

North Yorkshire County Council

Pension Board

13 January 2022

Progress on issues raised by the Board

Report of the Assistant Chief Executive (Legal and Democratic Services)

1.0 Purpose of the report

1.1 To advise Members of:-

- Progress on issues raised at previous meetings;
- Issues that may have arisen, relating to the work of the Board, since the previous meeting

2.0 Background

2.1 This report is submitted to each meeting listing the Board's previous Resolutions where further information is to be submitted to future meetings. The table below represents the list of issues which were identified at previous Pension Board meetings and which have not yet been resolved.

Date	Minute No and subject	Resolution/Action	Comment/completed
7 October 2021	Minute No 305(b) – Appointment of Employer and Scheme Member representatives	Vacancies for Employer and Scheme Member Representatives were appointed to. David Hawkins (York College) and Sam Thompson (Hambleton DC) were nominated respectively, with their appointments subject to approval by full County Council.	The appointments were approved by full County Council on 17 th November 2021, each having a four years term of office.
20 July 2017 - ongoing	Minute No 100 – Risk Register / Minute No 123 – Annual discussion with Treasurer of NYPF / Minute no 177(b) – progress on Issues raised / Minute no 186 Pooling / Minute no 217(b), 231	That Pension Board Members be provided with the background documents/ staffing structure/ financial information in relation to pooling. Following that, a structure was required to determine how reports were to be provided, going forward. This remained a significant issue particularly	The Board is provided with details of the relevant information, to enable them to monitor the development of the pooling arrangements directly by the Treasurer of the NYPF, however, an appropriate reporting mechanism has still to be established, with a significant proportion of reports still deemed to be confidential by BCPP. The Treasurer continued to address this matter with BCPP.

	(b) and 261 (b) - progress on Issues raised	in respect of the amount of documentation considered to be confidential by BCPP, which hindered the scrutiny and monitoring process of the Board. It was also considered that this was hindering the feedback process for the Scheme Member representative that attends JCC Meetings.	
3 October 2019 – ongoing – delayed by COVID 19	Minute no 223 – Governance of the Fund/ Minute no 231 (b) – progress on Issues raised / Minute no 289(b) – progress on Issues raised	Hymans Robertson Report on Good Governance in the LGPS – Members raised concerns regarding the potential for the creation of new local authority bodies and joint committees to oversee the LGPS, which had been raised as part of this study/consultation.	Members agreed to monitor developments in relation to any potential changes to governance arrangements from the Scheme Advisory Board, going forward. Advice is still awaited in relation to this matter. The issue was now progressing with the final implications awaited.
14 January 2021 - ongoing	Minute no 265 – Pension administration – Breaches log / Minute no 289(b) & 306(b) – progress on Issues raised	In considering whether a breach should be reported to the Pensions Regulator it was noted that further details were expected back from HMRC before it could be decided whether this should be reported.	Details of the report back from HMRC would be provided to the Board before a decision was made as to whether to report the breach to tPR.
14 January 2021 - ongoing	Minute no 265 – Pension administration – Data Reconciliation Projects – GMP and Pensioner Data/ Minute no 297 and 313 - Pensions Administration	Both reconciliations continued to progress with a number of queries being referred back to the administration team for review and resolution.	Figures from the projects would be fed back into the Pension Board as soon as they were finalised. Figures were starting to emerge from the projects.
14 January 2021 - ongoing	Minute no 265 – Pension administration – Cyber Security / Minute no 289(b) & 306(b) – progress on Issues raised	The NYPF was covered by the NYCC Policy on Cyber Security and was monitored by Technology and Change, who would be developing a series of reports on this matter for	The reports on Cyber Security would be presented to the Pension Board as soon as they were available.

		use throughout the Authority.	
4 April 2021 - ongoing	Minute Nos – 281 /282 - Budget, Accounts and Business Plan/Investment Strategy Review/ Minute no 289(b) – progress on Issues raised/ Minute no 314 – Budget and Accounts	Details to be provided to allow a comparison of costs and the performance of investments prior to, and following the implementation of the pooling arrangements with BCPP.	A comparison of data would be fed back into the Board at regular intervals when appropriate and meaningful data was available.
8 July 2021 - ongoing	Minute No 292 – Annual discussion with Treasurer of NYPF/ Minute No 306(b)- progress on issues raised	The additional pressure from the Regulatory Bodies, a large number of investigatory projects and the introduction of new systems on the Administration Team for the North Yorkshire Pension Fund and whether there are sufficient resources available to manage this effectively.	The situation would be carefully monitored by the Treasurer of the Fund and the pension Board to determine whether there are sufficient resources to effectively manage the service.
4 April 2021- ongoing	Minute No. 271 - Other business - Continuation of Remote Meetings/ Minute no 289(b) – progress on Issues raised	Consideration to be given to the arrangements for meetings following the emergency legislation for the holding of remote meetings during the pandemic having lapsed on 7th May 2021	The County Council met on 17 th November 2021 and agreed to continue with virtual, live broadcast meetings on an informal basis, with issues requiring a decision being referred by the Committees, with details of their discussion, to the Chief Executive, allowing the decision to be implemented under his existing emergency powers. A review of this position would be undertaken at the February 2022 meeting of the County Council.
7 October 2021	Minute no 309 - Pension Fund Committee - update on Meeting held on 10 September 2021	Request for Broadacres Housing Association to join the North Yorkshire Pension Fund (NYPF) and for their assets and liabilities to be covered by a transfer agreement with Hambleton District Council.	The Pension Fund Committee had supported the recommendation to develop the request further to determine whether it could be undertaken, delegating the responsibility to the Treasurer to pursue that. It was expected that there would be further reports to both the Committee and Board on this matter, going forward.

7 October 2021	Minute no 311 - NYPF External Audit and Statement of Final Accounts	The Statement of Final Accounts had not been signed off by the Audit Committee on 20 September as expected, due to the External Auditor having resource issues, and they were now expected to be considered at the Audit Committee scheduled for 25 October. Once approved the accounts would be included in the NYPF's Annual Report which would be considered at the Pension Fund Committee meeting on 26 November and would be available for the January meeting of the Board.	An update on this issue will be provided at today's meeting.
7 October 2021	Minute No 313 – Pensions Administration - Breaches - Annual Benefits Statements (ABS)	A new breach had occurred as less than 100% ABS had been issued for both active and deferred members.	It was recommended to, and agreed by, the Pension Fund Committee that no further action be taken in respect of the breach in relation to the issuing of ABS to deferred members, as that position had subsequently been addressed, however, further information be provided before a decision was made as to whether to report the breach to the Pensions Regulator in respect of the ABS issued to active members.

3.0 Recommendation

3.1 That the report be noted and further action be undertaken where required.

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Report Author – Steve Loach - December 2021

Background Documents – None

