

In Confidence

Minutes of a meeting of the Public Sector Pensions Authority (PSPA) on 16 October 2017 in the PSPA Meeting Room, Prospect House, Douglas

Present: **PSPA**
Hon C C Thomas, MHK (Vice Chairman)
Mr D J Ashford
Mr E R Holmes

In Attendance: Mr I W C Burnett, (Secretary)
Ms K C Brondon

Apologies: Mr J B Carter, (Chairman)
Ms A B Moffatt
Mr I T Murray

Minute No. Minute

58/17 Conflicts of Interest

There were no Conflicts of Interest declared in addition to those previously recorded.

59/17 Minutes

The Minutes of the meeting of 11 September 2017 were approved and signed.

60/17 Matters Arising

53/17 – Public Sector Pension Scheme Nominations for Surviving Partner Pensions

The Board noted that confirmation had been received from the Attorney General's Chambers regarding the PSPA's proposed approach to Surviving Partner Pensions following the Supreme Court's ruling. The Executive advised that, having received Chamber's views, it was in the process of contacting the individuals concerned.

54/17 – PSPA Pensions In Payment - Declaration of Entitlement to Public Sector Pensions and Allowances Annual Review 2017

The Board noted that the review of Declaration of Entitlement to Public Sector Pensions had commenced, and that it was progressing well. It was noted that there were a small number of individuals who had raised concerns and questioned why this exercise was being undertaken, but in the main, the majority of queries were related to pension members seeking clarification.

61/17 Risk Register Review

The Board considered and noted the contents of the Risk Register.

The Board noted the risk relating to the loss of long serving staff remained at a high level and considered this could be reduced, given that the staff had now left and had been replaced.

62/17 Isle of Man Government Unified Scheme 2011 (GUS) – cost sharing

The Board noted the memorandum dated 10 October 2017 from the Deputy Chief Executive and ratified the Board's decision made via e-mail in regard to progressing Cost Sharing legislation. The Board determined

that it would defer consultation until:

- advice has been given by the PSPA's Actuary;
- any decisions that are required to be made by the PSPA have been made; and
- appropriate legislation has been drafted.

The Board noted that in seeking to achieve the above:

- The Executive would seek the advice of the PSPA's actuary in regard to the assumptions to be included into the final Cost Sharing Mechanism;
- The Executive will work with the PSPA's actuary to prepare draft Cost Sharing Regulations for consultation;
- As part of the consultation, the Board will seek views on the length of the Recovery Period before making a final recommendation on its length; and
- The Executive shall continue to consult with the Trade Union members of the former TAG Group on the assumptions to be built into the Cost Sharing mechanism for consultation.

63/17

Pensions Reform

The Board noted the ongoing work in relation to the reform of Public Sector Schemes.

With regard to the Teachers Scheme the Board noted that a meeting had recently taken place, during which the Teaching Unions had discussed possible options for reform, including a reduction in future benefits to achieve a saving of 1% of pensionable pay. The Board noted that whilst this was less than the 1.6% saving which had been applied to the Unified Scheme, it was a step forward. The Board noted that the Teaching Unions had advised that they would provide a document setting out their proposals to the PSPA in due course.

With regard to the Judicial Scheme, it was noted that a proposed meeting with all members of the Judicial Pension Scheme would be held in the near future.

With regard to the Police Scheme, the Board noted that Consultation on the draft Amendment Regulations had ended and that it was anticipated that the Amending Regulations would be submitted to the December 2017 sitting of Tynwald subject to the Board's approval.

64/17

Future Meetings

The Board determined that owing to competing commitments, in future Board meeting would start at 10.30.

The Board requested that for its next meeting proposed dates for meetings in 2018 should be prepared with a view to being agreed.

Date of Next Meeting

The next meeting will be held on Monday 13 November 2017 commencing at 10.30 am.

There being no other business the meeting closed at 10.25 a.m.

Date

