

DURHAM COUNTY COUNCIL

At a Meeting of **Local Pension Board** held in Committee Room 2 - County Hall, Durham on **Thursday 6 September 2018 at 2.00 pm**

Present:

Councillor A Hopgood (Chair)

Scheme Member Representative:

Geoff Sykes

Also Present:

Beverley White – Finance Manager – Pensions and Technical

1 Apologies for Absence

Apologies for absence were received from Councillor Fraser Tinsley, Ian Densham and Neville Hancock.

2 Declarations of Interest

There were no declarations of interest.

3 Minutes

The Minutes of the meeting held on 14 June 2018 were agreed as a correct record and were signed by the Chair.

4 Observations from Pension Fund Committee held on 6 September 2018

There were no members of the Board in attendance at the Committee but Beverley White highlighted key points from the meeting.

Members were informed that Nick Orton, Pensions Manager was leaving the Authority and the Board sought an assurance that service delivery would not be affected. Beverly White advised that the post would be filled.

AGREED:

That the information given be noted.

5 Training

Members were informed that as discussed at the Pension Fund Committee a training session was proposed for Members of the Committee and the Local Pension Board on those areas identified as part of the training needs gap analysis. This was due to be held towards the end of September, following which Members would be asked to complete the training needs analysis questionnaire for further review, and with a view to providing further training on specific areas such as global equities.

The BCPP Annual Conference was scheduled to be held in Leeds on 8 and 9 November 2018, to which Local Pension Board members were invited to attend.

AGREED:

That the information given be noted.

6 Work Plan

a Local Government Pension Scheme Administering Authority and Employer Discretions

The Board considered a report of the Corporate Director of Resources which advised the Board of the choices available to the Administering Authority and to employers under the regulations governing the Local Government Pension Scheme and how these were being exercised within the Pension Fund (for copy see file of Minutes).

In discussing the report the Board asked for clarification with regard to the Council's policy to review all employee contribution bands on a monthly basis as opposed to an annual reassessment, and why the rate was not calculated based upon the employee's basic salary.

AGREED:

That the report be noted and Members be provided with clarification regarding the rate of employees' contributions.

b Review of Work Plan

Members noted that with the exception of the review of Key Performance Indicators all areas of the current Work Plan had been completed. Members considered that the areas within the current Plan were still relevant, and should form the basis of the Board's Work Plan for the next two years.

AGREED:

That a new Work Plan be drafted for the period December 2018 to September 2020.

7 Date of Next Meeting

AGREED that the next meeting be held at 2.00pm on Thursday 6 December 2018.