam Singh Rai	James Leslie	Mareena Anderson-Thorne (HR Officer – Pensions)
Shayne Scott	Ben Redwood	Hannah Singleton
Maria Sibson	Greg Webb	

Agenda Item 3

LOCAL PENSION BOARD 6 December 2023

Present:

Scheme Manager Representatives:	Scheme Member Representatives:	Other Attendees:
Satnam Singh Rai (SSR)	Greg Webb (GW)	Zoe Smyth (ZS) (Rewards and Benefits Manager/Delegated Scheme Manager)
Shayne Scott (SS)		Mareena Anderson-Thorne (MAT) (HR Officer, Pensions)
Maria Phillips		Helen Scargill (HSc) (West Yorkshire Pension Fund)
		Steve Yates (SY) (Note-taker)

Apologies:

Scheme Manager Representatives:	Scheme Member Representatives:
Cllr. Simon Coles (SC)	Philip Gillbard (PG)
	James Leslie (JL)
	Ben Redwood (BR)

MIN NO.	ITEM TITLE				
LPB/23/14	Appointment of Chair				
	MP nominated for Chair. No other nominations received. MP appointed Chair until the first Board meeting following the Authority annual meeting in 2024.				
LPB/23/15	Conflict of Interest Declaration				
	No new interests declared.				
LPB/23/16	Notes				
	The Notes of the meeting held on 21 June 2023 were AGREED .				
LPB/23/17	Review of Actions				
	CONSIDERED updated Board Action Log listing both Open and Closed actions. It was noted that:				

MIN NO.	ITEM TITLE					
	 LPB044. WYPF cyber security position was still awaited. WYPF had tested their systems but a business continuity plan for cyber security was still awaited. HS would seek to get an update within the next two weeks and prior to the next meeting. Agreed to increase risk RAG rating to red; 					
	 LPB091. Training Needs Analysis to be completed by new Board Members (MP and SC); 					
	 LPB092. The Service was looking to obtain additional administrative support on fixed term contract basis to assist with significant workload (immediate detriment etc.). The recruitment for a replacement Pensions Officer was ongoing. In light of these issues, it was agreed to increase RAG rating to amber. WYPF considered it was adequately resourced until 2025 but had a constant process for recruitment and training; 					
	 LPB093. A contract review meeting would need to be rescheduled with WYPF. 					
LPB/23/18	Training Update CONSIDERED log showing the Pension Regulator (tPR) e-learning modules completed to date by Board Members. It was anticipated that the new single Code of Conduct would be launched by tPR in January 2024 and could lead to a revision of e-learning modules. The link to current e-learning modules would be					
	forwarded by MAT to MP and SC.					
LPB/23/19	Scheme Manager Update (including Key Performance Indicators)					
	CONSIDERED paper summarising current pension matters both locally and nationally which required input from the Service. In particular, the paper addressed:					
	2015 Age Discrimination Remedy (Sargeant)					
	The Secondary Legislation had come into force, with "Legacy" and "Reformed" scheme options being provided to scheme members for the legacy period. The Government's Actuary Department had issued a calculator for use by fire and rescue services in determining the correct contributions (either refund or underpayment). The amount of PAYE and interest was also calculated and applied to the process based on the option chosen. All "Category 2" member data had been sent to West Yorkshire Pension Fund (WYPF) for recalculating prior to the October, albeit that the order for processing these cases had changed which could require amendment to Service communications. Until the Government produced further documentation (RSS), however, WYPF would not be in a position to process Category 2 cases.					
	Second Options Exercise (Matthews)					
	Letters to all eligible members were being produced and issued in batches. The communication invited expressions of interest, within a six- month timeframe, either to request figures or opt out of the exercise. There would be a subsequent three-month timeframe to process expressions of interest received.					

MIN NO.	ITEM TITLE
	Work was continuing with the Service Communications Team to develop a suitable page on the Service external website for the publication of relevant information and updates. This would supplement the FPS Members site dedicated page which included FAQs and guidance. MAT to provide further updates in due course.
	Reporting Breaches of Law
	Since the last Board meeting, no breaches had been reported.
	Internal Dispute Resolution
	There had been no new complaints under this procedure since the last Board meeting.
	Pension Administrator Quality of Service
	The WYPF submission deadline for month end data had been brought forward in 2023 from the last day to the nineteenth day of the subsequent month. Submissions by the deadline had not been possible in all cases, however, as other pensions data had to be prioritised within existing resources. This was an issue for both the Service and WYPF. The People Services project, currently underway, would change how reporting was undertaken and WYPF would be notified of any expected delays in producing returns.
	Since the last Board meeting, the processing of FPS retirements had changed significantly. Previously, retirement notifications would be notified to WYPF via the employer portal as part of the overall leaver process, with a target submission date of five days following employee submission. Every FPS retirement was now required to be submitted with a spreadsheet of pensionable data for the full 7-year remedy period, making the former five-day target unrealistic. Suggested alternative Service Level Agreements included:
	 Pensionable pay data to be submitted to WYPF at least six weeks prior to retirement date; and
	 retirement pack with contributions mandate to be issued to member within five working days of receipt from WYPF.
	The Board indicated it was content with these proposed SLAs.
	Service Resource Update
	The former Pensions Officer for the Service had been successful in appointment to a different role. The Service was looking to recruit a replacement. The Board placed on record their thanks for the support provided by the Pensions Officer.
LPB/23/20	<u>Risk Register</u> CONSIDERED latest version of the Board risk register. The following points were noted:
	 Risk ownerships would need to be changed (i.e. where people (e.g. M Pearson) had left the Service;

MIN NO.	ITEM TITLE
	 Risk LPB001 should be split to delineate risk to WYPF and to the Service (MS to be risk owner);
	 Risk LPB017 should be changed to amber during the recruitment of additional resource.
LPB/23/21	Self-Assessment/Assurance
	LPB/23/21a <u>Website</u>
	The website was now considered to be up-to-date, with recent changes in Board membership now reflected. Work was still in hand to develop a further webpage with additional information.
	LPB/23/21b tPR Self-Assessment
	MAT had completed a self-assessment earlier in the year. A refresh would need to be undertaken for the next year. The self-assessment should be refreshed in Quarter 1 of each financial year.
LPB/23/22	Topics of Interest
	Topics of interest would be developed once all Training Needs Analysis had been completed.
LPB/23/23	LPB Work Programme
	NOTED indicative work programme for Board meetings up to and including December 2024.
LPB/23/24	Date of Next Meeting
	10.00hours, Wednesday 13 March 2024.

The Meeting started at 10.00 am and finished at 11.10 am

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Action Ref	Date Raised	Source	Action Lead	Status	Pension Work Activity	Action	Comments	RAG
LPB044	18-Mar-20	Board	Mareena Anderson- Thorne	In progress	Risk Management	WYPF Cyber Security WYPF business continuity plan to be reviewed by MP/SP/CG, specifically with regard to cyber attack. Feedback given, WYPF asked to consider and respond. MP to review risk register to asses impact of gaps in WYPF BCP Aon free cyber questionnaire - consider benefit of using it (see email from Satnam 14/07/20).	 21/06/23: LPB update: Several Local Pension Boards had recognised this risk on Board risk registers. HSc advised WYPF were governed by Bradford Council, with cyber security responsibility sitting with the Council. The council monitored this threat on behalf of WYPF. HSc advised WYPF did undertake regular disaster management exercises in the eventuality of loss of servers and information. The Board had concerns around business continuity, including the lack of business continuity plan and the cyber security threat, therefore, the action remained. HSc advised MAT to reissue an information request to WYPF. 06/07/2023: Reissued to WYPF, awaiting further response. Would be raised at next Fire Clients meeting. 02/08/2023: MAT had discussed further with WYPF, WYPF had noted other FRS's who had also voiced concerns around business continuity. WYPF did not share the same concern towards potential cyber security threats. 07/09/2023: No further update from WYPF. Service still awaiting. MAT would chase when appropriate. 06/12/2023: WYPF cyber security position was still awaited. WYPF had tested their systems but a business continuity plan for cyber security was still awaited. Helen Scargill would seek to get an update within the next two weeks and prior to the next meeting. Agreed to increase risk RAG rating to re. 01/02/2024: No firm clarity from WYPF. ZS would review further with MAT. 07/03/2024: BC plan had been recieved, this was not a Cyber Security Plan 	R
LPB089 Page 5	02-Aug-23	Board	Zoe Smyth	In Progress		Reporting of Breaches	08/02/2023: MAT and ZS to identify and present breaches at next LPB meeting. 06/04/2023: MAT and ZS to contact the pension regulator to try and set up an exchange account to be able to report breaches. 04/05/2023: Exchange accounts have now been set up 06/07/2023: Action to remain open. No breaches reported in current month. 02/08/2023: No new breaches 07/09/2023: No new breaches 05/10/2023: No new breaches 01/02/2024: No new breaches 07/03/2024: No new breaches	G
LPB091	21-Jun-23	Board	Mareena Anderson- Thorne	In progress		Revision of the training needs analysis New Board members to undertake TNA with MAT.	 06/07/2023: Ongoing, awaiting TNA for MP and Cllr Trail. 02/08/2023: Ongoing. MAT to contact Cllr Trail. 07/09/2023: Ongoing - awaiting confirmation of new Board members. 06/12/2023: Training Needs Analysis to be completed by new Board Members (MS and SC) 01/02/2024: ZS had a call with TPR regarding new code for new legislation that needs to be signed off. New Pension training is nearly complete and all Board members will be contacted to revisit training wh approrpiate. 07/03/2024: New code had been launched, however, new TPR training packages not yet live. 	G

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Action Ref	Date Raised	Source	Action Lead	Status	Pension Work Activity	Action	Comments	RAG
P	21-Jun-23	Board	Shayne Scott	In progress		Internal Resourcing SS to discuss internal resourcing requirements with MAT (relating to case administration and processing for McCloud/Saergant/Matthews)	06/07/2023: The resourcing requirements for administration of the McCloud/Saergant/Matthews cases had increased, further resourcing was required by MAT and ZS imminently. Internal options for resourcing to be explored. MAT and ZS to provide short description of role requirements to SS. 02/08/2023: Additional support resourcing sought for the data file work. Matthews work still required additional resourcing. Internal resourcing reached further than the McCloud/Saergant/Matthews work, including level of knowledge base, impact of additional responsibilities and changing capacities. Short term resourcing support had been sought within he finance department, this would not be a sustainable longer term solution. 07/09/2023: A number of colleagues from the Finance department had assisted in checking the data file. The work required needed to be done manually and would be a lengthy process. A significant factor for the lengthy process is the complexity of the data and the discrepancies arising in the calculations. The data discrepancies had arisen through changes made to allowances, changes in ruling and changes to the pensions administrator. Each case takes a number of hours to administer. When all avenues for managing had been exhausted MAT and ZS would discuss acceptable discrepancy figures with SS. 06/12/2023: The Service was looking to obtain additional administrative support on fixed term contract basis to assist with significant workload (immediate detriment etc.). The recruitment for a replacement Pensions Officer was ongoing. In light of these issues, it was agreed to increase RAG rating to amber. WYPF considered it was adequately resourced until 2025 but had a constant process for recruitment and training; 01/02/2024: One additional staff member assisting with the workload. 07/03/2024: Service would be looking to obtain additional fixed term staff, three additional staff members approved (07/03).	Α
ရှိ ကြာ ကြာ က	06-Jul-23	Board		Closed		WYPF Contract The WYPF contract had ended in 2022, the Service needed to consider extension or alternate options.	 06/07/2023: Item for monitoring progress. 02/08/2023: Contract extension letter issued by Procurement to WYPF. WYPF agreed to extend until 31 March 2025. Action completed. 06/12/2023: A contract review meeting would need to be rescheduled with WYPF. 01/02/2024: Contract has been extended to 31 March 2025. Further discussions would be required to determine future. RAG rating changed to Amber. 	A

DEVON & SOMERSET FIRE & RESCUE AUTHORITY

LOCAL PENSIONS BOARD

DATE OF MEETING	13 March 2024
SUBJECT OF REPORT	SCHEME MANAGER UPDATE
REPORT AUTHOR	HR Rewards & Benefits Manager
EXECUTIVE SUMMARY	This report provides a summary of current pension matters both nationally and locally which have required input from the Service. This report should also be considered in conjunction with the regular monthly Bulletins which are issued by the Firefighters' Pensions Scheme Advisory Board.

1. INTRODUCTION

- 1.1. This is the update report from the Devon & Somerset Fire & Rescue Authority (the Authority) delegated Scheme Manager for the Authority's Local Pension Board (the Board). The Scheme Manager is defined as being the Fire and Rescue Authority under The Firefighters' Pension Scheme (England) Regulations 2014. However, the Scheme Manager may delegate any functions under these Regulations. The Authority has set out in the Discretions Policy where decisions will need to be taken by the Authority. The day-to-day managing and administering of the pension schemes and any statutory scheme connected with them, is delegated to the HR Rewards & Benefits Manager.
- 1.2. The Board provides a number of functions as set out in the Terms of Reference, which include:
 - assisting the Scheme Manager to ensure compliance with the relevant regulations and the efficient and effective management of the pension administration;
 - advising on member communications; and
 - monitoring complaints.
- 1.3. This report provides a summary of current pension matters both nationally and locally and further updates will be provided at subsequent Board meetings.

2. <u>GOVERNANCE & STRATEGY</u>

Please refer to separate agenda item regarding Board membership.

3. <u>PENSION PROJECTS</u>

2015 Age Discrimination Remedy (Sargeant)

All retirements being processed now include a 'reformed' and 'legacy' benefit option in relation to the remedy period (subject to eligibility) and the pension pack that is prepared by WYPF is accompanied by a contributions mandate to show the adjustments for contributions, tax relief and interest in relation to the two options available. The figures are run through a calculator issued by the Government Actuary Department. Those members who are now classified as 'Immediate Choice' (formerly Category 2) have experienced additional delays to receiving their remedial service statements due to some additional issues raised in relation the tax treatment of interest that arises under the public service pensions remedy. HMRC issued a guidance <u>newsletter on 23 February</u> in response and then there was a presentation hosted by the LGA the following week in order to provide additional guidance in relation to this matter.

Second Options Exercise (Matthews)

All those who eligible for the second options exercise have been written to, including an 'expressions of interest' form which invites recipients to either request figures or opt out of the exercise.

Work is underway to use the DWP tracking service where the letters have been returned to sender and Stations have not been able to assist with confirming an alternative means of contact.

The GAD calculator and user guide for 'Matthews 2' has been issued – the process is extremely complex and resource intensive (several hours of data input and verification per case) so it has become clear that providing the calculations to the full cohort within the prescribed timeframes is currently a very significant challenge and potential organisational risk.

Additional resource is currently being recruited for on a fixed term basis to support delivery of the above activities.

4. <u>REPORTING BREACHES OF LAW</u>

Within the Board's Reporting Breaches Procedure, Section 70 of the Pensions Act 2004 (the Act) is referenced. This requires that, where a person has reasonable cause to believe that:

- (a) a duty which is relevant to the administration of the scheme in question, and is imposed by virtue of an enactment or rule of law, has not been or is not being complied with; and
- (b) the failure to comply is likely to be of material significance to the Regulator in the exercise of any of its functions then they must give a written report on the matter to the Regulator as soon as is reasonably practicable.

There have been no breaches reported since the last Local Pension Board meeting.

5. INTERNAL DISPUTE RESOLUTION

Within the Firefighters' Pension Scheme formal complaints are made via the Internal Disputes Resolution Procedure (IDRP). There have been no new complaints under this procedure from FPS members since the last Local Pension Board meeting.

6. PENSION ADMINISTRATOR QUALITY OF SERVICE

Data submissions are summarised as follows:

(a) Submission of monthly pension reporting to WYPF by the 19th day of the following month:

Due to an extremely hight workload in pensions administration and reduced resource there have been occasions where the month end submission has been later than 19th day of the following month. It is understood that there is also a delay of 3-4 months in the submitted data being uploaded by WYPF once it has been received, and the employer portal currently shows postings up to September 2023

Jan-	Feb-	Mar-	Apr-	May-	Jun-	Jul-	Aug-	Sep-	Oct-	Nov	Dec	Jan
23	23	23	23	23	23	23	23	23	23	23	23	24
13-	08-	15-	19-	24-	14-	16-	21-	22-	23-	02-	19-	20-
Feb-	Mar-	May-	May-	May-	Jul-	Aug-	Sep-	Oct-	Nov-	Jan-	Jan-	Feb-
23	23	23	23	23	23	23	23	23	23	24	24	24

(b) Notifications of normal retirement and timeframes for submission

i. Pensionable pay data is submitted to WYPF at least 6 weeks prior to the retirement date:

Over the last 3 months (Dec 2023 – Feb 2024 inclusive) there have been 11 retirements for wholetime colleagues and 3 retirements for on-call colleagues.

Contract type	Data submitted with 6 weeks + notice	Data submitted within 6 weeks of retirement date
Wholetime	8	3
On Call	0	3

 Retirement pack <u>with contributions mandate</u> is issued to member within 5 working days of receipt from WYPF.
 For the same dataset as above:

Contract type	Pack provided to member within 5 days of issue	Pack sent more than 5 working days after issue
Wholetime	7	4
On Call	2	1

ZOE SMYTH HR Reward & Benefits Manager



Local Pension Board – Training Log

Updated March 2024

	Conflicts of interest	Managing risk and internal controls	Maintaining accurate member data	Maintaining member contributions	Providing information to members and others	Resolving internal disputes	Reporting breaches of the law						
			Scheme Manager	<u>Reps</u>									
Maria Phillips	February 2024	February 2024	February 2024	February 2024	February 2024	February 2024	February 2024						
Satnam Singh Rai	June 2020	June 2020	June 2020	June 2020	June 2020	June 2020	June 2020						
Cllr Simon Coles		New LPB Member											
Shayne Scott	October 2021	October 2021	October 2021	October 2021	October 2021	October 2021	October 2021						
			Scheme Member	Reps									
Phillip Gilbard	December 2021	December 2021	December 2021	December 2021	December 2021	December 2021	December 2021						
James Leslie	March 2020	March 2020	March 2020	March 2020	March 2020	March 2020	March 2020						
Ben Redwood	October 2020	October 2020	October 2020	October 2020	October 2020	October 2020	October 2020						
Gregg Webb													
			Support Office	r <u>s</u>									
Mareena Anderson-Thorne													
Zoe Smyth	September 2021	September 2021	September 2021	September 2021	September 2021	September 2021	September 2021						

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Ref	Context / Causational trigger		Impact) (who/what may be harmed and how)	Gross Impact	Gross Likelihood	Gross Risk Score	Controls in place	Net Impact	Net Likelihood	Net Risk Score	Further controls required	Target Impact	Target Likelihood	Target Risk Score	Control Owner	Risk Owner
PB001a	Cyber attack	Complete loss of systems (WYPF)	Catastrophic loss of capability	5	4	20	Unknown	3	3	9	8. Evidence of BC plan for WYPF	3	3	9		
PB001b	Cyber attack	Complete loss of systems (DSFRS)) No impact on Pension or Payroll. Would impact processing of retirements i.e. notification.	5	4	20	 Technological security tested in recent Pen Test Cyber attack plan BC plans (incl ICT) Staff awareness Additional comms to staff Prog of BC exercises Protective Monitoring System 	3	3	9		3	3	9		Maria Phillips (a: Chair)
	System failure (DSFRS to include power failure)	Temporary loss of systems	Systems unavailable until recovered and potential loss of data	4	3	12	 BC Plan (incl ICT) Departmental BC plans reviewed Additional comms to staff BC exercise 2 Dec 2019 Access to alternative locations (power failure) Back-up generator available (power failure) 	3	3	9	5. Evidence of BC plan for WYPF	3	3	9	 HR R&B Mngr & S Ho ICT HR R&B Mngr HR Reward & Benefits Manager HR R&B Mngr & HoICT HR Reward & Benefits Manager 	ihayne Scott
PB003	Power supply failure (DSFRS)	Temporary loss of systems	Systems unavailable until recovered	3	3	9	 BC Plan (incl ICT, HR & Finance) Departmental BC plans reviewed Access to alternative locations Back-up generator available 	2	3	6	None at this time	2	3	6	 Heads of ICT, S Finance & HR R&B Mngr Heads of ICT, Finance, Estates & HR R&B Mngr Head of Estates Head of Estates 	ihayne Scott
PB004	Industrial Action	Loss of utilities or access to premises	Inability for staff to undertake work	3	3	9	 BC Plan (incl ICT) Departmental BC plans reviewed Access to alternative locations and working from home 	2	3	6	None at this time	3	2	6	 Head of ICT & HR S R&B Mngr Heads of ICT; Finance; Estates & HR R&B Mngr Ho ICT/Estates 	ihayne Scott
PB005	Member data incomplete or inaccurate			3	4	12	 Payroll data for active members is provided by Pay & Conditions on a monthly basis to WYPF Active members, deferred members and pensioners have an online account and can check their information A data reconciliation exercise has been undertaken with GAD. Address data cleanse completed annually and any address found to be incorrect or not known are investigated using a tracing agency. 	2	2	4	None at this time	2	2		1 to 4 HR Reward & Z Benefits Manager	coe Smyth
	Administration process failure/ maladministration		Pensioners may receive incorrect pensions Breaches of pension regulations Fraud by admin staff Fraudulent payments Failure of bank account to make payment Incorrect taxation of benefits	3	4	12	 Pension SLA in place with KPIs Scheme of delegation in place Regular communication with administrator WYPF have significant experience of administering a number of Fire Authorities. Within P&C, we have a settled team who are competent in role. Trend lines within WYPF monthly reports for key measures WYPF to report on the agreed KPIs 	2	2	4	8. Review Pension Administrator's audit reports	2	2		1 to 7 HR Reward & S Benefits Manager 8. Head of Finance	Shayne Scott

Ref	Context / Causational trigger	Hazard (anything that may cause harm)	Impact (who/what may be harmed and how)	Gross Impact	Gross Likelihood	Gross Risk Score	Controls in place	Net Impact	Net Likelihood	Net Risk Score	Further controls required	Target Impact	Target Likelihood	Target Risk Score	Control Owner	Risk Owner
LPB007	Annual Benefit Statement (ABS) not produced in time	Breach of statutory duty	ABS not received by member and likely to be a reportable breach	3	4	12	 Pension data from P&C now available on a monthly basis including yearend data WYPF developing an automated system for ABS statements for the Modified Pension Scheme 	2	2	4	None at this time	2	2	4	1 & 2 HR Reward & Benefits Manager	Zoe Smyth
LPB008	Excessive charges by Pension Administrator	Unplanned increases in charges	Additional pressure on the budgetary efficiency of the Service	3	4	12	 Contracts are controlled by OJEU rules and the contract is subject to renewal on a 5 year basis with the option for an extension for 1-2 years. Contract prices and any adhoc scenarios where additional charges may be incurred 	2	2	4	None at this time	2	2	4	1 & 2 Head of Finance	Shayne Scott
LPB009	Officers or Members acting outside of delegated responsibility	Officers or Members either deliberately or unknowingly acting outside of their delegated responsibility	Additional financial implications for the pension schemes or breach of the pension regulations	3	4	12	 are included in the contract terms. Authority Members have agreed an approved Scheme of Delegation and financial limits for decisions associated with the pensions. A Pensions Discretions Policy is in place. Officers are competent in pension matters and receive CPD training Support and advice is available through the WYPF Client Manager and the LGA Pension Advisors 	2	2	4	None at this time	2	2	4	 Dem Services Manager to 4 HR Reward & Benefits Manager 	Maria Phillips (as Chair)
LPB010	Employer fails to deduct correct pension contributions from members	Incorrect pension contribution being recorded and collected	Active pensioners and DSFRS have to backdate pension contribution arrears	3	4	12	 Pension deductions and rules are set within the payroll system based on earnings New joiners are entered into the applicable pension scheme Staff who have opted-out are auto- enrolled into the applicable pension scheme unless they opt-out again Reconciliation of deduction carried out by Finance on a monthly basis Internal audit review deductions as part of audit scope 	2	2	4	None at this time	2	2		 Head of Finance & 3 HR Reward & Benefits Manager & 5 Head of Finance 	Shayne Scott
LPB011	Failure by the Pension Administrator to interpret rules or legislation correctly	Incorrect pension calculations and estimates	Incorrect pensions received and either backdated employer and employee contributions required or overpayments collected.	3	4	12	 Regular attendance at pension training and update events by WYPF. Regular monitoring of key sources of information e.g. LGA Bulletins, Scheme Advisory Board. DSFRS have regular client meetings with WYPF and scrutinise pension changes 	2	2	4	None at this time	2	2	4	1 to 3 HR Reward & Benefits Manager	Zoe Smyth
LPB012	Annual Statutory Accounts criticised by external auditors / The Pension Regulator	Major issues exist with the Management and Administration and/or accounting for the Firefighter Pension Schemes	Reputational damage to the Service. Dissatisfaction from staff in the service they receive.	3	4	12	 Trained, experienced officers produce the accounts to a detailed timescale. Pension data for the accounts is provided by the Governments Actuary Departments (GAD). Advice available from the Fire Finance network, LGA and Pension Administrator 	2	2	4	None at this time	2	2	4	1 to 3 Head of Finance	Shayne Scott
LPB013	Failure to communicate with staf concerning significant changes to pension arrangements	0	Members could make key pension decisions with inadequate information available to them	3	4	12	 Regular attendance at LGA pension training events. Regular monitoring of key sources of information e.g. LGA Bulletins, Scheme Advisory Board. Client meetings with WYPF and scrutiny of pension changes Ensure information on the impact of promotions to the Annual Allowance is made clear to staff. 	1	2	2	None at this time	1	2	2	1 to 4 HR Reward & Benefits Manager	Zoe Smyth

Ref	Context / Causational trigger	Hazard (anything that may cause harm)	Impact (who/what may be harmed and how)	Gross Impact	Gross Likelihood	Gross Risk Score	Controls in place	Net Impact	Net Likelihood	Net Risk Score	Further controls required	Target Impact	Target Likelihood	Target Risk Score	Control Owner Risk Owner
LPB014	Court of Appeal decision on unlawful discrimination from Transitional arrangements for transfer from the 1992 to 2015 (McCloud/Sargent case)	2015 scheme members will need to be transferred back to their preferred pension scheme	Significant pension administration in making back- dated adjustments to pensions. Implementation of the remedy may be problematic due to data gaps following transfer of payroll and pensions providers	4	5	20	 Employers will be represented at the ET. Ensuring that historic data that might be required is retained to help manage any potential remedy Pension reserve in place to support administration costs Accessing information from LGA to ensure we are fully informed Receiving updates from Fire Finance Network and national reps Legal advice LGA 'coffee mornings' Pensions Officer appointed 	2	5	10	 9. Consideration of data retention pending remedy 10. Ability to take on additional staff to support administration (pending reserve) 11. PSTax Advice to be obtained 	2	5	10	 & 2 HR Reward & Shayne Scott Benefits Manager Head of Finance HR Reward & Benefits Manager Head of Finance to 10 HR Reward & Benefits Manager Head of Finance 11. Head of Finance
LPB015	Court of Appeal decision on unlawful discrimination for Part- time workers prior to 2000 (O'Brien/Matthews case)	Pension entitlement prior to 2000 will need to be calculated and a repayment scheme made available (similar to 2006 modified exercise)	 D Significant pension administration in making back-dated adjustments to pensions. Implementation of the remedy may be problematic due to data gaps following transfer of payroll and pensions providers (and potential to go back to 1976 service) 	3	5	15	 Employers represented at the ET. Ensuring that historic data that might be required is retained to help manage any potential remedy Pension reserve in place to support administration costs Accessing information from LGA to ensure we are fully informed Receiving updates from Fire Finance Network and national reps Pensions Officer appointed 	2	5	10	 7. Consideration of data retention pending remedy 8. Ability to take on additional staff to support administration (pending reserve) 	2	5	10	 1 & 2 HR Reward & Shayne Scott Benefits Manager Head of Finance HR Reward & Benefits Manager Head of Finance to 8 HR Reward & Benefits Manager
LPB016	Flu Pandemic	Pension scheme administration cannot be undertaken	Increase in administration of pensioner records and administrator absence due to illness	3	4	12	 Working at home arrangements HR Business continuity plans Government guidance on healthy workplaces WYPF business continuity arrangements 	2	2	4	None at this time	2	2	4	1 to 4 HR Reward & Zoe Smyth Benefits Manager
LPB017	Loss of Key Staff	Single points of failure	Pensioners may receive incorrect pensions Breaches of pension regulations	3	4	12	 Head of HR supported by Rewards and Benefits Manager Pension SLA in place with KPIs Scheme of delegation in place WYPF has an experienced team P&C has an experienced team. WYPF to report on the agreed KPIs Pensions Officer appointed Additional FTC post in P&C Succession planning in place 	2	2	4	None at this time	2	2	4	1 to 9 HR Reward & Zoe Smyth Benefits Manager
LPB018	GDPR Breach	Failure to comply with GDPR	Prosecution, fines, enforcement notices, civil action, reputational damage.	3	4	12	 GDPR impact assessments conducted by DSFRS as part of GDPR prep GDPR requirements included in pensions administration contract Data sharing agreements in place with WYPF Staff induction and CPD includes GDPR 	2	2	4	None at this time	2	2	4	1 to 4 HR Reward & Zoe Smyth Benefits Manager
LPB019	Failure of LPB members to maintain knowledge and understanding to required level	Failure of LPB to discharge its statutory functions	Breaches of the law. Action by TPR. Reputational damage	3	3	9	 LPB induction includes: TPR CoP 14; TPR e- learning; and LGA training Attendance at LGA Annual Fire Pensions Conference Regular LPB meetings LPB meetings include a training topic to reinforce learning or generate debate TNA and individual training plans 	2	1	2	None at this time	2	1	2	1 to 5 HR Reward & Maria Phillips (as Benefits Manager Chair)
LPB020	Employer incorrectly enrols an employee into the Firefighter's Pension scheme	Failure to auto enrol in an appropriate pension scheme resulting a breach of the law from incorrect application of pension rules and incorrect deductions from pay	Fines or other action by the Pension Regulator. Reputational damage. Staff dissatisfaction and complaints take up management time.	3	4	12	 P&C staff informed that only FF on permanent contracts can be enrolled in the FFPS. P&C staff informed to not include the FFPS in the offer letter for FF on FTCs but to include the LGPS. Auto enrolment for FF on temporary contacts will only be applied under the LGPS. 	2	2	4	None at this time	2	2	4	1 to 3 HR Reward & Zoe Smyth Benefits Manager

Ref	Context / Causational trigger	Hazard Impact (anything that may cause harm) (who/what may be harmed and how)	Gross Impact	Gross Likelihood	Gross Risk Score	Controls in place	Net Impact	Net Likelihood	Net Risk Score	Further controls required	Target Impact	Target Likelihood	Target Risk Score	Control Owner	Risk Owner
LPB021	Reduction in WYPF capacity	 WYPF reported to the Ombudsman/TPR e.g. WYPF failing to issue starter packs - data uploads not being processed. DSFRS Personnel impacted by lack of action Financial Penalty (DSFRS) 	3	5	15	 The Service to monitor and report breaches as soon as they arise HR Management to continue to liaise with WYPF over concerns 	TBC	TBC	#VALUE!	Assurance by WYPF of the risk being monitored	TBC	TBC	#VALUE!		

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Theme	Activity S	16-Ma	r-22 22-Jun-2	22 14-Sep-22	07-Dec-22	15-Mar-23	21-Jun-23	13-Sep-23	06-Dec-23	13-Mar-24	20-Jun-24	11-Sep-24	04-Dec-24
Administration	Confirmation website up to date Y	x	Х	х	х	x	Х	х	х	х	х	х	х
Administration	Correspondence Y	x	Х	х	х	x	Х	х	х	х	х	х	х
Administration	LGA Bulletin Overview Y		Х	х	х	x	Х	х	х	х	х	х	х
Administration	Scheme Manager's Report Y	x	Х	х	х	x	Х	х	х	х	х	х	х
Governance	LPB Work Programme Y	x	Х	х	х	x	Х	х	х	х	х	х	х
Risk and Assurance	KPIs Y	x	Х	х	х	x	Х	х	х	х	х	х	х
Risk and Assurance	LPB Action Log Y	x	Х	х	х	x	Х	х	х	х	х	х	х
Risk and Assurance	Risk Register Y	x	Х	х	х	x	Х	х	х	х	х	х	х
Training	Training Log Y	x	Х	х	х	x	Х	х	х	х	х	х	х
Administration	ABS Feedback			х				х				х	
Governance	Annual Report		Х	х			Х				х		
Governance	Appointments to the Board	x				x				х			
Governance	Review of Breaches												
Governance	Review ToR		Х	х		x				х			
Governance	Roles and Responsibilities		X	х		x				х			
Governance	TPR Annual Survey Results					None				х			
Governance	TPR Annual Survey Return	No 2021/22	survey		None		Х				х		
Risk and Assurance	Annual review of internal controls		Х			x				х			
Risk and Assurance	LPB Audit Report												
Risk and Assurance	TPR Self Assessment		Х				х				х		
Training	Annual Training Needs Analysis			х			Х				х		
Training	Induction for new members		Х					Х				х	

Agenda Item 11

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