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Shropshire and Wrekin Fire and Rescue Authority

Pension Board

22 July 2015

**Training and Liaison**

Report of the Chief Fire Officer

For further information about this report please contact John Redmond,

Chief Fire Officer, on 01743 260201 or Sharon Lloyd, Corporate Support Manager, on 01743 260210.

1. Purpose of Report

This report asks the Pension Board to designate:

* An officer of the Fire Authority to take responsibility for developing and implementing a knowledge and understanding framework to ensure that Board members are able to fulfil their role effectively; and
* An officer of the Fire Authority to liaise with the Scheme Advisory Board and the Local Government Association.

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|  | RecommendationsThe Pension Board is asked to designate:1. An officer of the Fire Authority to take responsibility for developing and implementing a knowledge and understanding framework to ensure that members are able to fulfil their role effectively; and
2. An officer of the Fire Authority to liaise with the Scheme Advisory Board and the Local Government Association.
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1. Training

Legislation and the ‘Firefighters’ Pension Scheme - Guidance on the creation and operation of Local Pension Boards in England’ set out a number of requirements relating to the knowledge and understanding, which Pension Board members need in order to fulfil their role effectively (see Section 4 and Part 2 of Schedule A of paper 4 on the agenda for this meeting).

The Local Government Association (LGA) has now set up training sessions around the Country for Pension Board members. Unfortunately, as there has been a significant delay in providing this, not all members will have attended training by the time the inaugural Board meeting takes place. In light of this, it is proposed that a training needs analysis is conducted after all members have received the LGA training. This will enable any gaps in knowledge and understanding to be identified and appropriate training to be provided. The Board is asked to designate an officer of the Fire Authority to carry out that this responsibility, namely the Development Officer.

1. Liaison

The Government has established a Scheme Advisory Board, which is responsible for providing advice:

* In response to a request from the Secretary of State on the desirability of making changes to the Scheme and any connected scheme; and

* To the Scheme Managers and Local Pension Boards in relation to the effective and efficient administration and management of the Scheme and any connected schemes.

In both cases, the Secretary of State and Scheme Managers of Pension Boards (as appropriate) must have regard to advice issued by the Scheme Advisory Board.

For consistency and continuity it is advisable to have a designated person to liaise between this Pension Board and the Scheme Advisory Board and likewise the Local Government Association regarding Pension Board matters. The Pension Board is, therefore, asked to designate an officer of the Fire Authority to fulfil this role, namely the Human Resources Manager.

1. Financial Implications

There are likely to be costs associated with initial and ongoing training for Pension Board members but these are as yet unknown.

1. Legal Comment

The Pension Board must comply with the requirements of The Public Service Pensions Act 2013 and regulations made thereunder.

1. Appendices

There are no appendices attached to this report.

1. Background Papers

The Public Service Pensions Act 2013 and Regulations made thereunder

Firefighters’ Pension Scheme Guidance on the creation and operation of Local Pension Boards in England

**Shropshire Fire and Rescue Service**

**Initial Impact Assessment (IIA)**

|  |  |
| --- | --- |
| **Initial Impact Assessment of** |  |
| **Completed by****(see purpose below)** |  |
| **Date Completed** |  |
|  | Please tick the appropriate box and state which option |
| **This is a:** |  |
| Report (CFA/Committee/SMT/Other) | 🞏 |
| Brigade Order (state Service Area) | 🞏 |
| Project (STP/C+C/Other) | 🞏 |
| Other (please state) | 🞏 |

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| **Purpose** This IIA provides a summary assessment of factors that may/will impact upon the community or Authority/Service. Where either a positive or negative impact is identified, further details should be provided and continued, if required, into a Full Impact Assessment (FIA). The decision to proceed to an FIA will be made case by case and should be based on experience and impact. This will be considered by the Lead Officer and Line Manager and signed off by the Line Manager. An IIA will not be required where a document is presenting only historical or factual information. |

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| **Factor** | **Impact?** | **Details of likely/actual impact (positive or negative) plus mitigating actions of negative impacts (continue details overleaf, if necessary)** |
| **Yes** | **No** |
| Capacity |  |  |  |
| Community Safety |  |  |  |
| Contractual |  |  |  |
| Customer/Stakeholder |  |  |  |
| Environment |  |  |  |
| Equality and Diversity |  |  |  |
| Financial (required in all CFA/Committee Reports) |  |  |  |
| Health and Safety |  |  |  |
| Human Rights |  |  |  |
| Legal (required in all CFA/Committee Reports) |  |  |  |
| Local Economy |  |  |  |
| Performance |  |  |  |
| Political |  |  |  |
| Public Value |  |  |  |
| Reputation |  |  |  |
| Security |  |  |  |
| Service Delivery |  |  |  |
| Partnership Working |  |  |  |
| Social |  |  |  |
| Technological |  |  |  |
| Training |  |  |  |
| Other (state) |  |  |  |
|  |  |  |
| Is a Protective Security Marking required (see guidance for definitions of descriptors)? Y/N |
| If so, is it Protect – Personal 🞏 Protect – Commercial 🞏 Protect – Legal 🞏 |
| **Further Details** |
| **Factor** | **Impact****+ or -** | **Where the impact is negative, what mitigating actions will be taken?**  |
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| **Is a full impact assessment required?** |