



Minutes

Name of meeting	ISLE OF WIGHT FIRE AUTHORITY FIRE FIGHTERS PENSION BOARD
Date and time	FRIDAY, 15 JUNE 2018 COMMENCING AT 2.00PM
Venue	CONFERENCE ROOM 4, COUNTY HALL, NEWPORT, ISLE OF WIGHT
Employer Representatives	Cllrs Reg Barry, Tig Outlaw
Scheme Member Representatives	Nigel Probert (Chairman), Ross Singleton
Officers	Matthew Collier, Employment Services Lead Officer Jo Thistlewood, Technical Finance Manager Megan Tuckwell, Democratic Services Officer

1. [Minutes](#)

RESOLVED :

THAT the Minutes of the meeting held on 23 March 2018 be confirmed.

2. [Declarations of Interest](#)

There were no declarations received.

4. [Local Government Association Survey](#)

The board discussed the outcomes of the 2017 Local Government Association survey on Fire Pension Boards, and the Technical Finance Manager advised the board that no action or recommendation was required.

The board agreed that they were fully compliant, had appropriate terms of reference, risk register, corporate membership, and that the budget was consistent with that of other boards. It was noted that the Pension Regulator's governance self-assessment tool should be updated, and would be presented at the next board meeting.

RESOLVED:

THAT the survey be noted.

5. [Financial Information](#)

Discussion took place regarding the funding of fire pensions schemes, including the financial information required to be reported in the annual accounts of the Isle of Wight Council. Additionally, consideration was given to membership of the fire pension scheme and noted movements since last reported in January 2018. It was advised that very little movement occurs within the scheme membership, and that the largest issue was resolving the treatment of the undecided leavers; this would be a priority for the administration team. The board discussed data cleansing and it was noted that retirement predictions can be made based on age. It was advised that the pension team were looking at promoting the member self-service portal to enable members of the schemes to run their own retirement estimates.

RESOLVED:

THAT the update be noted.

6. [Issues Log](#)

The Technical Finance Manager presented the Issues Log and highlighted the continuing progress that was being made. The chairman advised that he had had a meeting with the chairman of the Hampshire Fire Authority Fire Fighters Pension Board to establish processes comparatively and learn best practise. This prompted discussion on the Hampshire Fire Fighters Pension Board website and it was noted that this may be a good framework to formulate our own. The Technical Finance Manager noted that she would be attending the Hampshire Fire Authority Fire Fighters Pension Board on 5 July 2018 as an observer. The board was advised that there was not set criteria for marking the issues however the general consensus was that it is effective and follows the framework; red – new cases, amber – issues was being looked into, green – the issue was being addressed. They are then removed from the log once completed. It was advised that issues are reported by whoever has them raised initially.

RESOLVED:

THAT the update be noted.

7. [Training](#)

The Technical Finance Manager provided an update and it was agreed that the board need to reconsider how training is recorded, to include development sessions, report presentations during meetings, and formal training courses. The Employment Services Lead Officer noted the development session that took place for members of the 1992 scheme, and noted that feedback had been quiet but generally positive.

The Technical Finance Manager noted that a free training session was available from the LGA providing the board establish what they specifically wanted to achieve. Discussion took place regarding the difficulties of mainland

training and it was agreed that board should endeavour to get the optimum value for money of any courses they attend. It was agreed that suggestions for the training would be sent to the Technical Finance Manager.

RESOLVED:

THAT board members provide the Technical Finance Manager with suggestions for training.

8. Breaches and Complaints

The Technical Finance Manager noted that no complaints or breaches had been reported. The board were advised that breaches would go onto the issues log and that an annual report may be provided at a later stage.

RESOLVED:

THAT the update be noted.

9. Decision Structure

The Chairman and Technical Finance Manager presented the decision making structure for the council/fire authority as both the employer and scheme manager for the fire pension schemes. It was noted that this may be a useful tool for members of the fire pension schemes, employees, departments across the council, and elected members. However the board did note the difficulty in illustrating the complexity of the decision making process.

RESOLVED:

THAT the update be noted.

10. Work Plan

The board discussed the work plan. It was noted that the Employment Services Lead Officer had an annual administrative work plan which could be merged to ensure no deadlines or opportunities would be missed. Questions were raised regarding the 12-week consultation for a potential Combined Fire Authority (CFA) and it was clarified that, if the fire services were to be combined, the Isle Of Wight Fire Authority Fire Fighters Pension Board would no longer be required however; the Isle of Wight members could be represented on the new Combined Fire Authority board.

RESOLVED:

THAT the update be noted.

CHAIRMAN