

## **NORTHERN IRELAND POLICE PENSION BOARD**

### **Annual Report 2015/16**

I am pleased to report on the first year of the Northern Ireland Police Pension Board (the NI PPB). The NI PPB in its oversight role of the Police Pension Schemes has noted the excellent administration service provided by PSNI Pensions Branch in ensuring the schemes meet all regulatory requirements.

In carrying out this function the NI PPB has met on 4 occasions during the year and all NI PPB Members have undertaken appropriate training for fulfilling their duties. In line with its statutory obligations, information on the NI PPB is published and maintained on the NI Policing Board website, which should provide assurance to the public on the schemes' operation.

Over the next year the NI PPB will continue to review the schemes' compliance and focus on any potential challenges for the future.

To the other members of the NI PPB I would wish to record my appreciation for their contributions. For their assistance to the NI PPB in developing a performance framework on key issues relating to the schemes, I would also like to give my thanks to the PSNI personnel concerned. This information will be utilised by the NI PPB to scrutinise the scheme's effectiveness and identify areas for improvement.

## **Background**

The Northern Ireland Police Pension Board was established in April 2015, following introduction of the Police Pension Regulations (NI) 2015.

The Police Pension Board provides assistance to the Northern Ireland Policing Board (NIPB) as Scheme Manager:

- a) to secure compliance with –
  - i. the scheme regulations;
  - ii. and other legislation relating to the governance and administration of the scheme and any connected scheme; and
  - iii. any requirements imposed by the Pensions Regulator in relation to the scheme or any connected scheme; and
- b) in the performance of the Scheme Manager's functions under the Regulations.

## **Composition**

The NI Police Pension Board comprises Mr Patrick McCartan (Independent Chair), Employer Representatives (x 3), Employee Representatives (x 3) and an Independent Member.

A log of Member's training and register of declared Conflicts of Interest is maintained by the NIPB.

## **Terms of Reference**

Terms of Reference for the NI Police Pension Board were agreed by Members and will be reviewed on an annual basis. A copy of the Terms of Reference is available on the NIPB website under the Police Pension Board section.

## **Meetings**

The first meeting of the NI Police Pension Board was held on 24 April 2015. Within the Terms of Reference, it was determined meetings will be held at least quarterly, with ad hoc meetings as required. A total of four meetings of the NI Police Pension Board were held during 2015/16.

A copy of the agenda and minutes of each meeting are published on the NIPB's website following ratification.

## **Pension matters considered**

During 2015/16 the NI Police Pension Board received briefings on the following issues:

- Pensions Ombudsman determination on commutation factors (Milne);
- PSNI Pensions Governance (reporting framework);
- Government Actuary Department guidance;
- NIPB Case Management System;
- PSNI Pension Accounts; and
- Resources issues within PSNI and NIPB.

**PPB SECRETARIAT**

**September 2016**