

North Yorkshire County Council

Pension Board

7 October 2021

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
29 October 2020 - ongoing	Minute No 288 (b) – Vacancy for Scheme Member representatives	A vacancy for a Scheme Member Representative remains.	There is still a vacancy for a Scheme Member representative, however, a potential candidate attended the Meeting on 8 th April 2021 and the Board will consider an appointment at today's meeting.
8 April 2021	Minute No 302 – Louise Branford-White	Louise Branford-White resigned from the Board due to a change in role which would no longer be eligible for the position.	The resignation would leave a vacancy for an Employer representative, however, David Hawkins was previously appointed as a reserve Employer Representative and the Board will consider his appointment to fill the vacancy at today's meeting.
20 July 2017 - ongoing	Minute No 100 – Risk Register / Minute No 123 – Annual discussion with Treasurer of NYPF / Minute	That Pension Board Members be provided with the background documents/ staffing structure/ financial information in relation to	The Board was 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

	no 177(b) – progress on Issues raised / Minute no 186 Pooling / Minute no 217(b), 231 (b) and 261 (b) - progress on Issues raised	pooling. Following that, a structure was required to determine how reports were to be provided, going forward. This remained a significant issue particularly 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.	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. It was noted at the Meeting held in January 2021 that BCPP would shortly be publishing its draft Strategic Plan, which would address some of the details required by Members. This would be circulated as soon as it became available.
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.
3 October 2019 / 16 January 2020 – ongoing – delayed by COVID 19	Minute no 225 Skills Matrix / Self- Evaluation Questionnaire / Minute no 231 (b) – progress on Issues raised/ Minute no.282 - Training / Minute no 289(b) – progress on Issues raised	The skills matrix/self-assessment questionnaire, had now also been completed by Members of the Pension Fund Committee, therefore, it was considered that their results be awaited to allow an overall training plan to be developed.	At the 4 April Meeting of the Board it was noted that Hymans Robertson provided a package of on-line training relevant to the LGPS. It was stated that this training package had been determined to be appropriate for PFC and PB Members and was available for all to undertake. Further discussion on this would take place at today’s meeting.
14 January 2021 - ongoing	Minute no 265 – Pension administration – Breaches log / Minute no 289(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 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) – 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 use throughout the Authority.	The reports on Cyber Security would be presented to the Pension Board as soon as they were available.
4 April 2021 - ongoing	Minute Nos – 281 /282 - Budget, Accounts and Business Plan/Investment Strategy Review/ Minute no 289(b) – progress on Issues raised	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	Minute No 292 – Annual discussion with Treasurer of NYPF	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 5 th May 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 was undertaken at the County Council meeting being held on 21 July 2021 where it was decided to continue with the current arrangements. A further review of this position would be undertaken at the November meeting of the County Council.
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3.0 Recommendation

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

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Northallerton

Report Author – Steve Loach - September 2021

Background Documents – None