

Report to: Pension Board

Date of meeting: 26 June 2017

By: Chief Operating Officer

Title: Local Pension Board Survey

Purpose: This report provides the Board with the Scheme Advisory Board (SAB) invitation to the Pension Board to participate in a survey, which assess the effectiveness and operational efficiency of the new governance arrangements.

RECOMMENDATION -

The Board is recommended to:

- 1. note the Scheme Advisory Board (SAB) survey, and**
 - 2. discuss and agree the draft survey response**
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1. Background

1.1 The Scheme Advisory Board (SAB) has invited the Chairs of the East Sussex Pension Committees and the Pension Board to participate in a survey to assess the effectiveness and operational efficiency of the new governance arrangements with particular emphasis on the role and function of the local pension board. SAB agreed that the survey should also be extended to scheme stakeholders.

1.2 Regulation 106 of the Local Government Pension Scheme Regulations 2013 required LGPS administering authorities to establish local pension boards by 1st April 2015 to assist them in the effective administration and governance of the scheme.

1.3 Given the passage of time since the establishment of the ESPF Pension Board, the Scheme Advisory Board considers that it would be appropriate and timely to test the effectiveness and operational efficiency of the new governance arrangements with particular emphasis on the role and function of Pension Board and interaction with the Pension Committee - administering authority.

2. Local Pension Board Survey

2.1 The web based survey is intended to enable the 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.

2.2 The link to the survey was sent separately to both the administering authority - Pension Committee and the Pension Board, who are invited to complete the same survey independently. However, this is not to exclude the Committee and the Board from collaborating on their respective responses where this is agreed locally.

2.3 The closing date for survey responses is the **28 July 2017**. To ensure that all relevant scheme stakeholders have an opportunity to participate, the website link to the survey has been published on the ESPF website and circulated to the Fund employers through the ESFOA monthly newsletter.

3. Conclusion and recommendations

3.1 The Board need to agree the draft survey response, the Regulator will not be disclosing individual data to third parties whereas the Scheme Advisory Board will be able to make greater use of individual responses to their survey in assessing whether any changes to regulations or guidance need to be made.

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BACKGROUND DOCUMENTS:

None