

**MINUTES OF THE POLICE PENSION BOARD MEETING -  
WATERSIDE TOWER  
5 FEBRUARY 2016 at 10.30 am**

**PRESENT:**

<b>Members</b>	Pat McCartan (Chair) Edgar Jardine (NIPB) Marty Whittle (PFNI) Lorraine Montgomery(Independent)
<b>Officials</b>	2 Officials (NIPB)

The Chair noted that the meeting was quorate.

**1. APOLOGIES**

Apologies were received from ACC Mark Hamilton (CPOSA), Chief Superintendent George Clarke (SANI), David Wilson (NIPB) and Paul King (PSNI).

**2. DECLARATION OF CONFLICTS OF INTEREST**

Members were asked to declare any conflicts of interest arising from the agenda. No conflicts of interest were declared.

**3. MINUTES OF PREVIOUS MEETING**

Members agreed that the minutes were a true and accurate account of the last meeting on 16 September 2015.

**4. MATTERS ARISING**

There were no matters arising from the last meeting however an update was provided on additional resources secured for the Policing Board's Police Administration Branch.

## **5. LATE PENSION PAYMENT BY PSNI**

Members received a briefing paper on this issue which had resulted in a one day delay in the payment of police pensions in January 2016. Members were content that all possible steps were taken to mitigate the situation at the time and controls were in place to ensure that there would be no reoccurrence. It was agreed that there was no requirement to report the incident to the Pensions Regulator.

## **6. EMPLOYEE SUPPORT ALLOWANCE**

It was agreed that this matter should be withdrawn. PSNI to provide assurance that ESA only impacted on Police Injury Pensions.

**ACTION:** Paul King to be asked provide assurance that ESA only impacted on Police Injury Pensions.

## **7. THE PENSIONS REGULATOR (TPR): PUBLIC SERVICE GOVERNANCE AND ADMINISTRATION RESEARCH**

Members noted the outcome of TPR's research and were advised that the PPB's response to the survey would be forwarded for information.

Discussion took place in respect of the requirement of an SLA between the scheme Manager and the Administrator. It was explained that in other police services the administrative function was outsourced which would most likely necessitate an SLA however it was agreed that it would not be requirement between the PSNI and the NIPB at present.

Members discussed the issue of risk and risk registers and it was agreed that as long as any identified risks in respect of pensions were captured on the respective organisational risk registers there would be no requirement for a separate risk register for the PPB.

**ACTION:** Copy of the PPB's response to the TPR survey to be forwarded to members.

## **8. PSNI GOVERNANCE REPORT**

Members noted a paper on the draft reporting framework for PSNI governance of the Police Pension Schemes.

Paul King tabled an update report with statistics from April 2015 until January 2016 which contained:

- An analysis of response times in relation to queries and actions received by PSNI Pensions Branch;
- An analysis of the scheme movements outlining the number of Retirements, Joiners, Opt Outs, Deaths and Overpayments;
- Details of two complaints received;
- A financial update outlining Employee and Employer Contributions and Pensions payments;
- Details of the cost and progress of the payment of the Milne commutation.

Members agreed it was a useful report and noted the gap between pension contributions and payments.

It was agreed that the outcome of any complaints should be included in future reports to the PPB.

## **9. INFORMATION PAPERS**

Members noted:

- A letter from DoJ in relation to a statutory rule entitled 'The Police Pensions (consequential Provision) (Amendment) Regulations (Northern Ireland) 2016' in respect of National Insurance payments;
- A table outlining a comparator between the roles of the Police Pension Board and the Scheme Advisory Board;
- The Police Pension Board terms of reference

## **10. AOB**

Officials advised members that two Police Pension Advisors had been appointed and were currently undergoing security clearance.

## **11. DATE OF NEXT MEET**

A provisional date of Friday 13 May 2016 was agreed for the next PPB meeting.

The meeting closed at 11.30am.