

LOCAL PENSION BOARD

4 MARCH 2016

REPORT OF THE DIRECTOR OF CORPORATE RESOURCES

JOINT ADMINISTRATION AND COMMUNICATION STRATEGY

Purpose of the Report

1. To update the Board on the progress made towards the County Council's adoption of the joint administration and communication strategy.

Background

2. The Local Government Pension Scheme Regulations 2013 enables the Pension Section to have administration and communication strategies and Leicestershire's draft version was presented to the Board at its meeting on 9 October 2015.
3. The aim of the administration element of the strategy is to set out the quality and performance standards expected of Leicestershire County Council in its role as the administering authority and the Fund's employer responsibilities.
4. The communication strategy element details how the Pension Section communicates with a number of different parties including; scheme members and employers.
5. Because areas in both strategies are often interdependent of each-other, for ease, both strategies are included within the same document. The Strategy, which is named the Leicestershire Local Government Pension Scheme Joint Administration and Communication Strategy is included as an Appendix.
6. At the end of the strategy document it includes the Pension Section performance targets and service level agreement. This section is especially important as it details timescales to be achieved by the Pension Section and Fund employers with potential financial implications if these are not achieved.

Consultation

7. A consultation exercise has taken place with employers on the Joint Pensions Administration and Communication Strategy, given the nature of close working required between the Pension Section and Fund employers. Replies

from a small number of the Fund employers have been received and some of the suggestions have been incorporated.

8. It is now planned to distribute the Joint Pensions Administration and Communication Strategy to all employers and it will be implemented from 1 April 2016.
9. Whilst employers are invited and encouraged to sign up to the Strategy, it will not be mandatory.

Recommendation

10. It is recommended that the Board notes the report.

Equal Opportunities Implications

11. None specific

Background Papers

12. Appendix – Joint Pensions Administration and Communication Strategy

Officers to Contact

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