

WEST MIDLANDS FIRE AND RESCUE AUTHORITY

AUDIT COMMITTEE

4 SEPTEMBER 2017

1. PENSIONS BOARD – AMENDED TERMS OF REFERENCE

Report of the Chair of the Pensions Board.

RECOMMENDED

That the Audit Committee as Scheme Manager approve the amended Terms of Reference for the West Midlands Fire and Rescue Authority – Pension Board.

2. PURPOSE OF REPORT

This report seeks approval of the amended Terms of Reference for the West Midlands Fire and Rescue Authority (WMFRA) Local Pension Board. The amended Terms of Reference were agreed by the Local Pension Board at its meeting on the 20 July 2017. (Appendix 1).

3. BACKGROUND

- 3.1 The Audit Committee as Scheme Manager, has delegated its responsibility for ensuring the effective and efficient governance and administration of the Firefighters Pension Scheme for the West Midlands Fire and Rescue Authority to the Pension Board.
- 3.2 The Pension Board assists the Scheme Manager to secure the effective and efficient governance and administration of the Pension Scheme for the West Midlands Fire and Rescue Authority.

- 3.3 The Quorum section of the Terms of Reference has been amended and now includes the following statement:

“In the absence of the Independent Chair, a Chair person will be selected on a rotational basis between employee and employer representatives”.

- 3.4 A new section, Reporting Breaches, is included in the Terms of Reference as follows:

“Pension Board members are required to report breaches of the law to the regulator where they believe there is a legal duty that has not or is not being complied with or the failure to comply will be of material significance to the Pensions Regulator in the exercise of its functions. Any breach brought to the attention of the Pension Board, whether potential or actual, shall be dealt with in accordance with the procedure set out in a separate policy document.”

4. **EQUALITY IMPACT ASSESSMENT**

In preparing this report an initial Equality Impact Assessment is not required and has not been carried out because the matters contained in this report do not relate to a policy change.

5. **LEGAL IMPLICATIONS**

The role of the local Pension Board as defined by section 5(1) and (2) of the Public Service Pensions Act 2013.

6. **FINANCIAL IMPLICATIONS**

There are no direct financial implications arising from the contents of the report.

7. **ENVIRONMENTAL IMPLICATIONS**

There are no environmental implications arising from this report.

BACKGROUND PAPERS

Audit Committee 7 September 2015
Pension Board 20 July 2017

The contact officer for this report is Neil Chamberlain,
Independent Chair of the Pensions Board