

In Confidence

Minutes of a meeting of the Public Sector Pensions Authority (PSPA) on 17 September 2014 at 14.30 in the PSPA Meeting Room, Goldie House, Douglas.

Present: PSPA

Mr J Carter (Chairman)

Hon C R Robertshaw, MHK (Vice Chairman)

Mr E Holmes

In Attendance: Mr I T Murray

Mr I Burnet (Secretary)

Apologies: Mr T P Wild, MLC

Minute No

73/14 Minutes

The minutes of the meetings of 11 and 18 July were approved and signed by the Chairman. The minutes of the meeting of 13 August 2014 were approved and signed by the Vice Chairman.

Conflicts of Interest

There were no conflicts of interest declared.

74/14 Matters Arising

Declaration of Relationship forms

The Board noted that Mr Wild's Declaration of Relationship remained outstanding and this item would therefore be held over to the next meeting.

Public Sector Schemes – Actuarial valuations

The Board was advised that Hymans Robertson had now finalised its report, which was based upon the presentation the Board had received on 11 July 2014. The Report would therefore be considered at the October 2014 Board meeting.

Fair Deal

The Board was informed that as part of the process of submitting the two items of legislation that supported Fair Deal, Treasury concurrence had been sought. The Board noted that Treasury had declined to provide its concurrence as it wished the 5 year cap to be retained in the legislation. The Board noted that this had been removed following the consultation and having sought the views of the Council of Ministers.

The Board noted that unless the matter could be resolved the PSPA may have to submit the legislation to Tynwald without Treasury concurrence. The Chief Executive advised that he and the Vice Chairman were due to meet with the Treasury Minister in order to seek a resolution to the matter.

Isle of Man Government Unified Scheme (Amendment) (No.2) Scheme 2014

The Board noted that this scheme was to be submitted to the October 2014 sitting of Tynwald.

Mr Shipley's Replacement on the Board

The Board was informed that under the Public Sector Pensions Act 2011, except for the Vice Chairman's position, all other appointments to the Board were the responsibility of the Council of Ministers. The Board was advised that the Cabinet Office had sought nominations to fill the vacant position on the Board and it was understood that five nominations had been received. It was further understood that Council would consider the nominations shortly and it was anticipated it would appoint Mr Shipley's replacement before the October 2014 meeting of the Board.

Letter received from x

Minute not Published

Bribery Act

The Chairman advised that he would provide a short briefing to the Board in respect of the Bribery Act once the new member had been appointed.

75/14 Risk register review

The Risk Register was reviewed and the changes that had been made since the August meeting of the Board were noted.

The Board sought clarification upon the latest position regarding transfers to personal pension arrangements, as the Board remained concerned about both the number of transfers and the amount of money that was been taken from the unfunded Public Sector Schemes.

The Executive advised that it was currently in discussion with the Attorney General's Chambers seeking to introduce legislation that would allow the PSPA to "block" any transfer to what it considered to be an "inappropriate" pension arrangement. The Board also noted that a view would be sought from Treasury on this matter before any legislation was progressed.

The Board was advised that a further update would be provided at the next Board meeting in October 21014.

76/14 Quarterly Performance Report – Quarter 1, 2014/15

The Board considered the Quarterly Performance Report for the first quarter of 2014/15 ending June 2014 and received a verbal briefing summarising the key points in the report from the Director, Operations.

The Board noted the contents of the Report and requested that its thanks be passed on to all the staff of the PSPA for the high performance levels that had been

achieved over the first quarter.

77/14 Injury Benefit Review for Public Servants

The Board considered a memorandum, dated 30 April 2014 from the Director, Operations regarding the proposals made by its Committee for the future Injury Benefits arrangements for certain Public Service Employment.

The Board noted the proposals included the movement of Temporary Injury Allowance out of the proposed new Scheme and into Terms and Conditions of Employment and would be administered by Employing Authorities.

The Board noted that the Permanent Injury element of the proposals would remain with the PSPA. The Board noted that whilst there was no proposed change to the levels of benefit under the proposed scheme, the Scheme would introduce a more robust review process and that payment of injury benefits would cease at State Retirement Age.

After due consideration the Board agreed to the key proposals, and agreed that they be submitted to the Council of Ministers and Treasury. Subject to their approval the Board was content for a Scheme, based on the key proposals, to be drafted and consulted upon without further reference to the Board until consultation is complete.

78/14 Overpayment of Widows Pension

The Board received a verbal from the Director, Operations, with regard to an overpayment of Widows Pension to a scheme pensioner member. The Board noted that the Executive was awaiting feedback from the member's legal advisers and that it was anticipated that this would be received in the near future.

79/14 Board Pad

The Board was advised that the Executive had been approached by Government Technology Service (GTS) with a proposal that it adopt Board Pad for its Board meetings. The Board noted that Boardpad was an Apple-based application for setting up and running meetings and distributing papers, and would negate the need to copy and post Board papers and Board members would have ready access to previous Board papers. The Board noted that a number of Government Departments and Boards use this facility along with the Council of Ministers and Tynwald Members. The Board was advised that if it wished to utilise this facility the non-political Board members would be issued with an iPad by GTS.

After due consideration the Board agreed to adopt Board Pad.

80/14 Equality Bill

The Board was advised that the Executive was reviewing the proposed Equality Bill, which was currently being consulted upon. The Board was advised that the review had shown there were a number of Pension Related matters which the Executive considered required further consideration and it was proposed that the PSPA would submit a consultation response on the proposed Bill.

It was agreed that the draft response would be circulated to the Board prior to submission.

81/14 Staff Survey

The Board was advised that the staff of the PSPA had recently received the feedback from the Government wide staff survey, and that a number of key topics, including Involvement in decision making, Communication, Information from other Departments and Technology were being considered.

The Board noted that as a consequence the Executive had established a number of internal working groups to investigate and report to the Executive on each of these topics with a plan of action for addressing each one.

Date of Next Meeting

The next meeting of the Board would be held on 8 October 2014

The meeting closed at 17.05

Chairman

Date