

**Report to:** Pension Committee

**Date of meeting:** 21 September 2020

**By:** Chief Financial Officer

**Title:** Discretionary Policy for Death Payments

**Purpose:** Annual Review of Discretionary Policy for Death Payments

---

## **RECOMMENDATIONS:**

**The Pension Committee is recommended to consider and agree the Discretionary Policy for Death Payments contained in appendix 1 of this report.**

---

### **1. Background**

1.1 This report outlines the approach that East Sussex County Council ("ESCC"), acting in its capacity as administering authority to the East Sussex Pension Fund exercises its discretion over who should receive a death grant in a way that is compliant with the Local Government Pension Scheme ("LGPS") Regulations, in accordance with acknowledged best practice and consistent with precedence established by The Pensions Ombudsman. These policies are subject to annual review, and this report presents the latest update of Discretionary Policy relating to Death Payments, to be formally noted by the Board.

1.2 The report has been passed to the Pension Board ahead of the Pension Committee for prior information and comment.

### **2. Supporting Information**

2.1 This policy is necessary to ensure that the death benefit process is fair and transparent for all potential death grant recipients and to provide a robust process that mitigates the risks of successful appeals under the Internal Dispute Resolution Procedure.

### **3. Conclusion and reasons for recommendations**

3.1 The Pension Committee is recommended to consider and agree the policy as set out in Appendix 1 to this report.

**IAN GUTSELL**

**Chief Financial Officer**

Contact Officer: Michelle King  
Tel. No. 01273 482017  
Email: [Michelle.king@eastsussex.gov.uk](mailto:Michelle.king@eastsussex.gov.uk)