

Scheme Advisory Board

Actions Summary

Grey shading indicates completed, other than for any further monitoring or reviews

Meeting Date and agenda item	Action:	Progress
20.04.2016 4a	Action: Secretariat to amend ToR to clarify process of advising the Home Secretary, and circulate for consultation	Complete: ToR amended for meeting on 26 th May 2016
20.04.2016 4a	Action: Secretariat to include a training session in the meeting of 26 th May 2016	Complete: Included in meeting on 26 th May 2016
20.04.2016 4a	Action: Secretariat to amend ToR to confirm Quorum and circulate for consultation	Complete: ToR amended for meeting on 26 th May 2016
20.04.2016 4a	Action: Secretariat to amend ToR to confirm position on substitutes and circulate for consultation	Complete: ToR amended for meeting on 26 th May 2016
20.04.2016 4a	Action: Sean Starbuck to provide Secretariat with suggested amendments,	Complete: Sean sent amendments to Clair
20.04.2016 4d	Action: Secretariat to provide a paper to board on options for appointment of legal and actuarial advisers	Complete: Paper 3 scheduled at SAB meeting 30th November 2016 – item 8
20.04.2016 4e	Action: Board to write to local pension boards setting out methods for communication	Complete: Letter of introduction from SAB Chair to boards circulated to SAB board members for agreement 29.06.2016
20.04.2016 4f	Action: SAB Budget to be drafted by secretariat	Complete: Budget circulated to SAB board members for agreement 29.06.2016
20.04.2016 (4G)	Action: Board Policies to be drafted for – Knowledge and Understanding, Code of Conduct and Conflicts Policy	Not started, await appointment of SAB Secretariat.

Scheme Advisory Board Secretariat

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		03.10.2019 Complete before current chair term ends.
20.04.2016 5	Action: SAB to issue survey to boards to LPBs to understand constitution of local boards	In progress, discussed with Local Pension Board Committee – To be launched with website Complete: Survey issued on 28 November 2017
20.04.2016 5	Action: As per action 4e, secretariat to draft a letter to Local Pension Boards	Complete: Letter of introduction sent from SAB Chair to boards
20.04.2016 6	Action: To share board members email addresses	Complete
20.04.2016	Action: To share a list of all Local Pension Board members and chairs with SAB members	Complete: Email sent 19 th May 2016
26.05.2016 (3)	Action: To note that past service costs are potentially a risk to the cost ceiling	To keep on agenda. Formal response sent to Home Office on 31 st July 2017 03.10.2019 Recent Booth vs MAWW case will require authorities to correct pensionable pay. The effect of that is yet to be understood.
26.05.2016 4	Action: To investigate and provide a paper for September board meeting detailing key risk areas for consideration by the board in order to publish advice to Local Pension Boards	Complete: Provided paper to board on scheme assessment of code of practice, and recommendations for board
26.05.2016 4	Action: Write to Local Pension Board chairs inviting them to provide the Scheme Advisory Board with their concerns on local risk factors	Will be part of survey. Complete: included in survey
26.05.2016 5	Action: Amend ToR to reflect that the Chair is part of the board and has a vote	Complete: Redrafted ToR sent to SAB members 29.06.2016
26.05.2016 5	Action: To clarify that the SAB are allowed to appoint substitutes without those substitutes being appointed by the Home Secretary	Complete: Marc Sherratt has confirmed that members can nominate substitutes as they see fit, without appointment by the Home Secretary

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26.05.2016 5	Action: Amend ToR to reflect the vote process and that the chair does not have a vote.	Complete: Redrafted ToR sent to SAB members 29.06.2016
26.05.2016	Action: Circulate final clean and tracked versions of the ToR	Complete: Circulated to SAB members 29.06.2016
26.05.2016 6	Action: Secretariat and Chair to draft proposed budget for submission to Home Office	Complete: Budget paper circulated to SAB on 29.06.2016
26.05.2016 7	Action: Progress pensionable pay workshop on 20 th July 2016	Complete: Pensionable pay workshop held on 20.07.2016
07.09.2016 9	Action: Board to ensure Local Pension Boards are aware of their responsibilities under the Pensions Act 2013 and Code of Practice 14, and look to assess how the board can provide central guidance	Governance Conference on 9 th October to include a next steps toolkit as demonstrated to Local Pension Board effectiveness group Complete.
07.09.2016 11	Action: Survey Fire Authorities on application of pensionable pay	To progress, await appointment of legal adviser. 04.10.2018 Legal adviser now appointed, however, awaiting outcome of MAWW TPO decision and SYFRS determination on CPC. 08.03.2019 Closed. New item opened on pensionable pay
07.09.2016 11	Draft guidance note to Local Pension Boards to ensure they satisfy themselves that a review of pensionable pay is completed in light of Norman v Cheshire	To progress, await appointment of legal adviser. 04.10.2018 Legal adviser now appointed, however, awaiting outcome of MAWW TPO decision and SYFRS determination on CPC. 08.03.2019 Closed. New item opened on pensionable pay
30.11.2016 2	Record attendance of board members at meeting and events in an attendance register	Complete: Attendance register circulated on 3 rd March 2017

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30.11.2016 5	To action collection of Scheme Advisory Board levy	Complete: Letter to Fire Authorities sent on 23 rd January 2017. 57% response rate at time of paper
30.11.2016 6	To issue bulletin on protected age	To progress using new house style Complete: This has been published on www.fpsregs.org
30.11.2016 8	Advisers to Board: Secretariat to ballot for declarations of interest	Complete: Helen Scargill to be appointed in her role as Chair of the Technical Community
30.11.2016 (9)	Risk Strategy for Board, to be used to provide guidance to Local Pension Boards: Secretariat to seek proposals from appropriate parties to assist.	Progressing, draft risk register on khub. Working with Essex fire to produce a full risk register In progress. Board was presented with a draft SAB risk register, secretariat to progress.
30.11.2016 10	Sub Committees: Each board to work with secretariat and chairman to progress sub-committees	Complete: Committees are now in place
30.11.2016 11	2016 Tax Changes: To seek proposals and costs from interested parties in providing tax training sessions	Complete: These sessions have now been delivered and received very good feedback
30.11.2016 17	Cost Cap Mechanism and 2016 Valuation: Home Office to provide further information to the board	Complete: Training session and timescale to be presented at meeting on 6 th March 2017
06.03.2017 2	Awaiting secretary of state to appoint new board members	Proposals have been submitted to minister. Completed: Cllr Ian Stephens has been welcomed to the board.
06.03.2017 6	Secretariat to inform Local Pension Board Chairs and Scheme Managers of importance of Contracted Out Liabilities Reconciliation	To progress Complete – Included in LGA bulletin, Chairs update and LPB training
06.03.2017 7	Home Office to consult SAB on their views of how to take past service costs into account	Complete: Home Office submitted paper at 14 June 2017 meeting
06.03.2017	Home Office to consult SAB on their views for setting the scheme specific assumptions for the 2016 valuation.	Consultation response due by 6 th October

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		Complete – extension allowed to 13 th October and response submitted on time
06.03.2017 8	Voluntary Scheme Pays. Board members agreed proposals B & C	Home Office to progress regulations. LGA to consider guidance Complete: LGA issued guidance in bulletin 4
14.06.2017 6	Scheme Advisory Board to respond formally to Home Office on consultation over past service costs by 31 st July 2017	Completed. Response sent on 31 st July 2017
14.06.2017 7	Re-circulate list of pension administrators to board members	Completed and sent to board members with minutes
14.06.2017 7	To include in future SAB paperwork a report on board training events undertaken by LGA	Completed,
14.06.2017 7	The secretariat and Local Pension Board Effectiveness committee to produce some simple Fire Pensions Governance guidance for boards	Completed.
14.06.2017 7	SAB to survey Local Pension Boards in September 2017 regarding compliance with the ABS statutory deadline.	Draft survey ready to go. Completed, Board informed of response at December 2017 meeting
01.12.2017 5 Data Concerns	SAB to lead on data improvement	Secretariat to progress Complete. Issued guidance in bulletin 11 on data scoring and conditional data. Will need to monitor success – add as new item.
01.12.2017 5 Data Concerns	SAB to work with sub-committees to develop standard list of scheme specific data for TPR purposes	Secretariat to progress Complete. Issued guidance in bulletin 11 on data scoring and conditional data.
01.12.2017 7	SAB to champion use of on-line technology to provide Firefighter pension members with access to benefits	Secretariat to progress 04.10.2018 Secretariat continuing to promote through training and considering alternative methods of raising profile. 08.03.2019

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		Ongoing, continue to highlight benefits in LPB training. Added to data conference agenda 03.10.2019 This has been embedded into all SAB comms, SAB to establish a software suppliers engagement group. Item closed.
01.12.2017 7	SAB to undertake strategic review at next meeting	Secretariat to progress through sub-committees Complete: Paper provided to board members at 9.03.2018 meeting
01.12.2017 11	Draft budget to be prepared for March 2018 meeting	Secretariat to progress Complete: Budget provided and agreed
01.12.2017 14	Consult board on October meeting dates	Secretariat to progress Complete
01.12.2017 15	Board to invite Annemarie Allen to March meeting to feedback from tax awareness sessions run throughout November to January	Secretariat to progress Complete
09.03.2018 11	Tax awareness – Include a follow up article in bulletin for next steps	Complete. Issued with May 2018 bulletin
09.03.2018 12	In order for the board to consider future administration of the scheme, a benchmarking exercise on costs needs to be considered. Board to tender for an adviser to run a benchmarking exercise	Complete. Invitation to bid issued and applications received.
09.03.2018 16.1	The board agreed to tender for a permanent actuarial adviser to the board.	Complete. Invitation to bid issued and applications received.
09.03.2018 16.2	The board should respond to the Ombudsman judgment on pensionable pay	Secretariat to progress - awaiting second TPO judgment. 08.03.2019 Completed. Update of judgment given in bulletin 14 , albeit judgment likely to be appealed.
20.06.2018 11.8	AGM to take place over 17 and 18 September at 18 Smith Square	Secretariat to progress

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20.06.2018 12.16	Reissue original IDRPs guidance and offer training and support to FRAs	Secretariat to progress 04.10.2018 Guidance reissued. Training still to be offered. Closed. Replaced by new item on IDRPs.
04.10.2018 (5)	LGA to establish working group on behalf of SAB to consider ill-health regulations and processes	In progress, discussions ongoing with Home Office. 13.06.2019 Working group to be convened of 3 employee and 3 employer reps, delegated to experienced individual directly involved with IHR process. ALAMA or IQMP to be invited. 03.10.2019 Working group to wait for impact of Sargeant remedy to be clear 09.01.2020 Board agreed that postponement should continue. Notwithstanding that urgent remedy cases will be addressed.
04.10.2018 6	Home Office to consult with SAB on options for improving member benefits as a result of cost cap floor breach at the 2016 valuation.	Cost-effectiveness committee to progress with secretariat. Closed consultation submission made, and valuation subsequently paused.
04.10.2018 7	To action collection of Scheme Advisory Board levy.	Secretariat to progress
04.10.2018 8	Consultation on Aon benchmarking surveys	Admin & benchmarking committee to progress with secretariat.
04.10.2018 (10)	Further tax training sessions and materials to be procured – tax awareness refresher and administrator training	Secretariat to open bid process. 09.01.2020

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		Tax working party to consider what guidance is necessary for stakeholder groups. Item closed and added to 03.10.2019(6).
04.10.2018 10	Evidence gathered for public service pensions tax flexibilities.	Completed. Paper 1 provided to board with summary results
04.10.2018 11	Legal opinion to be obtained on award of pension credit benefits in respect of transitional members.	Secretariat to progress with legal adviser. 08.03.2019 - Closed Home Office have now confirmed position, see paper 2
04.10.2018 12	Monitor data guidance .	Secretariat to monitor. Data Conference scheduled for 03.04.2019 03.10.2019 Embedded into training. Added to regional group agendas. Secretariat to issue guidance on weighting. 09.01.2020 Revised guidance and weighting criteria issued. Engagement with software suppliers planned. Closed and new item on remedy data opened.
14.03.2019 (10) – replaces previous items on pensionable pay	Secretariat to work with legal adviser on pensionable pay issues to progress guidance to FRAs.	Pensionable pay seminar scheduled for 18.07.2019 Written legal advice commissioned on retrospective action and meaning of “temporary” in relation to eligibility (FT contracts and secondments). 03.10.2019 MAWW factsheet issued. Pensionable pay workshop held in July.

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		<p>09.01.2020</p> <p>Subset of Board to determine pensionable pay issues and publish central guidance on principles and rectification.</p> <p>Complete: Pensionable pay resources to be collated and added to a dedicated menu in member-restricted area of the Regulations and Guidance website.</p>
14.03.2019 (12)	Board to collect data on patterns of IDRPCs to establish where advice and guidance is needed. Secretariat to progress.	<p>Ongoing.</p> <p>03.10.2019</p> <p>Launch in October bulletin.</p> <p>09.01.2020</p> <p>Launch delayed. Data to be requested annually in line with scheme year, article to be included in January bulletin. Link to item 13.06.2019(8).</p>
13.06.2019 (6)	Based on the Aon recommendations in the administration and benchmarking review: secretariat to progress the continuing provision of support and guidance to scheme managers, a pension administration strategy, and simplification of discretions. All other recommendations deferred to the Administration & Benchmarking committee.	<p>09.01.2020</p> <p>See minutes [Item 9]</p> <p>Separate action summary for review recommendations to be created and maintained. Item closed.</p>
13.06.2019 (8)	IDRPC guidance to be updated to offer greater flexibility on persons to hear each stage and recommend maximum timescale for resolution. Secretariat to produce draft for review.	<p>09.01.2020</p> <p>Draft to be circulated to members by email, to be signed off at March meeting.</p>
03.10.2019 (6)	<p>Pensions tax: Working party/ work stream to be convened with remit of pursuing evidence and developing proposals for flexibility.</p> <p>Also to consider what guidance will be required for stakeholder groups.</p>	<p>09.01.2020</p> <p>To be convened as soon as possible to discuss what flexibilities could be made available as this can be dealt with outside of remedy. Evidence needs to show impact on frontline services and how proposed</p>

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		flexibilities would address unique FPS workforce issues. Update: room booked 25 March 2020
03.10.2019	Future of pensions administration: More information to be sought via consultation on the market place and risk.	09.01.2020 Further research to be undertaken.
09.01.2020 (8)	Secretariat to draft statement and circulate to Board for review, asking FRAs to provide their data on immediate remedy cases, with a reminder that an IQMP assessment for IHR is obtained under both schemes (noting that this does not guarantee payment) for claimants and non-claimants.	
09.01.2020 (11) – replaces previous item on monitoring data	To track issues relating to data during remedy process – including revised data measuring guidance (scheme-specific) fields and planned data seminar in April 2020.	