

## WILTSHIRE COUNCIL

WILTSHIRE LOCAL PENSION BOARD  
15 OCTOBER 2020

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### **PENSION FUND – TRAINING UPDATE**

#### **Purpose of the Report**

1. In light of the restrictions due to COVID-19 which have prevented members from attending conferences, seminars & other events the purpose of this report is to update members on a new training & development portal being offered by Hymans Robertson.

#### **Background**

2. The Public Service Pensions Act 2013 requires all members of local pension boards to have an appropriate level of knowledge and understanding (K&U) in order that they can carry out their roles.
3. To facilitate this function Hymans Robertson have developed a new on-line training platform which will enable members to maintain their K&U, track a member's progress and issue automatic reminders, if required, to ensure the fulfilment of their statutory obligation. The platform, which is due to be released in Autumn 2020 can also provide progress reports for both new & long servicing members, which will feed into the publication of the Fund's training programme, including the Annual Report & Accounts & Local Pension Board Annual Report.
4. Whilst the final pricing is still under review, it is anticipated that it will be based on the number of users which have signed up. Initial guidance from Hymans suggests that if 10 people sign up for the course it would cost around £300 per person. However, this would gradually fall on a sliding scale whereby if 20 people signed up for the service it would cost £200 per person & would cover a minimum contractual term of two years.
5. On the basis that all Committee members, their substitutes & board members are enrolled a total membership of 24 could be expected to benefit from this service. Ten, Seven & seven members respectively.

#### **Considerations for the Board**

6. It is anticipated that each on-line training module will last between 10 & 20 minutes & will cover a range of practice areas. In addition, it is expected that these modules will be added too & updated in order that the content remains relevant. The expected list of modules will include;

Current subjects	
LGPS Legislation & Guidance	AVCs
LGPS Regulators and Oversight Bodies	Pension Fund Accounting & Audit
LGPS Governance	Investments - Strategy
LGPS Business Planning & Service Delivery	Investment - Pooling
Funding Strategy	Investment – Performance Monitoring
Actuarial Valuations	Investment – Responsible Investment
LGPS Employers	Investment – MiFID II

LGPS Administration	LGPS Suppliers and Public Procurement
Policies and Procedures	Cost Sharing*
McCloud*	Goodwin Case*

7. \*Modules not currently prepared but anticipated will follow.
8. Along with officer training provided at meetings & other training activities such as tPR toolkit, this introduction of this training portal will ensure that all members maintain the level of recognised K&U expected under the CIPFA knowledge & skills framework.

### **Conclusions**

9. Officers continue to liaise with Hymans concerning the contractual details associated with the introduction of this product, in particular its costs, however it is felt that in principle this product would be a beneficial addition to the members training & development programme.

### **Environmental Impact**

10. There is no environmental impact from this report.

### **Financial Considerations**

11. There are no immediate financial considerations.

### **Risk Assessment**

12. There are no risks identified at this time.

### **Legal Implications**

13. There are no immediate legal implications arising from this report.

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

14. There are no implications at this time.

### **Proposals**

15. The Board is asked to approve their own use of this training platform. In addition, they are asked to recommend that the Committee members & their substitutes also adopt the introduction of this training platform for the next two years.

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