

**Scheme Advisory Board – Local Pension Board Survey**

**Purpose of the Report**

1. The purpose of this report is to agree a proposed response to the Scheme Advisory Board (SAB) Local Pension Board Survey.

**Background**

2. The SAB recently invited the chairs of LGPS pension committees and local pension boards to participate in a survey to assess the effectiveness and operational efficiency of the new governance arrangements with emphasis on the role and function of the local pension board.
3. SAB agreed that the survey should also be extended to scheme stakeholders the main local government trade unions.
4. SAB requested LGPS pension committees and administering authorities to forward the request to complete this return onto their respective pension committee chairs and, for completeness, the chair of their local pension board.
5. SAB considers that it would be appropriate and timely to test the effectiveness and operational efficiency of the new governance arrangements with emphasis on the role and function of local pension boards and interaction with their administering authority.
6. The survey is intended to enable SAB to identify any areas of the legislation or related guidance affecting local pension boards that may need to be reviewed to ensure that the statutory requirements of the 2013 Regulations and code of practice issued by the Pensions Regulator are being met. Where appropriate, the Board may make recommendations to DCLG for any regulatory changes that are considered necessary.
7. To ensure impartiality, the survey is being sent separately to both the administering authority on behalf of their section 101 pension's committee and their local pension board who are invited to complete the same survey independently.
8. However, this is not to exclude any administering authority and their local pension board from collaborating on their respective responses where this is agreed locally. The closing date for survey responses is the 28th July 2017, though this could be extended if that closing date precludes consideration of the survey by a meeting of the pensions committee or local pension board.
9. Administering authorities are also invited to publicise the survey locally on their web site.
10. The response for the Section 101 Pension Committee will be considered by the Chairman and agreed with the Committee by email.
11. The response from the Board will be discussed by the Chairman of the Local Pension Board at the meeting.

**Key Considerations for the Board**

12. The template for responses is attached.

13. The Board is asked to consider a proposed response to this survey on behalf of the Local Pension Board.

**Financial Considerations & Risk Assessment**

14. There are no financial implications from this report.

15. The survey ensures the Fund is continually considering the effectiveness of its governance arrangements.

**Legal Implications and Environmental Impact of the Proposal**

16. There are no material legal or environmental impacts of these proposals.

**Safeguarding Considerations/Public Health Implications/Equalities Impact**

17. There are no known implications at this time.

**Reasons for Proposals**

18. To ensure the Board submits an agreed response to the SAB survey.

**Proposals**

19. The Board is asked to approve a proposed response to the SAB survey.

MICHAEL HUDSON  
Treasurer to the Pension Fund

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Unpublished documents relied upon in the production of this report: NONE