WEST MIDLANDS FIRE AND RESCUE AUTHORITY

PENSION BOARD

7th September 2023

PENSION SECTION SUPPORTING INFORMATION

1. WEST MIDLANDS FIRE SERVICE FIREFIGHTERS' PENSION SCHEMES MEMBERSHIP AS AT 31st August 2023

Active Firefighters 1,374 2015 scheme members 1,230

Non-members 144 (10.48%)

Pensioners 2,221 Dependants 426

2. <u>Key Perfomance Indicators – Quarter ending 31st August 2023</u>

2.1 Estimate requests

Received during period 32 Responded to during period 31

Average response time 50 days

Cases outside target 3

Performance 90.3%

2.2 Divorce proceedings

Received during period 10 Responded to during period 1

Average response time 11 days

Cases outside target 0
Performance 100%

2.3 Basic Scheme Information

Received during period 87 Responded to during period 35

Ref. AU/PB/2023/

Average response time 19 days

Cases outside target

Performance 97.14%

2.4 Transfers – Inter-brigade

Received during period 17 Responded to during period 0

2.5 Transfers - Other

Received during period 4
Responded to during period 9

Average response time 845 days

Cases outside target 8

Performance 11.11%

In the above cases the response date is the date when we closed our files on the case. In the cases above that were out of date this is due to the member not responding to correspondence or choosing not to pursue the transfer and not due to inaction on behalf of the pension team.

3. INTERNAL DISPUTE RESOLUTION PROCEDURE (IDRP)

No cases entered the IDRP process during the reporting quarter.

4. SYSTEMS UPDATE

4.1 ALTAIR Member Self-service

ALTAIR Member self-service has been used to deliver the 2023 Annual Benefit Statements to all active scheme members in line with the statutory deadline of 31st August 2023.

Access has been extended to deferred members, where an email address is held. We will be extending access to pensioner members with email address in the system during September and then contacting all members without email addresses between October and December.

4.2 ORACLE Fusion

Ref. AU/PB/2023/

The ability of pensioners to access ORACLE without a cost occurring is under discussion with ORACLE's UK management team, as the required functionality is not currently available to UK customers.

The option to deliver the service at a cost exists but the decision to pursue this option rests with the Strategic Enabler for Enabling Services.

The Payroll and Pensions team Work to deliver online payslips to Pensioner members is continuing and it is still intended to deliver this functionality by 31st May 2024.

Paul Gwynn Payroll and Pensions Manager