

FIREFIGHTER PENSION SCHEMES MINUTES OF MEETING 17 MAY 2022 - CONFERENCE ROOMS 2&3

PRESENT:	EMPLOYER REPRESENTATIVES Councillor Teresa Higgins – Chair Councillor Ben Clayton Councillor Steve Matthews Councillor Lynn Hall (Sub) EMPLOYEE REPRESENTATIVES Dave Howe – Vice Chair Sidney Walker Alan Turner
IN ATTENDANCE:	Ian Hayton - Scheme Manager Beverley Parker - Governance/Training Advisor Michelle Richardson – Technical Pension Advisor Paul Mudd – Governance Manager XPS Business Services

- 1. APOLOGIES FOR ABSENCE**
No apologies were received.
- 2. DECLARATION OF MEMBERS INTERESTS**
It was noted no Declarations of Interests were submitted to the meeting.
- 3. MINUTES**
RESOLVED – that the Minutes of the Local Pension Board Meeting on 8 February 2022 be confirmed.
- 4. SCHEME MANAGER’S REPORT TO THE BOARD**
The Board considered the Scheme Manager’s (SM) report which included the following updates:

4. SCHEME MANAGER'S REPORT TO THE BOARD cont.

- Terms of Reference & Annual Work Programme 2021/22 – no changes
- Discretions Applied – none
- Ill Health – one case assessed by IQMP and approved by Scheme Manager at lower tier.
- Appeals – none
- IDRP – none
- Members and Movement - noted
- Cyber Security – no breaches - Cyber Essential Plus (CE+) accredited
- Breach of the law - one data breach relating to information of 17 CFA Members was reported on 26 April 2022. XPS outlined the breach in detail and gave assurances that it had been fully investigated by XPS. Consequently, it was agreed, in consultation with the Scheme Manager and Data Protection Officer, to be recorded as a 'Green' breach and recorded on the Breaches Register. The Board agreed that it was good practice for XPS to contact 17 members involved.
- Risk Registers - noted
- Legal Update - noted
- Training and Development - noted

RESOLVED:-

- (i) **That the Scheme Manager's Report be noted.**
- (ii) **That a response be sent to the 17 affected members.**

5. PERFORMANCE

5.1 Complaints

There were no complaints for Q4.

5.2 Contract Performance Management Update

M. Richardson reported a disappointing reduction in compliance to 69% and confirmed the Brigade was actively working with XPS to understand the causes and establish an improvement plan. P. Mudd confirmed this was down to recruitment and training issues.

RESOLVED – that the Contract Performance Management update be noted.

6. XPS BUSINESS SERVICES UPDATE

The Board noted the XPS Business Services Update Report.

P. Mudd confirmed that only 40.8% of Members had registered with self-service against a national average of 44.6%. He confirmed that XPS will be contacting Members in June to invite them to sign up online ahead of the publication of Annual Pension Statements in August.

P. Mudd addressed the performance issues from the first quarter of 2022 and gave assurance that XPS was looking at the impact of its working from home model, call volumes and training of new staff to address this.

6. XPS BUSINESS SERVICES UPDATE Cont.

RESOLVED: -

- (i) That the XPS Business Services update be noted.**
- (ii) That future XPS Business Service Update reports include a glossary.**

7. COMMUNICATIONS AND BULLETINS

7.1 FPS Bulletins

Members considered the following bulletins:

- Bulletin 53
- Bulletin 54
- Bulletin 55

M. Richardson confirmed that the bulletins had been circulated to the Board and all actions would be implemented.

RESOLVED – that the Communications and Bulletins be noted.

8. SCHEME ADVISORY BOARD UPDATE

The Board noted the Scheme Advisory Board agenda for 24 March 2022.

RESOLVED – that the Scheme Advisory Board agenda for 24 March 2022 be noted.

9. IMMEDIATE DETRIMENT

The SM provided the Board with an update on the Authority's current position in relation to Immediate Detriment. This was to 'pause' the continued implementation of the previously adopted Immediate Detriment Framework until there was absolute clarity on the financial implication to the Authority. The Board acknowledged the Authority's difficult position and expressed sympathy for those impacted by the situation. Members also thanked the SM and M. Richardson for their continued efforts to seek a resolution.

RESOLVED - That the Authority be updated on the latest position.

10. ANY OTHER BUSINESS

D. Howe raised a number of queries on behalf of scheme members. These were relating to additional voluntary contributions, time brought in from other pension schemes and ill health retirements. M Richardson agreed to provide answers to the queries via email.

RESOLVED – That M Richardson provides a response to respond to

**COUNCILLOR TERESA HIGGINS
CHAIR**