

FIREFIGHTERS PENSION BOARD – 31 JANUARY 2023

Administration

Staffing

1. The Fire Pensions team is fully staffed, but the Pensions team in general are carrying a number of vacancies.
2. As approved by the Pension Fund Committee, the appointment of 6 FTE to undertake project work and deliver work as set out in the business plan is underway as a procurement exercise via the National LGPS framework
3. One, newly appointed administration assistant started work in November. The second candidate has withdrawn and so recruitment has re-started for this post. Two newly appointed administrators have joined the team in November.

Performance Statistics

	SLA Overall %	Total Cases Completed	Open Cases at end of month
January 22	98.61	29	14
February	100.00	39	21
March	99.31	56	27
April	97.78	47	29
May	77.46	65	32
June	91.67	46	25
July	91.11	37	22
August	100	21	26
September	84.68	27	44
October	94.02	52	29
November	84.43	43	22
December	85.68	35	17

4. Looking at the individual subjects at the end of December, 4 cases were out of specification. Training is ongoing for team members.

Complaints

5. No formal complaints have been received

Data Quality

Common Data 2022 figures

Scheme	Total records tested	Records without a fail	Pass Rate	TPR Pass Rate
090 + FIR	1624	1566	96.4%	96.9%

This compares to 2021 figures of 99.6% and TPR 97%

Scheme Specific Data 2022 figures

Scheme	Total records tested	Records without a fail	Pass Rate
090 + FIR	2503	2080	96.56%

This compares to 2021 figures of 95.8%

These figures have been reported to the Pension Regulator for the return due in November 2022.

Projects

6. The work that has, so far been identified as project work is:
- Age Discrimination Remedy – work is ongoing on this. Immediate Detriment quotes continue to be provided where member has formally resigned. Quotations are provided within the framework timeline of 62 days of receipt. Estimates for retirements after the proposed remedy date, or if no formal resignation has occurred are being provided using current regulations only.
 - On-Call Second options exercise – preparations are underway for this exercise to identify eligible employees. Consultation will take place, with Regulations expected to be issued and actionable within the same timeframe as the remedy exercise. A working group will be established to look at the eligible group and to collate data / undertake an address tracing exercise if required for former employees.
 - Pension Dashboards – officers are attending webinars and reviewing requirements for the dashboard programme
 - Technology review. A report was submitted to the December Pension Fund Committee to agree the extension of the current system contract for 5 years

from the summer of 2024. A full procurement exercise will be run at the end of the agreed extension

- The I-connect project is in the final stages for the LGPS. IBC have indicated that there will be a charge for configuring the extract for Fire Pension Scheme members. We are in discussion with OCC and IBC regarding improvements to the data submitted each month as an alternative to developing the I-Connect extract.

7. Cyber security review –

A commercially sensitive, exempt report was submitted to the December Pension Fund Committee to update members on the certification held by software suppliers to the Fund.

Suppliers were asked to provide documentation to confirm that they met the standards detailed below.

The Standards

- During more recent procurement exercises the focus has been on ensuring that any tenders are compliant with ISO 27001 to ensure that any company meets standards set by OCC ICT.
- ISO 27001 is a framework for managing IT security and sets out the specification for an information security management system (ISMS) that helps keep consumer data safe. Following the completion of an audit, an organization can be ISO 27001 certified by an auditor. There are 114 controls in total among 14 categories, and the ISO 27001 Security Standard requires that you assess your organization, your data, and your information security management system, implementing the controls that make sense for your business.
- ISO/IEC 27002:2022 is an information security standard published by the International Organization for Standardization (ISO) and the International Electrotechnical Commission (IEC). ISO 27002 has a close association with ISO 27001. Broadly speaking, it gives guidance on [implementing an ISO 27001 ISMS](#).
- ISO/IEC 27002 provides a reference set of information security, [cyber security](#) and privacy protection controls, including implementation guidance based on internationally recognised best practices.
- While ISO 27002 is not a certifiable standard by itself, compliance with its information security, physical security, cyber security and privacy management guidelines brings your organisation one step closer to meeting [ISO 27001](#) certification requirements.

Conclusion

- Whilst ensuring compliance with ISO standards during more recent procurement exercises this has not always been the case, which is underlined by the lack of documentation in some areas.

- Equally whilst having ensured this information is, in most case, in place there hasn't been a robust process of requesting or checking compliance reports. To correct this officers will request information from all third party providers on an annual basis, which can then be reviewed in conjunction with ICT.
- A report will be made to the March committee to bring together all of the information gathered to date. This will then become an annual update.

Data breaches

8. No data breaches

9. Member self-services sign up

1992 / 2015 Scheme

	Registered	Percentage registered	Number Opting not to use	Percentage opting not to use
Active	86	86.00	0	0
Deferred	33	73.33	0	0
Pensioner	208	63.03	97	29.39

2006 / 2015 Scheme

	Registered	Percentage registered	Number Opting not to use	Percentage opting not to use
Active	228	49.14	1	0
Deferred	393	52.26	4	0.86
Pensioner	61	82.43	11	14.86

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January 2023