

North Yorkshire County Council

Pension Board

16 January 2020

Progress on issues raised by the Committee

Report of the Assistant Chief Executive (Legal and Democratic Services)

1.0 Purpose of the report

1.1 To advise Members of:-

- Progress on issues raised at previous meetings;
- Issues that may have arisen, relating to the work of the Board, since the previous meeting

2.0 Background

2.1 This report is submitted to each meeting listing the Board's previous Resolutions where further information is to be submitted to future meetings. The table below represents the list of issues which were identified at previous Pension Board meetings and which have not yet been resolved.

Date	Minute No and subject	Resolution/Action	Comment/completed
18 January 2018 / 12 April 2018/ 19 July 2018/ 11 October 2018/24 January 2019/18 July 2019/3 October 2019	Minute No 123 – Annual discussion with Treasurer of NYPF / Minute no 145 – Pooling / Minute no. 166 – Pooling / Minute no 177(b) - progress on issues raised/ Minute no 202 (b) – progress on issues raised/ Minute no 217(b) – progress on issues raised	Arrange a meeting between representatives from the various Pension Boards of those Pension Funds involved in BCPP to discuss the development of the Pool.	A further meeting took place during the BCPP Conference on 10 October 2019 – the Chair will provide feedback
18 July 2019	Minute No 201 (b) – Vacancies for Employer and Scheme Member representatives	Vacancies for both an Employer Representative and a Scheme Member Representative remain and efforts continue to fill these.	An update on this position will be provided at the meeting.

<p>3 October 2019</p>	<p>Minute No 216 (c) – Membership of the Board</p>	<p>The term of office for Members of the Board that had served since its introduction would come to an end at the January Meeting, following a short extension to those terms.</p> <p>Those Members would either need to be re-appointed or step down, and their vacancy filled, utilising the correct process.</p> <p>The Members involved were:</p> <p>Independent Chair – David Portlock Gordon Gresty Louise Branford-White (all seeking re-appointment) County Councillor Mike Jordan (standing down)</p>	<p>The County Council Meeting held on 13 November 2019 considered the appointments, as Administering Authority for the NYPF, and re-appointed</p> <p>Independent Chair – David Portlock Gordon Gresty Louise Branford-White</p> <p>for a further four years.</p> <p>County Councillor Bob Baker was appointed as an Employer Representative, representing NYCC, for a four year period, replacing County Councillor Mike Jordan.</p> <p>The appointments would take effect following the January Meeting of the Pension Board.</p>
<p>20 July 2017/18 January 2018/ 19 July 2018/24 January 2019/11 April 2019/18 July 2019/ 3 October 2019</p>	<p>Minute No 100 – Risk Register / Minute No 123 – Annual discussion with Treasurer of NYPF / Minute no 177(b) – progress on Issues raised / Minute no 186 Pooling / Minute no 217(b) – progress on Issues raised</p>	<p>That Pension Board Members be provided with the background documents/ staffing structure/ financial information in relation to pooling. Following that, a structure was required to determine how reports were to be provided, going forward. This remained a significant issue particularly in respect of the amount of documentation considered to be confidential by BCPP, which hindered the scrutiny and monitoring process of the Board,</p>	<p>The Board was provided with details of the relevant information, to enable them to monitor the development of the pooling arrangements directly by the Treasurer of the NYPF, however, an appropriate reporting mechanism has still to be established, with a significant proportion of reports still deemed to be confidential by BCPP. The Treasurer continued to address this matter with BCPP.</p>

18 July 2019 / 3 October 2019	Minute no 206 – Review of Terms of Reference / Minute no 217(b) – progress on Issues raised	Review of the Board’s Terms of Reference given the significant changes to the LGPS since the Board was established.	A recommended change to the Terms of Reference was agreed by the meeting of the County Council held on 13 November 2019.
3 October 2019	Minute no 221 – Pensions Administration	Issuing of the 2019 Annual Benefits Statements – despite significant improvements to the numbers issued, in comparison to previous years, the target of 100% had not been achieved.	Members stated that they would welcome the analysis of the non-issuing of the ABS and would monitor the situation, going forward, to determine whether a breach of regulations should be reported to the Pensions Regulator. They all asked for details of any particular employer that had contributed to the non-issuing of ABS through the provision of untimely or inaccurate data.
3 October 2019	Minute no 223 – Governance of the Fund	Hymans Robertson Report on Good Governance in the LGPS – Members raised concerns regarding the potential for the creation of new local authority bodies and joint committees to oversee the LGPS, which had been raised as part of this study/consultation.	Members agreed to monitor developments in relation to any potential changes to governance arrangements from the Scheme Advisory Board, going forward.
3 October 2019	Minute no 223 – Governance of the Fund	Independent Observer’s Annual Report on the Fund – The report had raised an issue regarding the reporting of Internal Audit reports, with these having been historically reported to the Pension Board, but not to the Pension Fund Committee and it was queried whether this practice was appropriate.	It was noted that, should there be any issues of concern that these would be brought to the attention of the Committee, either by the Board or the Treasurer, however, the Chair would raise the matter with the PFC during his report back on Pension Board issues at their next meeting.

3 October 2019	Minute no 224 – Investment Strategy Review	Concern was expressed regarding the report back from the Scheme Member representative on the BCPP Joint Committee, and it was suggested that the confidentiality imposed on many of the emerging details required a much more robust challenge.	That the reports back continue to be monitored to determine whether the BCPP Joint Committee was being challenged effectively in respect of its confidentiality imposed on issues discussed.
3 October 2019	Minute no 225 Skills Matrix / Self- Evaluation Questionnaire	The skills matrix/self-assessment questionnaire, was now also to be completed by Members of the Pension Fund Committee, therefore, it was considered that their results be awaited to allow an overall training plan to be developed.	That, following the results and evaluation of the skills matrix/self-assessment questionnaire from the returned questionnaires from Pension Fund Committee Members, an all-encompassing training plan be developed.
18 July 2019 / 3 October 2019	Minute no 211 – Internal Audit reports/ Minute no 217(b) – progress on Issues raised	Monitor the position regarding the exchange of data from NYCC ESS service and the NYPF following a “limited Assurance” rating in relation to the internal audit report undertaken in respect of Pension Fund Expenditure.	The Pension Fund expenditure internal audit for 2019/20 would give further consideration to this matter to determine whether recommended action has been implemented, and processes have been improved. Details would be reported back to the Pension Board.

3.0 Recommendation

3.1 That the report be noted and further action be undertaken where required.

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Background Documents – None