

Annual Review of the Buckinghamshire Pension Board

The Public Service Pensions Act 2013 introduced the requirement to have a Local Pensions Board to assist in the good governance of the scheme. The Buckinghamshire Pension Board meets three times per annum and consists of 4 Employer and 4 Member representatives. Attendance at the meetings has been good, with an overall attendance rate of 71%.

All members of the Board have voting rights.

On 31 March 2017, the Board members were:

Scheme member representatives

- Reece Bowman
- Peter Dearden
- Steve Mason (Chairman)
- Joe McGovern

Scheme employer representatives

- Bev Black
- Roona Ellis (Vice Chairman)
- Ian Thompson
- *Vacant post*

Members of the Board are required to disclose any declarations of interest at the beginning of each Buckinghamshire Pension Board meeting. All members of the Board are encouraged to undertake some hours of self-study by completing the Pension Regulator's Public Services toolkit for online learning which includes modules on conflicts of interest, managing risk and internal controls, maintaining accurate member data, maintaining member contributions, providing information to members and others, resolving internal disputes and reporting breaches of the law.

A training needs analysis was undertaken in autumn 2016 to identify further training needs. Whilst there were no key themes identified for further training, the Chairman and Vice Chairman both attended the "LGPS Fundamentals" training course, which is periodically run by the Local Government Pension Committee over three days. This is a comprehensive course based on the knowledge and understanding needs set out by the Scheme Advisory Board and attendance will enable Board members to consolidate their familiarity with the topics. It was therefore recommended that all Board members attend this training event.

During 2016/17 the Board reviewed the Fund's

- quarterly Employer newsletters,
- year-end administration updates,
- 2015/16 Annual Report and Accounts,
- updated Pensions Administration Strategy,
- 2017/18 Communications plan,
- complaints under the Internal Disputes Resolution Procedure (IDRP), and
- risk register.

Furthermore, at each of its meetings, the Board scrutinised the Pension Fund Committee agenda and minutes and received updates regarding the progress in

implementing the Brunel Pension Partnership as part of the Government LGPS Investments reform agenda.

The Board's Chairman, Steve Mason, presented an update on the work of the Board at the Fund's general meeting which took place in December 2016.

The Buckinghamshire Pension Board continues to work closely with Members of the Pension Fund Committee and senior officers to help ensure the smooth operation of the administration of the LGPS in Buckinghamshire.