Firefighters Pension Scheme

Scheme Advisory Board

Actions Summary

Grey shading indicates completed, other than for any further monitoring or reviews

Meeting Date and agenda item	Action:	Progress
20.04.2016 4a	Action: Secretariat to amend ToR to clarify process of advising the Home Secretary, and circulate for consultation	Complete: ToR amended for meeting on 26 th May 2016
20.04.2016 4a	Action: Secretariat to include a training session in the meeting of 26 th May 2016	Complete: Included in meeting on 26 th May 2016
20.04.2016 4a	Action: Secretariat to amend ToR to confirm Quorum and circulate for consultation	Complete: ToR amended for meeting on 26 th May 2016
20.04.2016 4a	Action: Secretariat to amend ToR to confirm position on substitutes and circulate for consultation	Complete: ToR amended for meeting on 26 th May 2016
20.04.2016 4a	Action: Sean Starbuck to provide Secretariat with suggested amendments,	Complete: Sean sent amendments to Clair
20.04.2016 4d	Action: Secretariat to provide a paper to board on options for appointment of legal and actuarial advisers	Complete: Paper 3 scheduled at SAB meeting 30th November 2016 – item 8
20.04.2016 4e	Action: Board to write to local pension boards setting out methods for communication	Complete: Letter of introduction from SAB Chair to boards circulated to SAB board members for agreement 29.06.2016
20.04.2016 4f	Action: SAB Budget to be drafted by secretariat	Complete: Budget circulated to SAB board members for agreement 29.06.2016

Firefighters Pension Scheme

20.04.2016 (4G)	Action: Board Policies to be drafted for – Knowledge and Understanding, Code of Conduct and Conflicts Policy	Complete: Board policies published to board page
20.04.2016	Action: SAB to issue survey to boards to LPBs to understand constitution of local boards	In progress, discussed with Local Pension Board Committee – To be launched with website Complete: Survey issued on 28 November 2017
20.04.2016 5	Action: As per action 4e, secretariat to draft a letter to Local Pension Boards	Complete: Letter of introduction sent from SAB Chair to boards
20.04.2016	Action: To share board members email addresses	Complete
20.04.2016	Action: To share a list of all Local Pension Board members and chairs with SAB members	Complete: Email sent 19 th May 2016
26.05.2016 (3)	Action: To note that past service costs are potentially a risk to the cost ceiling	To keep on agenda. Formal response sent to Home Office on 31st July 2017 03.10.2019 Recent Booth vs MAWW case will require authorities to correct pensionable pay. The effect of that is yet to be understood. 11.06.2020 Paper provided to Board to determine if further action required or continue to maintain a watching brief. Home Office confirmed GAD considered past service pen pay costs for 2016 valuation but were deemed immaterial. Question from FA – can Board collate and provide data for GAD to incorporate into 2020 cycle.

		GAD have requested information from FRAs in respect of changes to pensionable pay made following the MAWW judgment.
26.05.2016 4	Action: To investigate and provide a paper for September board meeting detailing key risk areas for consideration by the board in order to publish advice to Local Pension Boards	Complete: Provided paper to board on scheme assessment of code of practice, and recommendations for board
26.05.2016 4	Action: Write to Local Pension Board chairs inviting them to provide the Scheme Advisory Board with their concerns on local risk factors	Will be part of survey. Complete: included in survey
26.05.2016 5	Action: Amend ToR to reflect that the Chair is part of the board and has a vote	Complete: Redrafted ToR sent to SAB members 29.06.2016
26.05.2016 5	Action: To clarify that the SAB are allowed to appoint substitutes without those substitutes being appointed by the Home Secretary	Complete: Marc Sherratt has confirmed that members can nominate substitutes as they see fit, without appointment by the Home Secretary
26.05.2016 5	Action: Amend ToR to reflect the vote process and that the chair does not have a vote.	Complete: Redrafted ToR sent to SAB members 29.06.2016
26.05.2016	Action: Circulate final clean and tracked versions of the ToR	Complete: Circulated to SAB members 29.06.2016
26.05.2016 6	Action: Secretariat and Chair to draft proposed budget for submission to Home Office	Complete: Budget paper circulated to SAB on 29.06.2016
26.05.2016 7	Action: Progress pensionable pay workshop on 20th July 2016	Complete: Pensionable pay workshop held on 20.07.2016
07.09.2016 9	Action: Board to ensure Local Pension Boards are aware of their responsibilities under the Pensions Act 2013 and Code of Practice 14, and look to assess how the board can provide central guidance	Governance Conference on 9 th October to include a next steps toolkit as demonstrated to Local Pension Board effectiveness group Complete.
07.09.2016 11	Action: Survey Fire Authorities on application of pensionable pay	To progress, await appointment of legal adviser. 04.10.2018

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		Legal adviser now appointed, however, awaiting outcome of MAWW TPO decision and SYFRS determination on CPC. 08.03.2019 Closed. New item opened on pensionable pay
07.09.2016 11	Draft guidance note to Local Pension Boards to ensure they satisfy themselves that a review of pensionable pay is completed in light of Norman v Cheshire	To progress, await appointment of legal adviser. 04.10.2018
		Legal adviser now appointed, however, awaiting outcome of MAWW TPO decision and SYFRS determination on CPC. 08.03.2019 Closed. New item opened on pensionable pay
30.11.2016 2	Record attendance of board members at meeting and events in an attendance register	Complete: Attendance register circulated on 3 rd March 2017
30.11.2016 5	To action collection of Scheme Advisory Board levy	Complete: Letter to Fire Authorities sent on 23 rd January 2017. 57% response rate at time of paper
30.11.2016 6	To issue bulletin on protected age	To progress using new house style Complete: This has been published on www.fpsregs.org
30.11.2016 8	Advisers to Board: Secretariat to ballot for declarations of interest	Complete: Helen Scargill to be appointed in her role as Chair of the Technical Community
30.11.2016 (9)	Risk Strategy for Board, to be used to provide guidance to Local Pension Boards: Secretariat to seek proposals from appropriate parties to assist.	Progressing, draft risk register on khub. Working with Essex fire to produce a full risk register In progress. Board was presented with a draft SAB risk register, secretariat to progress. 11.06.2020

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		To revisit with new chair pending
		appointment.
		<mark>17.09.2020</mark>
		Revised risk register drafted. To be discussed
		with new chair in the first instance before
		tabling for future meeting.
30.11.2016 Su	ub Committees: Each board to work with secretariat and chairman to	Complete: Committees are now in place
10 pro	ogress sub-committees	
30.11.2016 20	016 Tax Changes: To seek proposals and costs from interested parties in	Complete: These sessions have now been
11 pro	oviding tax training sessions	delivered and received very good feedback
30.11.2016 Co	ost Cap Mechanism and 2016 Valuation: Home Office to provide further	Complete: Training session and timescale to
17 inf	formation to the board	be presented at meeting on 6th March 2017
06.03.2017 Aw	waiting secretary of state to appoint new board members	Proposals have been submitted to minister.
2		Completed: Cllr Ian Stephens has been
		welcomed to the board.
06.03.2017 Se	ecretariat to inform Local Pension Board Chairs and Scheme Managers of	To progress
6 im	portance of Contracted Out Liabilities Reconciliation	Complete – Included in LGA bulletin, Chairs
		update and LPB training
06.03.2017 Ho	ome Office to consult SAB on their views of how to take past service costs	Complete: Home Office submitted paper at 14
7 int	to account	June 2017 meeting
06.03.2017 Ho	ome Office to consult SAB on their views for setting the scheme specific	Consultation response due by 6 th October
as	ssumptions for the 2016 valuation.	Complete – extension allowed to 13 th October
		and response submitted on time
06.03.2017 Vo	oluntary Scheme Pays. Board members agreed proposals B & C	Home Office to progress regulations.
8		LGA to consider guidance
		Complete: LGA issued guidance in bulletin 4
14.06.2017 Sc	cheme Advisory Board to respond formally to Home Office on consultation	Completed. Response sent on 31st July 2017
6 ov	ver past service costs by 31st July 2017	

14.06.2017	Re-circulate list of pension administrators to board members	Completed and sent to board members with
7		minutes
14.06.2017 7	To include in future SAB paperwork a report on board training events undertook by LGA	Completed,
14.06.2017 7	The secretariat and Local Pension Board Effectiveness committee to produce some simple Fire Pensions Governance guidance for boards	Completed.
14.06.2017 7	SAB to survey Local Pension Boards in September 2017 regarding compliance with the ABS statutory deadline.	Draft survey ready to go. Completed, Board informed of response at December 2017 meeting
01.12.2017 5 Data Concerns	SAB to lead on data improvement	Secretariat to progress Complete. Issued guidance in bulletin 11 on data scoring and conditional data. Will need to monitor success – add as new item.
01.12.2017 5 Data Concerns	SAB to work with sub-committees to develop standard list of scheme specific data for TPR purposes	Secretariat to progress Complete. Issued <u>quidance</u> in bulletin 11 on data scoring and conditional data.
01.12.2017	SAB to champion use of on-line technology to provide Firefighter pension members with access to benefits	Secretariat to progress 04.10.2018 Secretariat continuing to promote through training and considering alternative methods of raising profile. 08.03.2019 Ongoing, continue to highlight benefits in LPB training. Added to data conference agenda 03.10.2019 This has been embedded into all SAB comms, SAB to establish a software suppliers engagement group. Item closed.

Firefighters Pension Scheme

Scheme Advisory Board

01.12.2017 7	SAB to undertake strategic review at next meeting	Secretariat to progress through sub- committees Complete: Paper provided to board members at 9.03.2018 meeting
01.12.2017 11	Draft budget to be prepared for March 2018 meeting	Secretariat to progress Complete: Budget provided and agreed
01.12.2017 14	Consult board on October meeting dates	Secretariat to progress Complete
01.12.2017 15	Board to invite Annemarie Allen to March meeting to feedback from tax awareness sessions run throughout November to January	Secretariat to progress Complete
09.03.2018 11	Tax awareness – Include a follow up article in bulletin for next steps	Complete. Issued with May 2018 bulletin
09.03.2018 12	In order for the board to consider future administration of the scheme, a benchmarking exercise on costs needs to be considered. Board to tender for an adviser to run a benchmarking exercise	Complete. Invitation to bid issued and applications received.
09.03.2018 16.1	The board agreed to tender for a permanent actuarial adviser to the board.	Complete. Invitation to bid issued and applications received.
09.03.2018 16.2	The board should respond to the Ombudsman judgment on pensionable pay	Secretariat to progress - awaiting second TPO judgment. 08.03.2019 Completed. Update of judgment given in bulletin 14, albeit judgment likely to be appealed.
20.06.2018 11.8	AGM to take place over 17 and 18 September at 18 Smith Square	Secretariat to progress
20.06.2018 12.16	Reissue original IDRP guidance and offer training and support to FRAs	Secretariat to progress 04.10.2018 Guidance reissued. Training still to be offered. Closed. Replaced by new item on IDRP.

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04.10.2018	LGA to establish working	group on b	ehalf of	f SAB to	consider	ill-health	In progress, discussions ongoing with Home
(5)	regulations and processes						Office.
							13.06.2019
							Working group to be convened of 3 employee
							and 3 employer reps, delegated to
							experienced individual directly involved with
							IHR process. ALAMA or IQMP to be invited.
							03.10.2019
							Working group to wait for impact of Sargeant
							remedy to be clear
							09.01.2020
							Board agreed that postponement should
							continue. Notwithstanding that urgent remedy
							cases will be addressed.
							11.06.2020
							To note: secretariat has recently contacted
							ALAMA to flag resources available in relation
							to the scheme and offer training. Named
							contact can now be invited to working party
							when item reopened.
							17.09.2020
							Ill-health review group (2008) resources
							added to www.fpsregs.org to inform future
							discussions.
04.10.2018	Home Office to consult with					r benefits	Cost-effectiveness committee to progress
6	as a result of cost cap floor	breach at the	e 2016 v	/aluation			with secretariat.
							Closed consultation submission made, and
							valuation subsequently paused.

04.10.2018 7	To action collection of Scheme Advisory Board levy.	Secretariat to progress
04.10.2018 8	Consultation on Aon benchmarking surveys	Admin & benchmarking committee to progress with secretariat.
04.10.2018 (10)	Further tax training sessions and materials to be procured – tax awareness refresher and administrator training	Secretariat to open bid process. 09.01.2020 Tax working party to consider what guidance is necessary for stakeholder groups. Item closed and added to 03.10.2019(6).
04.10.2018 10	Evidence gathered for public service pensions tax flexibilities.	Completed. Paper 1 provided to board with summary results
04.10.2018 11	Legal opinion to be obtained on award of pension credit benefits in respect of transitional members.	Secretariat to progress with legal adviser. 08.03.2019 - Closed Home Office have now confirmed position, see paper 2
04.10.2018 12	Monitor data guidance.	Secretariat to monitor. Data Conference scheduled for 03.04.2019 03.10.2019 Embedded into training. Added to regional group agendas. Secretariat to issue guidance on weighting. 09.01.2020 Revised guidance and weighting criteria issued. Engagement with software suppliers planned. Closed and new item on remedy data opened.
14.03.2019 (10) –	Secretariat to work with legal adviser on pensionable pay issues to progress guidance to FRAs.	Pensionable pay seminar scheduled for 18.07.2019

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replaces		Written legal advice commissioned on
previous		retrospective action and meaning of
items on		"temporary" in relation to eligibility (FT
pensionable		contracts and secondments).
pay		03.10.2019
		MAWW factsheet issued. Pensionable pay
		workshop held in July.
		09.01.2020
		Subset of Board to determine pensionable
		pay issues and publish central guidance on
		principles and rectification.
		Complete: Pensionable pay resources to be
		collated and added to a dedicated menu in
		member-restricted area of the Regulations
		and Guidance website.
14.03.2019	Board to collect data on patterns of IDRPs to establish where advice and	Ongoing.
(12)	guidance is needed. Secretariat to progress.	03.10.2019
		Launch in October bulletin.
		09.01.2020
		Launch delayed. Data to be requested
		annually in line with scheme year, article to
		be included in January bulletin. Link to item
		13.06.2019(8).
		Completed: Paper provided to SAB
13.06.2019	Based on the Aon recommendations in the administration and benchmarking	09.01.2020
(6)	review: secretariat to progress the continuing provision of support and	See minutes [Item 9]
	guidance to scheme managers, a pension administration strategy, and	Separate action summary for review
	simplification of discretions. All other recommendations deferred to the	recommendations to be created and
	Administration & Benchmarking committee.	maintained. Item closed.

13.06.2019	IDPD quidance to be undated to offer greater flexibility on paragraph to bear	09.01.2020
	IDRP guidance to be updated to offer greater flexibility on persons to hear	
(8)	each stage and recommend maximum timescale for resolution. Secretariat to	Draft to be circulated to members by email, to
	produce draft for review.	be signed off at March meeting.
		11.06.2020
		Complete: guidance agreed by email and
		published with May bulletin. Further guidance
		for decision makers and members to follow.
03.10.2019	Pensions tax: Working party/ work stream to be convened with remit of	
(6)	pursuing evidence and developing proposals for flexibility.	To be convened as soon as possible to
	Also, to consider what guidance will be required for stakeholder groups.	discuss what flexibilities could be made
		available as this can be dealt with outside of
		remedy. Evidence needs to show impact on
		frontline services and how proposed
		flexibilities would address unique FPS
		workforce issues.
		Update: room booked 25 March 2020
		11.06.2020
		Temporarily postponed due to COVID-19.
03.10.2019	Future of pensions administration: More information to be sought via	09.01.2020
(7)	consultation on the marketplace and risk.	Further research to be undertaken.
		11.06.2020
		To pick up with new chair once in post.
		<mark>17.09.2020</mark>
		Paper 2 provided to meeting to outline issues
		and options for consideration. Secretariat to
		draft survey for FRAs and administrators and
		request details of current contracts from
		FRAs. Drafts will be submitted to Board for
		review.

09.01.2020	Secretariat to draft statement and circulate to Board for review, asking FRAs	Completed: Bulletin 28 included data request
(8)	to provide their data on immediate remedy cases, with a reminder that an	and paper supplied to board at 31 March
	IQMP assessment for IHR is obtained under both schemes (noting that this	2020 meeting.
	does not guarantee payment) for claimants and non-claimants.	
09.01.2020	To track issues relating to data during remedy process – including revised	11.06.2020
(11) –	data measuring guidance (scheme-specific) fields and planned data seminar	Remedy software and administration working
replaces	in April 2020.	group (SAWG) to feedback to Board when
previous		appropriate.
item on		17.09.2020
monitoring		Data workshop to be held at AGM 23 Sept to
data		consider development of remedy data
		collection template.
11.06.2020	To consider legal advice provided on temporary in the context of the scheme.	<mark>17.09.2020</mark>
(6.1)	Board to submit written comments/ feedback in advance of September	Comments from FOA received. Carry
	meeting.	<mark>forward.</mark>
11.06.2020	To consider legal advice provided on retrospective action relating to	<mark>17.09.2020</mark>
(6.3)	pensionable pay decisions. Board to submit written comments/ feedback in	Paper 1 provided to Board explaining points
	advance of September meeting.	for consideration and potential actions. A
		request for a Part 8 decision will be
		considered internally by the Home Office.
17.09.2020	Secretariat to obtain a legal view on outstanding abatement queries to	
(5.3)	incorporate into the draft guidance.	
<mark>17.09.2020</mark>	Secretariat to draft information note for FRAs to support implementation of	
<mark>(5.4)</mark>	Home Office immediate detriment guidance or robustly evidence challenges.	
	Information to be requested on number of eligible members.	