

MINUTES OF MEETING OF POLICE PENSION BOARD

WATERSIDE TOWER

MONDAY 20 MAY 2019

10.00am

Present:

Members: Paul King (PSNI)
Liam Kelly (Police Federation NI)
Superintendent John McCaughan (Superintendent's Association NI)
Mr Brian Quinn (Independent)
Mr Tim Logan (NIPB Director of Resources).

Also present: Miss Aislinn McGuckin (Acting Chair & NIPB Police Administration Branch Director)
Mrs Charis Hilditch (T/NIPB Police Administration Branch Manager)

1. Apologies

Miss McGuckin welcomed everyone and advised that apologies for today's meeting had been received from Michael Burton (Chair), ACC Mark Hamilton (Chief Police Officers Staff Association) and Mrs Amanda Stewart (NIPB Chief Executive). No further apologies were noted.

2. Declaration of Conflicts of Interest

The Acting Chair asked members to consider today's agenda and advise if there were any conflicts of interest. No conflicts of interest were declared.

3. Minutes of Previous Meeting

The Chair requested that the Members present at the PPB meeting of 18 February 2019 advise if they were content that the draft minutes represented an accurate account of the meeting. Members agreed the minutes as accurate and that they should be published on the NIPB's website.

Action: Board officials to ensure the minutes of the Police Pension Board meeting of 18 February 2019 are published on the Board's website.

4. Matters Arising

Members considered a paper regarding the matters arising from the PPB meeting of 18 February 2019. Members noted that all of the agreed actions had been progressed.

Action: It was agreed Board and PSNI officials would confirm the Members had been provided with the copy of the Internal Audit Terms of Reference

Members also discussed the focus at the Public Sector Conference on cyber-security issues and agreed that details on a future paper to the Pension Board on cyber security would be discussed at the next Pension Administrators meeting.

Action: Board and PSNI officials to consider at the next Pensions Administrators meeting the format of a future paper to the Pension Board on cyber-security issues.

5. PSNI Governance Report

Mr King briefed Members on the PSNI Governance Report paper tabled at the meeting. This paper provided a financial update including details of the income and payments made by the scheme in the last two years and the estimated position for 2019/2020. It also provided Members with an analysis of scheme movements, changes to scheme membership, and an overview of

the current performance levels for key items such as response times to general Pension queries.

Mr King also provided an update in relation to the ongoing internal audit scheduled to complete in the first week of June 2019.

Action: Members agreed that the draft report should be circulated to Pension Board Members as soon as it becomes available.

Other areas discussed with Members included:

- Scheme movements and the high number of opt outs. Members noted that auto-enrolment would take place in July 2019 and that it would be up to the individual to opt out again if they choose to do so;
- The McCloud case and the potential liabilities depending on outcome. Members noted that a decision on leave to appeal would likely be forthcoming in early July 2019;
- Members also noted that a data reconciliation exercise would be carried out in the next quarter following which a report on all data types for each of the three schemes would be presented at a future meeting of the Pension Board.

6. GMP RECONCILIATION EXERCISE

Members noted a short update from Mr King in relation to the GMP reconciliation exercise including the number of cases not fully reconciled with HMRC records (202) and the total number of records which have shown an under or overpayment of GMP in payment (132).

Action: it was agreed that the GMP Reconciliation Exercise would remain on the agenda for the next meeting of the Police Pension Board and that the final return is copied to Pension Board Members.

7. SCHEME FINANCE

Covered at Section 5

8. CURRENT PENSION OMBUDSMAN CASES

Miss McGuckin provided a short update in relation to two ongoing Ombudsman cases, the first in which a response from the NIPB was issued to the Pension Ombudsman and the second arising as a result of the delay in the issue of PTR annual benefit statement.

Action: Officials to share Pensions Ombudsman responses when available.

9. RECENT LEGISLATION, CASELAW & UPDATES

9.1 –McCloud Judgement on Public Service Pensions

This matter was discussed as noted above at agenda item 5.

9.2 Annual Report/Chair's Statement

This matter was deferred to be considered with the PPB Chairperson at the next meeting.

Action: The draft statement to be circulated to PPB Members for their review

9.3 Frequency of Police Pension Board Meetings

Members agreed this would be further considered at the next Police Pension Board with suitable input from the Chair following his conversations with representatives from the Pension Regulator. However, Members were of the view that consideration should be given to an extraordinary meeting of the PPB dependent on legislative developments, for example in the McCloud case.

Action: Chair to discuss frequency of meetings at next PPB Meeting.

10. GENERAL DATA PROTECTION REGULATIONS (GDPR) UPDATE

Members noted an update provided by Miss McGuckin in relation to the Information Sharing Agreement (ISA) between PSNI and NIPB and that this matter would be further progress at the Pension Administrators meeting. Members also noted that legal advice is still outstanding in relation to whether it is necessary to put in place a contract between PSNI and the Board in place of an ISA.

Members also discussed the possibility of removing GDPR as a standing agenda item and managing these issues via the Risk Register going forward. However it was agreed that this matter would be carried forward for further discussion at the next meeting of the PPB.

11. PPB Risk Register

Members noted that the PPB Risk Register had been updated in line with the approved amendments discussed at the 18 February 2019 meeting.

Following review, Members agreed the below in relation to updates to the register:

- (3) – Record Keeping – that the outcome of the Data Review should feed into consideration of this at a future meeting;
- (5) – Pension Administrator controls – that this be updated to reflect a contract rather than SLA will need to be drafted (subject to legal advice received) and placed on the agenda for the Pensions Administrator meetings, and;
- (7) – GDPR – to remove the reference “*legal advice sought on the basis for processing information with the Board and PSNI*”

12. Any Other Business

No further business was discussed.

13. Date of Next Meeting

Members noted the provisional date of the next meeting of the Police Pensions Board as Monday 23 September 2019.

Meeting closed: 11:10am

Ms Aislinn McGuckin obo Mr Michael Burton
Chairperson