



# **Local Pension Boards – the story so far.....**



**WILTSHIRE**  
PENSION FUND

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## Local Pension Board – what does it do?

### Regulations:

- *Secure compliance with Regulations*
- Scrutinise?
- *Ensure effective & efficient governance & administration of the scheme*
- Assist the scheme manager?

### Initial Feedback:

- Extra layer of bureaucracy / cost
- No executive powers
- How & to whom would it report?
- Experience vital



## Setting up the Board

- Early engagement (Pension Committee / Directors / demo serv. / legal / Unions)
- Difficult concept to sell - no real comparability
- Flexibility – was it good?
- Flagged up as Risk
- Resourcing issues / Conflict of Interest
- Council updated
- All ready to go .....where's the Regs / guidance ?
- Final Regs issued Jan 15
  - Model TOR useful

## Recruitment to the Board:

- 3 employer (1 admin, 1 large, 1 small)
- 3 members (2 Union nominations)
- Independent Chair (paid)
- Practicalities of timeframe
- Member reps: Union support
- Employers reps: a little bit of arm twisting
- Chair: experience crucial / drive the agenda / focus on the right issues

## Established & Operational?

- TOR agreed by Council end of **24 Feb 15**
- Selection & appointment **March to Apr 15**
- Most Members appointed by Council **12 May 15**
- Induction training **June 15**
- Final Members appointed by Council **12 July 15**
- 1<sup>st</sup> Meeting **14 July 15**



## First Principles:

- Transparency / openness
- Access to all papers
- Invite to reciprocal meetings
- 1:1 with Chairs
- Joint training



## Training / Level of Competency

- 1 elected member, 1 PFC observer, 2 Finance directors (1 formerly on PFC), 1 new active member, 1 retired member, 1 former Head of Pensions
- Varied level of knowledge
- Training:
  - Induction session
  - Self-assessment
- Training Plans being developed

## 1<sup>st</sup> Meeting Experience

### Reviewed:

- Internal governance issues – ToR / training / COI & ROI policies / breaches policy
- Pension Committee minutes
- Business Plan
- Comms Strategy
- Internal Audit report
- **Future work planning**



## 1<sup>st</sup> Meeting Experience (Cont.)

- What is the remit? What is “assist”?
- How can Board add value?
- Measure of success?
- Who will do the work / own the papers?
- How undertake reviews? Knowledge levels? expert advice?
- Access to independent officers?
- Work alongside Committee?

## Future Structure of meetings

- Work plan aligned to Business Plan
- 3 part agenda:
  1. Standing Items:
    - Board internal governance issues
    - Breaches Policy / COI / ROI / Training plans
    - Review Pension Committee minutes / Risk Register
    - Short Training session
  2. Recurring Business Items:
    - Review compliance of policies / strategies / discretions
  3. Specific Business Items
    - Review IDRPs process / TPR compliance / KPIs & Benchmarking / Communications / Fund resources



## Next Steps

- Agree Work Plan
- Implement Training Plan
- Agree COI & Breaches Policy
- Communications / interaction between Board & PFC
- ***Will the Board make the Fund more efficient?***

# Local Government Pension Scheme (LGPS)



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## Any Questions?

