

Meeting of the Board 18 March 2021

Update on action summary

Introduction

1. This paper provides an update to the Board on actions taken and planned actions to progress the agreed work plan as outlined in the [action summary](#).

Completed actions

2. The statement drafted by the secretariat on behalf of SAB to confirm that IQMPs may assess the same member against the criteria of multiple schemes for recognised purposes including injury awards under the compensation schemes, transitional deferred benefits, and age discrimination remedy/ immediate detriment was issued in [FPS Bulletin 41 – January 2021](#) [Action 10.12.2020 (6.1)].

Actions in progress

3. GAD requested information from FRAs in respect of changes made to pensionable pay following the Booth vs MAWW judgment. Although the 2020 valuation results are still awaited, GAD has reported limited changes to pensionable pay arrangements in England. Further evidence or clarification will be sought on behalf of the Board [Action 26.05.2016 (3)].
4. [Preview survey link](#) shared with Board prior to meeting to road test FRA self-assessment survey and provide comments [Action 03.10.2019 (7)].
5. [Draft data collection guidance](#) has been circulated to FRAs and administrators and work with software suppliers on a standard template has commenced. [Paper 4](#) provided to the Board for discussion invites comments on revised data scoring expectations in the Pension Regulator's 2021 scheme return [Action 9.01.2020 (11)].
6. [Paper 4](#) includes the temporary roles factsheet which Weightmans have prepared for FRAs based on the legal advice previously provided to the Board, for review and comment [Action 11.06.2020 (6.1)].
7. [Paper 4](#) includes the pensionable pay remedies factsheet which Weightmans have prepared for FRAs based on the legal advice previously provided to the Board, for review and comment [Action 11.06.2020 (6.3)].

8. A legal view from Weightmans on outstanding queries relating to abatement and concurrent employments has been received by email. The secretariat will arrange a meeting with the Board's legal adviser to incorporate into and finalise the draft guidance [Action 17.09.2020 (5.3)].
9. [Paper 1](#) provided to the Board proposes a refresh of the existing committees in line with remedy project management. This includes a suggested nomination for the chair of the Local Pension Board effectiveness committee [Action 10.12.2020 (5.1) (2)].
10. In order to clarify responsibilities and timescales for the implementation of remedy across the FPS, the secretariat has provided [Paper 1](#) to the Board outlining the overarching project management process and a refresh of the SAB committees. This also includes the [LGA project implementation document](#) (PID) and [remedy risk register](#) [Action 16.02.2021 (7.1)].
11. The secretariat is progressing correspondence to HMT to acknowledge and welcome the remedy consultation response and highlight where additional policy detail is still required. [Paper 3 – link to be added] will be held as an open letter on the Board website [Action 16.02.2021 (6.4)].

Agreed postponed actions

12. Progression of a pensions tax working group with the remit of pursuing evidence and developing proposals for flexibility that may help firefighters manage their tax liabilities and improve retention has been temporarily postponed due to COVID-19. The postponement may be extended pending the outcome of remedy, as this is likely to affect members' tax positions [Action 03.10.2019 (6)].

Actions to note

13. Formation of the ill-health review group has not yet commenced as planned due to conflicting priorities and limited resource available. Action carried forward [Action 04.10.2018 (5)].
14. As part of the review of the risk register [Paper 4](#), the secretariat is working on an approach to document and record member training and will finalise this for the June meeting [Action 10.12.2020 (5.1) (1)].

Board actions

15. The Board are asked to note the contents of this paper.

Board Secretary
March 2021