



Committee report

Committee	LOCAL PENSION BOARD
Date	26 OCTOBER 2022
Title	SCHEME MEMBER REPRESENTATION AT ACCESS JOINT COMMITTEE MEETINGS
Report of	PENSION FUND MANAGER

EXECUTIVE SUMMARY

1. This report confirms the process by which scheme member representatives can attend ACCESS joint committee meetings as observers. It further confirms that Isle of Wight Council Pension Fund will be invited to send two representatives to the ACCESS meeting in London on 5 December 2022.

RECOMMENDATION

2. That board members note the ACCESS approach to scheme member representation at joint committee meetings.
3. That board members agree the two representatives to attend the 5 December 2022 joint committee meeting, to be held in London.

BACKGROUND

4. At its meeting on 24 November 2021, the Isle of Wight Pension Fund Committee agreed to support a recommendation to the ACCESS Joint Committee (JC) to allow scheme members to be represented as observers on the joint committee. This matter was not included on the agenda for the 6 December 2021 JC meeting.
5. On 17 December 2021, the Scheme Advisory Board (SAB) published the minutes of its December meeting at which it was reported that ACCESS was the only pool not to have scheme member representation on its governing committee.
6. On 10 January 2022, the chairman of the ACCESS Joint Committee issued a briefing note to all funds, setting out how he proposed that the pool deal with this matter.

7. The above matters were discussed at the pension fund committee meeting on 16 February 2022 where it was agreed that an amendment be proposed to the March 2022 JC motion for the representation of scheme members on that body.
8. The amendment was presented to the 7 March 2022 JC meeting but was not passed. Instead, the JC resolved to issue invitations to observers to attend Joint Committee meetings on a rotational basis, allowing two observers from each Local Pension Board to be in attendance in person at least once each a year, in line with the schedule below:

Meeting	Invited Local Pension Boards	Observers per Local Pension Board	Total observers
A	Cambridgeshire, East Sussex, Essex	2	6
B	Hampshire, Hertfordshire, Isle of Wight	2	6
C	Kent, Norfolk, Suffolk	2	6
D	West Northamptonshire, West Sussex, Cambridgeshire	2	6
E	East Sussex, Essex, Hampshire	2	6
F	Hertfordshire, Isle of Wight, and Kent	2	6
G	Norfolk, Suffolk, West Northamptonshire etc	2	6
H	etc..		

9. In order for this to be fully implemented, changes are required to the ACCESS inter-authority agreement, the governing document of the pool. These changes are still to be agreed by all 11 ACCESS authorities.
10. So that the introduction of scheme member observers at the JC meetings was not delayed, representatives from Cambridgeshire, East Sussex and Essex County Council pension funds were invited to attend the June 2022 JC meeting on an informal basis.

ISLE OF WIGHT PENSION BOARD REPRESENTATIVES

11. The JC have agreed that it will be for each Local Pension Board to agree the observers who will attend each meeting, noting that the observers can be drawn from the scheme member representatives, the employer representatives, and independent members of a Local Pension Board. There is an expectation that at least one of the observers is a scheme member representative.
12. It is proposed that the attendees be Martin Doyle, independent chairman, and Barbara Milton, scheme member representative. Members are asked to confirm these attendees.

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