

WILTSHIRE COUNCIL

WILTSHIRE LOCAL PENSION BOARD

25 January 2017

Update of Training Plans for the Local Pension Board

Purpose of the Report

1. The purpose of this report is to provide an update on the Local Pension Boards (LPB) Training Plan.

Background

2. The Pension Regulator (tPR) Code of Practice no.14: 'Governance and administration of public service and pensions schemes' states every individual who is a member of a LPB must be conversant with the rules of the Local Government Pension Scheme (LGPS), any document recording policy about the administration of the Fund, and have knowledge and understanding of the law relating to pensions along with such other matters as may be prescribed.
3. At the last meeting the Board were presented with its annual training review and resolved to:
 - *To note the progress of the implementation of the current Board Training Plans and to revisit training plans at the January meeting;*
 - *To request that the Training Handbook be published online and that members are encouraged to make use of this resource.*
 - *That members notify the Head of Pensions of training sessions they have attended and events they are invited to in the future.*
 - *That Board members complete the Pensions Regulator toolkit before the end of 2016 and update the Head of Pensions accordingly.*
 - *That at least one member of the Board attend the LGE LGPS 'Trustees' Training Fundamentals three-day course and to ask members to express their interest to the Head of Pensions.*
4. This paper provides the further update on progress as requested.

Considerations for the Board

Members Handbook

5. The Board Members handbook was reviewed at the last meeting and an electronic version has been sent to all Board Members. This provides an overview of the Fund along with outlining the role and responsibilities of the Local Pension Board and includes a section at the back where all the slides and appropriate links will be saved from all the internal training session that have been undertaken. This will be live document and updated as further training takes place to become a single reference source. A redacted version can also be found on the Fund's website.

Delivery of Training Plan

6. Following the last meeting the Head of Pensions requested all Board members review their personal training logs held by the Fund and provide details of all other training events attended.
7. Appendix A shows the updated training logs for the Board and the delivery of training to date. This has been colour coded to show the status of the training:
 - Mandatory – red,
 - Advisory – amber,
 - Optional – green,
 - Additional – white
8. Appendix A also shows the completion of each individual Board Members training using the following colour coding:
 - Completed / Attended - green,
 - Non-completion / attendance of Advisory training – amber,
 - Non-completion / attendance of Mandatory training – red,
 - Non-completion / attendance of Additional training – white,
 - Training not applicable to Member – black.
9. Appendix B shows the current Local Pension Board Training Plan with the completed areas in green and those overdue in red.

LGE LGPS ‘Trustees’ Training Fundamentals

10. The LGE LGPS ‘Trustee’ Training Fundamentals course is a three-day course aimed at both Committee and Local Pension Board Members. The courses are usually held between September and December at a number of locations around the country. The three days are not consecutive and Members can choose the day’s most relevant to them if they have experience in certain areas. Further information will be sent to the Board Members asking for a nomination when the course details for 2017 are released.
11. As a reminder, if any Member feels that a specific training need has not been met, or further training is needed then contact the Head of Pensions who can either arrange a 1:1 session or suggest further appropriate training. There are a range of conferences, networking events, newsletters that are made available to Members as appropriate.

Environmental Impact of the Proposal

12. Not applicable.

Financial Considerations & Risk Assessment

13. There are no significant financial implications from this report. The costs of providing training to the LPB has already been included in the budget projections elsewhere on this agenda.
14. The development and implementation of a training policy will ensure LPB Members have sufficient knowledge and understanding to carry out their duties effectively and meets the requirements outlined in tPR Code of Practice No 14.

Legal Implications

15. Implementation of the Training Plan and Framework will ensure Board Members meet the statutory requirements outlined in the scheme regulations as failure to do so may require the Fund to report a breach to the Pensions Regulator.

Safeguarding Considerations/Public Health Implications/Equalities Impact

16. There are no known implications at this time.

Reasons for Proposals

17. To ensure the LPB is able to meet the statutory requirements of ensuring all its Board Members have capacity to fulfil their obligations associated with their role.

Proposals

18. The Board is asked to note the progress of the implementation of the current Members Training Plans.

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Treasurer to the Pension Fund

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