



Full Council Report

ISLE OF WIGHT COUNCIL

Meeting	FULL COUNCIL
Date	28 FEBRUARY 2024
Title	APPOINTMENT - LOCAL PENSIONS BOARD
Report of	DEPUTY MONITORING OFFICER

Executive Summary

1. Administering Authorities are required, under legislation to establish and operate a Local Pensions Board, to assist the Administering Authority in its role as scheme member of the LGPS pension fund.
2. The broad role of the Local Pensions Board is to ensure legislative, regulatory compliance and the proper administration of its affairs.
3. The Local Pensions Board is not an ordinary committee of the Council. Its Terms of Reference are outlined in the [Council's Constitution](#) in Part three (Section 6. Terms of Reference of Committees and Boards). These require the Local Pensions Board to have a minimum of four members and a maximum of eight Members constituted of Scheme Members and Employer Representatives. Of the latter category, at least one member must currently be an elected member of the Council. This report seeks the appointment of the one elected Councillor member vacancy.

Recommendation

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| 4. It is agreed that Cllr Paul Fuller is appointed to the Local Pensions Board as the elected member appointee in the employer representative category. |
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Background

5. The Isle of Wight Council is the administering authority and scheme manager of the Isle of Wight Local Government Pension Scheme (LGPS). The Public Services Pensions Act 2013 established a Local Pension Board for the Local Government Pension Scheme (LGPS). The 2013 Act specifies that there must be an equal number of scheme member and employer representatives, together with an Independent Chair.

6. For the Isle of Wight Council, the Local Pension Board membership currently comprises three scheme member representatives, three employer representatives and an Independent Chairman.
7. There is a vacancy for an employer representative (an elected councillor) on the Local Pension Board. There is a constitutional requirement that the vacancy on the Local Pensions Board is filled as soon as possible. The nomination for the Local Pension Board vacancy cannot be a currently serving member on the Pension Fund Committee.
8. The Local Pension Board meets quarterly, and a detailed pre-existing knowledge of the Local Government Pension Scheme is not a requirement as training and support will be given. It is NOT a political appointment and so the elected councillor would be expected to act in a way that represents the interests of all scheme members and employers within the fund.
9. Councillor Paul Fuller has indicated that he is willing to serve on the Local Pensions Board. He will not remain as a member of the Pensions Committee which would not be allowed should he be appointed to the Local Pensions Board.
10. Full Council could choose to appoint another elected Councillor should nominations be received before or at the Full Council meeting.

Corporate Priorities and Strategic Context

11. Within the [Corporate Plan 2021 – 2025](#) there are key areas of activity that will be our main areas of focus for the lifetime of this plan which will need to be central to everything we do as a council. Appointing to the Local Planning Board will ensure statutory compliance and help ensure the effective stewardship of the LGPS Pension Fund.

Responding to climate change and enhancing the biosphere

12. None arising directly arising from this report.

Economic Recovery and Reducing Poverty

13. This is a report recommending the appointment of an Elected member to ensure constitutional and regulatory compliance. There will be no direct impacts under this heading arising from this report.

Impact on Young People and Future Generations

14. Ensuring that the Pensions fund is effectively and efficiently administered will help ensure that the LGPS fund effectively supports current and future generations of members of the LGPS.

Corporate Aims

15. The appointment to the Local Pensions Board will ensure statutory and constitutional compliance and the proper administration of Council affairs.

Consultation

16. No external consultees.

Financial / Budget Implications

17. There are no additional costs associated with the proposals contained within this report.

Legal Implications

18. These are contained within the body of the report. In addition, the local authority as the Administering Authority for the local government pension scheme has the power under regulation 107 of the Local Government Pension Scheme Regulations 2013 to appoint to the Local Pension Board. This is not an ordinary committee of the Council.

Equality and Diversity

19. The Council as a public body is required to meet its statutory obligations under the Equality Act 2010 to have due regard to eliminate unlawful discrimination, promote equal opportunities between people from different groups and to foster good relations between people who share a protected characteristic and people who do not share it. The protected characteristics are: age, disability, gender reassignment, marriage and civil partnership, pregnancy and maternity, race, religion or belief, sex and sexual orientation. There are no specific equality impacts arising from the recommendation in this report.

Property Implications

20. None specifically. This report is seeking simply to appoint an elected member to the Local Pensions Board.

Options

21. Option 1 - That Councillor Paul Fuller be appointed to the Local Pensions Board

Option 2 – that Councillor Paul Fuller is not appointed to the Local Pensions Board

Option 3 – that another nomination for appointment to the Local Pensions Board is made and agreed by Full Council.

Risk Management

22. The Constitution requires one member of the Local Pensions Board to be an elected member of the Council. Ensuring that the Local Pensions Board is properly constituted reduces the risk of challenge and helps ensure operational and legal compliance.

Background Papers

23. The Constitution (published). No other specific papers.
24. Contact Point: Justin Thorne, Deputy Monitoring Officer: ex 821000; e-mail *Justin.Thorne@jow.gov.uk*

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