

**MINUTES OF MEETING OF POLICE PENSION BOARD  
HELD AT NORTHERN IRELAND POLICING BOARD, WATERSIDE TOWER,  
CLARENDON DOCK, BELFAST  
TUESDAY 14 MARCH 2023 at 2PM**

**PRESENT:**

Mr Michael Burton, Chair  
Superintendent (Supt) Ian Magee\*  
Ms Alison McClune (PSNI)  
Ms Aislinn McGuckin, (Director of Police  
Pensions and Injury Benefits, Northern Ireland  
Policing Board)  
Mr Brian Quinn, (Independent)

**PSNI REPRESENTATIVES IN  
ATTENDANCE**

Mr Jim Montgomery (PSNI Pensions Branch)\*

**NORTHERN  
IRELAND POLICING BOARD  
OFFICIALS IN ATTENDANCE**

3 Board Officials

\*Attended via Video Conference

## 1. APOLOGIES

Apologies were received in advance of the meeting from Sinead Simpson, Mark McEwan and Liam Kelly.

## 2. CONFLICTS OF INTEREST

No conflicts of interest were declared.

## 3. MINUTES OF MEETING HELD ON 6 DECEMBER 2022

The minutes of the Police Pension Board (**PPB**) meeting on 6 December 2022 were approved. The Chair asked that they also be published on the Northern Ireland Policing Board (**NIPB**) website. **(AP1)**

## 4. ACTION LOG

Members noted that all outstanding actions following the previous PPB meeting had been completed.

The Director of Police Pensions and Injury Benefits (**PPIB**) agreed to write to the Scheme Advisory Board (**SAB**) to seek clarity around the roles and responsibilities of the Department of Justice (**DoJ**) in relation to McCloud and request that they provide practical advice regarding same. **(AP2)**

## 5. CHAIR'S BUSINESS

### 5.1 The Pensions Regulator Supervisory Report Update

The Chair noted positive feedback contained within The Pensions Regulator (**TPR**) Supervisory Report in relation to ongoing work carried out by the Scheme Manager (**SM**) and PSNI Pensions Branch.

The Chair and the PSNI Pensions Branch Official agreed to prepare a project plan in response to the 21 recommendations set out in TPR Supervisory Report. This would then be progressed with input from both the Scheme Manager and the Pensions Regulator with further reporting to the next sitting of the Police Pension Board. **(AP3)**

## 5.2 Terms of Reference

Members reviewed and discussed the PPB Terms of Reference (**ToR**) and agreed to amend sections within the ToR, specifically sections relating to the SM acting as Deputy Chairperson on occasions where the Chairperson is not present; and, if an independent member is unable to attend a meeting, no substitute is required given the Chair is an independent member.

Officials agreed to action all ToR changes above as requested by Members.

**(AP4)**

## 6. SCHEME MANAGER REPORT

The Director of PPIB provided an overview of ongoing workstreams following the previous PPB meeting in December 2022.

Items discussed included:

- Confirmation that Board Officials had received a finalised McCloud benefits calculator, bespoke to Northern Ireland, for use by police pensions scheme members.
- The Director of PPIB noted ongoing work between various stakeholders including the National Police Chief's Council (**NPCC**) and the Home Office in relation to the McCloud Remedy Project; noting that correspondence would be issued to those immediate choice members who ill health retired during the Remedy Period under their 1988 Police Pension Scheme (also known as legacy scheme). The Director of PPIB agreed to share this correspondence with Members. **(AP5)**
- Members also noted that the Northern Ireland Retired Police Officers Association (**NIRPOA**) were sharing information in relation to the McCloud reassessments on their website.

## **7. PSNI GOVERNANCE REPORT AND SCHEME FINANCE**

### **7.1 Quarterly Scheme Administrator Report**

The Pensions Branch Official provided an overview of the Quarterly Scheme Administration Report. The paper provided Members with an analysis of scheme membership, financial reporting, branch performance and governance.

Items discussed included:

- Age and gender analysis of new entrants and opt outs to the Pension Scheme.
- Confirmation that pension calculations, payments and transfers in and out of the scheme are being processed and managed appropriately.
- Confirmation that performance levels have been maintained due to the on boarding of new staff in 2022.
- Notification that 80 notices to retire had been received during the reporting period.
- Confirmation that there have been no breaches of law or data issues during the reporting period.

### **7.2 Pensions Dashboard**

The Pensions Branch Official provided an overview on the progress of the Pensions Dashboard Programme and Members noted the update.

### **7.3 Procurement of Electronic Pension Administration System Update**

The Pensions Branch Official confirmed that CIVICA UK Ltd had been appointed as supplier following the recent tender exercise and were hopeful that the system would be live by Autumn 2023.

## **8. POLICE PENSION BOARD RISK REGISTER**

Members discussed each Risk on the Register including the inherent and residual risk scores and agreed on the Register being updated accordingly.

Officials agreed to action all Risk Register changes as requested by Members.

**(AP6)**

## **9. MCCLLOUD REMEDY PROJECT**

### **9.1 Legislative Update**

The Independent Pensions Advisor provided an update in relation the Home Office Consultation noting that a response to the Consultation was still pending. It was also noted that there is a risk associated with Northern Ireland lagging behind the Home Office consultation specifically where it concerned the implementation of McCloud which could impact the NIPB and PSNI. It was agreed that these risks and issues would be highlighted within correspondence to SAB, as per AP 2.

### **9.2 Scheme Administrator Update including Staffing/Resourcing and IT**

The Pensions Branch Official provided an update on staffing/resourcing and IT infrastructure noting ongoing staff training and that progress was being made in relation to the Pensions Dashboard following the appointment of CIVICA.

### **9.3 Home Office Consultation on Regulation Amendments to deliver Public Sector Pensions Remedy for Police Pension**

The Independent Pensions Advisor confirmed that the Home Office was currently consulting on the Public Service Pensions: Police Pensions (Amendment) Regulations 2023, to enact the second phase of the McCloud Remedy noting that the Consultation was due to close on 23 May 2023.

## **10. MEMBER TRAINING**

### **10.1 Member Training Update**

Members agreed to defer this agenda item until the next PPB meeting once all members were in attendance and that the training toolkit be circulated in the meantime. **(AP7)**

## **11. ANY OTHER BUSINESS**

No other business was declared.

## **12. DATE OF NEXT MEETING**

The next meeting would take place on Tuesday 5 September 2023.

The meeting ended at 3:40PM

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**MR MICHAEL BURTON**  
**CHAIRMAN**