

Pension Fund Committee

Meeting to be held on Friday, 7th February 2020

Electoral Division affected:
(All Divisions);

Lancashire County Pension Fund Communications Policy

(Appendix 'A' refers)

Contact for further information:

Mukhtar Master, 01772 532018, Governance & Risk Officer, Lancashire County Pension Fund, Mukhtar.Master@lancashire.gov.uk

Executive Summary

This report contains an updated communications policy for the Lancashire County Pension Fund for the Committee to review and approve.

Recommendation

The Committee is asked to review and approve the revised Lancashire County Pension Fund Communication Policy as set out at Appendix 'A'.

Background and Advice

Regulation 61 of the Local Government Pension Scheme Regulations 2013 requires each Local Government Pension Scheme administering authority to produce and publish a policy statement describing how it communicates with its stakeholders.

The Lancashire County Pension Fund's previous policy statement was published in 2014 and has been reviewed to reflect the developments since then in relation to the Fund's approach to communicating with its stakeholders, and the working relationship it now holds with the Local Pensions Partnership.

The Lancashire Local Pension board at its meeting on the 15 October reviewed the final draft policy and made the following recommendations:

- Consideration should be given to the inclusion of additional hyperlinks where possible to direct readers to specific documents/information referred to in the Policy.
- Under the heading 'Communications to Scheme Members' reference to 'monthly pay advice' should be deleted as it is already covered by 'pensioners pay advice'.

- The text under 'Communication Programme' should be subject to a final review to address any potential inconsistencies regarding the most appropriate method of communication to be used.
- Whilst recognising that the preference is for people to access information online consideration should be given to including a statement to inform readers how to request hard copies in those cases where they do not have access to the internet.
- That the Policy should include reference to the timescale for when it will be reviewed.

Officers have amended the version reviewed by the Board for the suggestions made above. The Committee are asked to review and approve the updated Lancashire County Pension Fund communications policy.

Consultations

The Local Pension Partnership and the Lancashire Local Pensions Board.

Implications:

This item has the following implications, as indicated:

Risk management

No significant risks have been identified.

Local Government (Access to Information) Act 1985

List of Background Papers

Paper	Date	Contact/Tel
-------	------	-------------

N/A

Reason for inclusion in Part II, if appropriate

N/A