

**Pension Fund Committee
Urgent Business Procedure**

Electoral Division affected: None;

Appointment of a scheme member representative on the Lancashire Local Pension Board

Contact for further information: Mike Neville, Tel: (01772) 533431, Senior Democratic Services Officer, mike.neville@lancashire.gov.uk

Executive Summary

This report relates to the appointment of a new Scheme Member representative to fill the existing vacancy on the Lancashire Local Pension Board.

Reason for the use of the Urgent Business Procedure

The recruitment and selection process has been concluded and interviews were held on the 24th April 2018. The successful candidate is considered to be well qualified and suited to fulfil the role of a Scheme Member representative on the Board.

The next scheduled meeting of the Pension Fund Committee will not be held until the 8th June 2018.

Recommendation

Subject to the views of the Chair and Deputy Chair of the Pension Fund Committee the Monitoring Officer proposes to approve the appointment of Mr W D Owen to fill the vacancy for a Scheme Member representative on the Lancashire Local Pension Board.

Background and Advice

Article 7 of the county councils constitution sets out the Terms of Reference for the Board, which state that the membership of the Lancashire Local Pension Board shall consist of 9 members, on the basis of 4 Employer representatives, 4 Scheme Member representatives and a single independent member.

At the Board on the 16th January 2018 a report (item 8) was presented in relation to the processes for identifying and appointing replacement Employer and Deferred member representatives to fill two vacancies of the Board

When considering the report the Board acknowledged that the membership was larger than other Boards but agreed that the current balance of 4 representatives each for employers/members, together with an independent Chair, represented a valuable breadth of knowledge and experience and minimised the possibility of meetings being inquorate.

With regard to the Deferred Member vacancy (which had arisen following the resignation of the existing representative in October 2017) the Board noted it was for individual Administering Authorities to establish an appropriate appointment process and consideration was given to different methods. It was noted that the ballot process used to recruit some members when the Board had been established in 2015 had been expensive and had resulted in a low response from eligible members. After considering the various options the Board agreed that a two stage nomination and selection process would be a more cost effective way of filling the vacancy and that in future the 4 scheme member representatives should act as representatives for all scheme members rather than the particular groups within the membership from which they were drawn.

After considering all the circumstances the Board agreed

- That the membership of the Board should continue to operate on the basis of an independent Chair and 4 Employer Member representatives (as set out in the Terms of Reference) and 4 Scheme Member representatives.
- That with regard to the 4 Scheme Member representatives the full county council be recommended to agree to amend the Terms of Reference of the Board so that the representatives are appointed to represent all active, pensioner and deferred members rather than being drawn from those categories.
- That the existing vacancy for a Scheme Member representative be filled following a two stage nomination and selection process, as set out in the report presented.

In February 2018 the Urgency Committee of the full council agreed to appoint Mr T Pounder, Director for Adult Services, to fill the Employer representative vacancy on the Board. The committee also agreed to amend the Terms of Reference regarding Scheme Member representatives as recommended by the Board

With regard to the appointment of a new scheme member representative the membership of the Lancashire County Pension Fund was informed by email of the vacancy and expressions of interest were requested by the 15th April 2018. Over 20 responses were received which were initially considered by the Chair of the Board and the Head of Fund who then agreed a shortlist of candidates that were interviewed on the 24th April 2018.

Following the interviews Mr William David Owen was identified as possessing the necessary skills and knowledge to fulfil the role and was provisionally offered the position, subject to confirmation of his identity and his membership of the Fund. As confirmation on both points has now been received it is necessary to seek approval from the pension Fund committee to formally appoint Mr Owen as Scheme Member representative on the Lancashire Local Pension Board.

Consultations

The Head of Fund and the Governance & Risk Officer for the Lancashire County Pension Fund.

Implications:

This item has the following implications, as indicated:

Risk management

In accordance with Section 5(4) (c)6 of the Public Service Pensions Act 2013 the Pension Board is required to include Scheme Member representatives in equal numbers, thus ensuring that it can undertake its role in assisting the Administering Authority with the governance and administration of the LCPF.

Local Government (Access to Information) Act 1985 **List of Background Papers**

Paper	Date	Contact/Tel
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N/A		
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Reason for inclusion in Part II, if appropriate

N/A

Decision Taken: Declaration

Chair and Deputy Chair of the Pension Fund Committee

Appointment of a scheme member representative on the Lancashire Local Pension Board

Original recommendation as set out in the report be supported - Yes

Approved by Chair of the Pension Fund Committee – see email 8th May 2018

Approved by Deputy Chair of the Pension Fund Committee – see email 10th May 2018

Executive Director

The following action has been agreed under the Urgent Business Procedure and after consultation with the Chair and Deputy Chair of the Pension Fund Committee:

Appointment of a Scheme Member representative on the Lancashire Local Pension Board

Subject to the views of the Chair and Deputy Chair of the Pension Fund Committee the Monitoring Officer proposes to approve the appointment of Mr WD Owen to fill the vacancy for a Scheme Member representative on the Lancashire Local Pension Board.

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.....14/5/18.....
Date

From: Schofield, Alan (Cllr)
Sent: 10 May 2018 17:32
To: Neville, Mike <Mike.Neville@lancashire.gov.uk>; Pope, Eddie (Cllr) <Eddie.Pope@lancashire.gov.uk>
Subject: RE: UB report - appointment of a new scheme member representative for the Lancashire Local Pension Board

'Approved' - ie am content for the decision to be taken (and noted also that Mr Tony Pounder is becoming employer rep. on the Lancashire Pension Board).

Can you inform me please re Mr William David Owen, from which category of scheme member & which employing authority he comes? This info doesn't affect my 'approved' reply above.

Alan S
Deputy Chair, P F Committee

From: Pope, Eddie (Cllr)
Sent: 08 May 2018 17:51
To: Neville, Mike <Mike.Neville@lancashire.gov.uk>
Subject: Re: UB report - appointment of a new scheme member representative for the Lancashire Local Pension Board

Approved
Regards
Eddie

----- Original Message -----

Subject: UB report - appointment of a new scheme member representative for the Lancashire Local Pension Board

From: "Neville, Mike" <Mike.Neville@lancashire.gov.uk>

Date: 4 May 2018, 16:36

To: "Pope, Eddie (Cllr)" <Eddie.Pope@lancashire.gov.uk>, "Schofield, Alan (Cllr)" <Alan.Schofield@lancashire.gov.uk>

County Councillor Pope/County Councillor Schofield

Please find attached an Item of Urgent Business which, subject to your views, is to be put before the Director of Corporate Services.

As you will see from the report the recommendation is to formally approve the appointment of a new scheme member representative for the Lancashire Local Pension Board. The successful candidate is considered to be well qualified and suited to fulfil the role and has been identified following a recruitment/selection process and interviews with the Chair of the Board and the Head of Fund on the 24th April 2018. The decision is to be taken under the urgent business procedure to formalise the appointment which can then be publicised and the appointee given an induction on the work of the Board and provided with relevant information ahead of the next scheduled meeting.

Please could you let me know as soon as possible if you are content for the decision to be taken. If you are happy with the proposed course of action please simply reply to the email stating 'approved'.

If approved a copy of the report will be circulated to the other Group spokespersons for information and the action will be reported to the next meeting of the Pension Fund Committee on the 8th June 2018.

Mike Neville
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