

Our ref: JAGU / AB / LN

Date: 25<sup>th</sup> January 2022

Joanne Livingstone  
Chair – Scheme Advisory Board  
Firefighters’ Pensions Scheme  
Local Government Association  
18 Smith Square  
LONDON SW1P 3HZ



SOUTH YORKSHIRE  
**FIRE & RESCUE  
AUTHORITY**

*Sarah Norman  
Clerk to the Authority*

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This matter is being dealt with by: Linda Noble, Service  
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Dear Joanne

### **Immediate Detriment**

I hope this letter finds you well, and a belated Happy New Year.

I appreciate that, as Chair of the Scheme Advisory Board, you’ve already made representations to the Government in respect of the withdrawal of the guidance and the position that leaves many Fire and Rescue Authorities in.

However, at our Local Pension Board on 20<sup>th</sup> January, there was a robust discussion around the issues, and a recognition that this is not something the FRA – as Scheme Manager – nor the employee representatives have any control over. That said, it was agreed that I, as Chair, would write to you expressing our grave concerns at the situation we now find ourselves in.

We trust the SAB have requested that the Government explain why the decision was taken to remove the Guidance and what they will do, if anything, to reimburse FRAs for any financial losses, which could be significant.

It is also worth putting on record that the employee representative from the Fire Brigades’ Union stated that they intend to raise concerns with the Pensions Ombudsman, and this could result in some reputational damage to the Scheme Manager, and to the Local Pension Board.

I look forward to hearing your views, or receiving further updates or clarification on what the Government determine as *legitimate expenditure* in relation to payment of members pensions who are caught up in the immediate detriment situation'.

Yours sincerely

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'Andrew Bosmans', written over a diagonal line that extends from the bottom left towards the right.

**Andrew Bosmans**  
**Chair – Local Pension Board**  
**South Yorkshire Fire and Rescue Authority**