

# **Warwickshire Fire and Rescue Local Pension Board of the Firefighters' Pension Scheme**

**6 November 2023**

## **Administration Update**

### **Recommendation**

That the Warwickshire Fire and Rescue Local Pension Board notes and comments on the administration report provided by West Yorkshire Pension Fund (WYPF) dated October 2023 covering the work they have undertaken to administer the Firefighter Pension Schemes for Warwickshire Fire and Rescue Service (WFRS).

#### **1. Executive Summary**

- 1.1 From 1 April 2022 WYPF have provided the pension administration service for WFRS. As part of this service a monthly report is provided by WYPF, which gives details of the work they have undertaken, key performance indicators and other relevant information regarding the membership of the Firefighter Pension schemes.

#### **2. Financial Implications**

- 2.1 None

#### **3. Environmental Implications**

- 3.1 None

#### **4. Supporting Information**

- 4.1 The latest report provided by WYPF is for October 2023 and is attached at Appendix 1.
- 4.2 The report has been shared with stakeholders at the Council.

4.3 In relation to KPIs, 2 of 16 have not been delivered within the target timescales:

**Deferred Benefits on leaving** - This did not meet the target, due to other urgent work taking priority. The scheme members have received confirmation within 2 months of WYPF receiving the leaver information that they have a deferred benefit. This meets the statutory requirements, and the values/details were issued shortly after.

**Pension Estimates** – This did not meet the target because estimates with an intended retirement date of 3 months or more in the future are not processed until the more urgent estimates with a retirement date within 3 months have been completed.

4.4 On 1 October 2023, the 2<sup>nd</sup> part of the legislation required to deliver the Age Discrimination Remedy came into force. West Yorkshire have contacted members in scope using the template letters supplied by the Local Government Association.

4.5 On 1 October 2023 the Firefighters' Pension Scheme 2006 (England) (Amendment) Order 2023 came into force. The Pensions Administration Team at Warwickshire has commenced work on the calculations required for retained Officers who have expressed an interest to purchase service.

4.6 A notification has been sent out to those in scope notifying them of this options exercise. For those where no response has been received, we will use The Department for Work and Pensions (DWP) tracing service to ensure that where we might not have a current address, we have used best endeavours to try to reach those individuals.

4.7 As part of this work a review of the calculations will be undertaken, and revised information sent out to members who have already elected to purchase service under the 1<sup>st</sup> exercise. This is because it has been identified that pay information used for this may not have included all elements of pay that should have been classed as pensionable.

4.8 The work for this exercise must be completed by April 2025. A period of 18 months has been specified for Fire Services/Authorities to ensure the project is delivered within a reasonable timeframe.

4.9 There are no Breaches to report.

## **5. Timescales associated with the decision and next steps**

5.1 None

## **Appendices**

1. Appendix 1 – October 2023 monthly report.

	<b>Name</b>	<b>Contact Information</b>
Report Author	Victoria Jenks	vickyjenks@warwickshire.gov.uk
Director	Andrew Felton Director of Finance	andrewfelton@warwickshire.gov.uk
Executive Director	Executive Director for Resources	robpowell@warwickshire.gov.uk
Portfolio Holder	Portfolio Holder for Finance and Property	peterbutlin@warwickshire.gov.uk

The report was circulated to the following members prior to publication:

Local Member(s): Cllrs Dahmash and Gifford

Other members: n/a