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MINUTES

## LFEPA LOCAL PENSION BOARD

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DATE	Thursday, 2 November 2017	TIME	2.00 pm
VENUE	G-03 Ground Floor, 169 Union Street, London, SE1 0LL		

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Minutes of the proceedings of the meeting of LFEPA Local Pension Board held in G-03 Ground Floor, 169 Union Street, London, SE1 0LL, on Thursday, 2 November 2017

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**Present:**

Gareth Beeton FBU (Chair)	Councillor Leonie Cooper AM	Matthew Herrington (FOA)
Councillor Fiona Colley	Paul Embery (FBU)	Councillor Oonagh Moulton
Joe MacVeigh (FBU)		

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### 1. Apologies for Absence

Apologies for absence were received from Councillor Tony Arbour AM and Jack Hopkins for the Employer' side and from David Shek (FBU) for whom Joe MacVeigh substituted, for the Employees side.

### 2. Minutes

The Minutes of the meeting of the Board held on 14 July 2017 were agreed as a correct record.

### 3. Declarations of Interest

There were no declarations or conflicts of interest declared by Board Members.

### 4. Firefighters' Local Pension Board - Update Report

Adrian Bloomfield introduced the report, drawing particular attention to paragraph 9 of the report which provided an update to the ruling of Walker v Innospec Limited which had been discussed at the previous meeting.

Tracey Dennison then informed the meeting that following further discussions after the report was finalised, officers were proposing to delete paragraph 6 of the memorandum concerning referral of new evidence to IQMP (Appendix 4 of the report). This would be replaced with words to express that any "new evidence" would be submitted to the IQMP for him/her to decide whether or not to review the opinion. Officers acknowledged that it was in the interests of all parties that any evidence submitted was robust and it was for the IQM to make the decision as to whether it constituted new evidence or not. The employee's side welcomed this, stressing that the employees side would only submit medical evidence if it felt it was worthy of being considered.

The Board then discussed concerns on the effect of the transitional arrangements for the 2015 FPS on take up and possible members leaving the scheme. It was noted that the

Authority was no longer able to auto-enrol the staff affected by transitional delay. However there would still be the main auto-enrolment exercise in 2019. The financial implications were dealt with in the Budget update report (FEP 2970) reported to Resources Committee. Staff side expressed concern that if the Employment Appeals Tribunal on these arrangements was lost it may lead to greater numbers leaving the scheme.

The Employers side indicated that the percentage in the scheme was still very good, with around 10% not in any scheme. There followed a discussion on the promotion work being undertaken to encourage take up and further work that could be done to highlight the benefits.

In response to a question from the Employee's side, it was confirmed that officers were working on how the Brigade's systems could be adapted to capture information regarding injuries sustained travelling to and from work and that an update on the numbers would be reported to the next meeting of the Board.

It was reported that work was in progress with regard the future of the Board, in light of the fact that LFEPA, subject to the commencement order being made, would be abolished on 1 April 2018 when the functions of the Authority would be transferred to the London Fire Commissioner. Nevertheless it was noted that no definitive decisions could be made until this point. It was further noted that there would be at least one more meeting of the Board in its current format in February 2018.

It was then agreed: That the report be noted.

## **5. Provision of Information**

The Interim Head of Human Resources introduced this regular report and answered questions on specific points. It was noted that there was a slight increase in the numbers not in any pension scheme which was a slight concern, and that there had been no change in the representation of BME staff.

Officer then provided updates, which had arisen since report publication, on the following cases:-

- Page 48 – 5 of 6 of the members who had made this complaint had asked if they could defer their decision whether to pursue their case until the outcome of the FBU legal case was known and the same arrangement would be offered to the remaining individual,
- Page 49 (2<sup>nd</sup> case) – this complaint had been upheld at Stage 2. The Employees side asked that the FBU's thanks be recorded for the employer's assistance on this case.

## **6. Any Other Business**

There was no other business.

## **7. Date of Next Meeting**

It was agreed that the next meeting would be held on a date in February 2018 to be confirmed by the Clerk following consultation with Members.

The meeting ended at 2.25 pm

Signed By: ..... Chair

Anna Flatley  
Clerk to LFEPA LOCAL PENSION BOARD  
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