



Report to Pension Fund Board

Date: 16 December 2020

Title: Breaches of the Law

Author and/or contact officer: Claire Lewis-Smith, Pensions Administration Manager

Recommendation: The Board is asked to **NOTE** the content of this report and **COMMENT** on the breaches log.

Executive summary

The Procedure for Reporting Breaches of the Law complies with the requirements of the [Pensions Act 2004](#) and the [Pensions Regulator's Code of Practice](#). The procedure details how individuals responsible for reporting and whistleblowing can identify, assess and report (or record if not reported), a breach of law relating to the Buckinghamshire Pension Fund.

Content of report

The Breach Log at Appendix 1 to this report was originally presented to the Board on 14 October 2020. The attached provides an update of the position regarding outstanding contributions due to the Fund.

In addition to the updated position on receipt of contributions, a further 11 refunds were paid in Q2 in respect of payments made more than 5 years after the scheme member left. It was also reported that 78.9% of annual benefit statements were issued by the statutory deadline of 31 August, due to a late return from a large employer. Working with this employer and others who had data queries, as prescribed in the Fund's Pension Administration Strategy, has resulted in an increase in the number of statements issued, to 93.57% as at 30 November.

Other options considered

Not applicable.

Legal and financial implications

The procedure details how individuals responsible for reporting and whistleblowing can identify, assess and report (or record if not reported) a breach of law relating to the Buckinghamshire Pension Fund. It aims to ensure individuals responsible are able to meet their obligations and avoid placing any reliance on others to report. The procedure also assists in providing an early warning of possible malpractice and reduces risk to the Fund.

Consultation and communication

Not applicable.

Next steps and review

Outstanding actions will be completed as detailed in Appendix 1. The Breach Log is reviewed annually.

