

Do you want to get involved in the running of your Pension Fund?

You may be interested to know that there are some changes to the governance arrangements for pension funds within the Local Government Pension Scheme. The changes are part of the Public Sector Pension Reform.

How did this happen?

In June 2010 the Government appointed Lord Hutton of Furness to chair the Independent Public Service Pensions Commission to review public service pension provision in the UK.

In March 2011 the Commission produced its final report making 27 recommendations for the reform of public service pension schemes.

The recommendations were accepted by the Government and were carried forward into the Public Service Pensions Act 2013.

The Act included a requirement for each Local Government Pension Scheme Manager to establish a Local Pension Board that is properly constituted, with trained and competent board members, including member nominees.

The Local Pension Board is to be established by 1 April 2015. The intention of this regulatory change is to ensure that the Local Government Pension Scheme is managed well at a local level.





What will the Local Pension Board do?

The Local Pension Board will be responsible for assisting Lancashire County Council, who is the Scheme Manager, to: -

Secure compliance with:

- The Local Government Pension Scheme Regulations;
- Any other legislation relating to the governance and administration of the Scheme, and;
- Requirements imposed by The Pensions Regulator in relation to the Scheme, and;

To ensure the effective governance and administration of the Scheme.

The new Board will be an oversight body and will not replace existing governance arrangements in place at Lancashire County Council in respect of the administration of the Local Government Pension Scheme.

How will the Local Pension Board in Lancashire be Constituted?

Voting members of the Board must be drawn equally from Scheme employers and Scheme members which is why we are writing to you now. It is also possible to appoint non-voting members. The Local Pension Board for the Lancashire Pension Fund will constitute of:

- An independent non-voting Chair who will be appointed through a public appointments process
- Four member representatives, comprising two members from current contributors, one member with a deferred (frozen) pension within the Fund, one pensioner member and;
- Four employer representatives comprising two from Lancashire County Council, one from other local authorities in Lancashire and one from other employers who participate in the Lancashire Pension Fund.

Have you registered for our Online Service?

My Pension Online is a facility where you can log in securely to your own pension scheme member record. Whether you are still working, or have a deferred pension, or a pension in payment, there is something in the online service for you.

We will be using the My Pension Online facility to communicate with you in the future. If you have not already registered for My Pension Online, please visit our website. You need a personal email address which you can register to be able to use this service, and we will inform you when there is new information for you to view.

In addition to ad hoc communications about your benefits, each year we will make your benefit statement available online (for active and deferred pensioner members), and pensioner members will have their P60 online.

If you wish to opt out of electronic communications please inform us in writing.

What criteria do you need to satisfy to become a member of the Local Pension Board?

- You must be a member of the Lancashire Pension Fund
- You must have a good knowledge and understanding of public sector pensions and specifically the Local Government Pension Scheme.
- You must be able to commit to a term of membership of four years
- You must also be able to attend up to four meetings each year and up to two training sessions each year.
- Travel to Preston is essential and expenses will be reimbursed.

The role and composition of the Lancashire Local Pension Board is described in full within a Terms of Reference which can be found on our website or you can ring or email us to request a copy.

Are you interested in being a Member Representative?

As part of the process of setting up the Lancashire Local Pension Board the County Council is now seeking nominations for Scheme Members to sit on the Board.

If you are interested in becoming a Member Representative you should complete the attached Expression of Interest Form and send, either by post or by email, to the address shown by no later than Friday 30 January 2015.

Nominations will be assessed to ensure that nominees meet the relevant criteria and if nominations exceed the required number in each category of Scheme Member then a ballot will be held to appoint a Representative.

Our Contact Details

Tel: **01772 530530**

E-mail: Askpensions@lancashire.gov.uk.

Web: www.yourpensionservice.org.uk

Your Pension Service PO Box 100, County Hall, Preston PR1 OLD

Lancashire Local Pension Board Expression of Interest Form

Name			
Address			
Postcode			
Email address			
National Insurance Number (to confirm you are a member of the fund)			
Please tell us in no more than 500 words about your experience, knowledge and understanding of public sector pensions and the Local Government Pension Scheme*			
Please tell us in no more than 500 w Local Pension Board*	ords why you want to be	a Member of th	e Lancashire
Please confirm that you are able to commit to a term of membership of four years from 1 April 2015 to 31 March 2019			Tick here
Please confirm that you will be able to attend up to four meeting per annum and up to 2 training sessions per annum in Preston			Tick here
Signature		Date	

^{*}please continue using plain white A4 paper