

In Confidence

Minutes of a meeting of the Public Sector Pensions Authority (PSPA) held at 2.40pm on 9 November 2020, 3rd Floor, Prospect House, 27-29 Prospect Hill, Douglas

Present: **PSPA**
Hon. R Harmer, MHK (Vice Chair)
Mrs J Poole-Wilson MLC
Mr I Wright

In Attendance: Mr I T Murray
Ms K C Brondon
Mrs R Hussey (Secretary)

Apologies: Mr J B Carter (Chair)
Mrs D Halsall

Minute No. **Minute**

81/20 Conflicts of Interest

There were no other conflicts of interest declared in addition to those previously recorded.

82/20 Minutes

The minutes of the meeting held on 5 October 2020 were approved subject to a minor amendment being made.

It was agreed that a revised version would be sent to the Chair, for signing, outside of the meeting.

83/20 Matters Arising

There were no matters arising from the October meeting

The Director of HR Business, OHR, Data Project Manager, PSPA attended the meeting at 2.45 pm.

84/20 Administration Issues (minute 78/20 refers)

The Board considered Paper 24/20 from the Data Project Manager, the paper provided the Board with a progress update in relation to the issues regarding the provision of data from the Office of Human Resources (OHR).

The Data Project Manager gave a brief over view of the topics reported on in the paper and he and the Director of HR Business provided clarification to queries raised by the Board.

The Board also noted the current and potential challenges faced by those involved in the project and the measures being taken to ameliorate them.

The Director of HR Business distributed a document entitled OHR Provision of Pension Data to OHR which provided the Board with a progress summary update for November 2020.

In respect of the October OHR resource input summary, the Board noted that:

- 100% of 2 x FTE (1 EO and 1 AO) continued to be protected in order to

focus on back log work:

The Director of HR Business gave assurances that this level of resource was sustainable and could be maintained even if other priorities arose.

- 2 x most experienced EO's in Payroll checked BAU Gen 1/12's in order to continue to improve learning and the quality and all payroll AO's involved in completing them;
- Director of HR Services, PiP Systems Manager and AFI team had all contributed towards the work to deliver the MFI;
- Cost of MFI work covered by OHR.

The Director of HR Business, OHR and Data Project Manager, PSPA departed the meeting at 2.45 pm.

The Board noted and agreed the recommendations within the report; however, agreement was predicated on the basis that Treasury would agree to the extra resources requested by the PSPA.

The Board determined that should Treasury not agree to the additional resources, the Board should make representations to Treasury in respect of the additional resources required as quickly as possible thereafter.

The Deputy Chief Executive, PSPA provided the Board with a verbal up date in respect of the Annual Benefit Statements for 2019/20, the Board noting that it was anticipated that many would be issued in the later part of November and that those relating to GUS members would be issued in December.

85/20 Delegations of Functions

The Board noted the rationale for revising the delegations and agreed to the revised delegation document being signed, outside of the meeting, subject to minor amendments being made.

86/20 Cost Sharing Update

The Board noted paper 23/20 in addition to a verbal update from the Chief Executive PSPA in respect of the matter.

Furthermore the Board noted that the members guide to cost sharing video continued to be a work in progress.

After a brief discussion in respect of the Police and Judiciary Schemes the Board noted and agreed the recommendations within the paper.

87/20 Isle of Man Government Unified Scheme 2011 (Amendment) (No2) Scheme 2020

The Board noted paper 25/20 from the Deputy Chief Executive, the paper providing the Board with an update in relation to the required amendments to the Isle of Man Government Unified Scheme 2011.

The Board also considered a draft scheme amendment document in respect of the Isle of Man Government Unified Scheme 2011 (Amendment) (No2) Scheme 2020

The Board noted that whilst the majority of amendments were administrative, there were a number of substantive changes, namely:

- Definition of a child
- Rule 37 & Rule 38 Incapacity Benefits
- Paid Family Leave
- Rule 7 Adjustment for pensionable Service for Part-Time Employees
- Rule 49 Nomination of a Surviving Nominated Partner

The Board noted that a considerable amount work would be generated as a consequence of changes required by the Equality Act 2017 in relation to paid family leave. In addition the Board noted that the views of HMAGC and the Equality Adviser, IOMG had been sought and that the work would commence shortly.

After considering the paper, the draft Amending Scheme and Consultation document, the Board agreed that consultation commenced for a period of 3 months.

The Board was of the view that lessons may have been learnt as a result of the cost sharing consultation and that they could perhaps be applied to the forthcoming consultation.

Discussions then turned to how members of GUS could best be advised of the forthcoming consultation, the Board being aware that many members did not have regular access to the intranet/internet.

The Board noted that the relevant unions would be advised of the consultation prior to it going live and that the unions would be encouraged to advise members of the consultation via union newsletters.

Various other options were suggested and discussed.

88/20 Operations Report for Quarter 2, 2020/21

The Board noted the operations report for quarter 2 2020/21 and that performance levels had increased since the last report.

The contents of the report were discussed and in particular:

- The average retirement age
- The ABS update
- Deferred pension exercise

After a minor amendment, the Board approved the publication of the report on to the PSPA website.

89/20 Progression of Voluntary Defined Contribution Pension arrangement

The Board received a verbal update from the Deputy Chief Executive in respect of this matter.

The Board noted that despite reminding Treasury of the outstanding action, a response was still awaited from Treasury as to its views on the PSPA's strawman proposals and its modelling of the potential cost impact for introducing a Voluntary Defined Contribution Scheme.

The Board noting that the Tynwald motion required the PSPA to report back to CoMin by the end of the year, agreed that the Deputy Chief Executive should draft a paper updating CoMIN on the PSPA's and Treasury's progress to date and at the same time advising Treasury of the PSPA's intention to do so.

The Deputy Chief Executive confirmed, to the Board, that other than providing a consultation response, the PSPA had had no further involvement with the Treasury's Work Place Pension project.

90/20 Dates for 2021 Board Meetings

After discussing the previously circulated provisional dates, the Board agreed the following:

January	Friday 15th	May	Monday 10th
February	Monday 8th	June	Monday 14th
March	Monday 8th	July	Monday 12th
April	Monday 12th		

All meetings commencing at 2.30pm and being held in the PSPA meeting room, 3rd floor Prospect House.

91/20 Board Papers

The Board noted that officers were liaising with GTS in relation to having PSPA Board meeting packs on the Board Papers application.

There being no further business the meeting closed at 4.25pm

Signed:

Date: