

**Report to:** Pension Board

**Date:** 12 May 2016

**By:** Chief Operating Officer

**Title:** Internal Dispute Resolution Procedure (IDRP)

**Purpose:** To outline the IDRP process and give details of the Stage 1 and Stage 2 procedures

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## **RECOMMENDATION -**

**The Board is recommended to note the Internal Dispute Resolution Procedure.**

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### **1. Background**

1.1 Under Regulation 74 of the Local Government Pension Scheme Regulations 2013, any person whose rights or liabilities under the scheme are affected by a decision or any other act or omission by a scheme employer or administering authority may apply to have the decision reviewed.

### **2. Internal Dispute Resolution Procedure (IDRP)**

2.1 The internal dispute resolution procedure (IDRP) is a statutory part of the Scheme and applies to both employers and the administering authority. The main features of the arrangements are:

- Responsibility for determinations under Stage 1 of the procedure (arrangements for the determination of disputes) is to be vested in a "specified person". At this stage, the adjudicator will look at the case afresh and provide their decision
- Responsibility for determinations under Stage 2 of the procedure rests with the Administering Authority's Appointed Person. At this stage the appointed person will reconsider the decision made.

### **3. Who can use the Internal Dispute Resolution Procedures?**

3.1 The guidance describes our formal procedures for settling complaints and explains why they have been set up. We hope that most problems can be dealt with informally but recognise that sometimes this is not possible.

- Current members of the pension scheme
- Former members who have deferred benefits in the scheme
- Members receiving a pension from the scheme
- Widows, widowers, surviving civil partners or dependents of deceased members

### **4. Conclusion and recommendations**

4.1 If the Member is still dissatisfied with the decision after stage 1 and 2 have been completed, the Member can appeal to the Pensions Ombudsman.

4.2 It is recommended the Board note the updated IDRP guide.

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Background Documents

None