

Report of the Director, West Yorkshire Pension Fund, to the meeting of West Yorkshire Pension Fund Pension Board to be held on 14 September 2021

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Subject: Training

Summary statement:

The training of Pension Board members to understand their responsibilities and the issues they are dealing with is a very high priority. Details of training courses, conferences and seminars listed may assist Board Members.

Recommendation

Consideration is given to attendance by Board Members at the events in Section 1 and members note the requirement to complete the Pension Regulators toolkit training.

Rodney Barton
Director

Portfolio:

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1. Training Events

1.1 If any Pension Board member would like any specific training through one to one meetings with the in-house team, then this can be arranged.

1.2 Pension Board members should consider the following events.

- **PLSA Annual Conference**
12-14 October 2021, detail tbc
- **LAPFF Annual Conference**
8-10 December 2021, Bournemouth Hilton
- **LGA Fundamentals training programme 2021**
Leeds Day 1 - 21 October, Day 2 - 18 November, Day 3 - 8 December
Hybrid session Day 1 - 12 October, Day 2 - 9 November, Day 3- 2 December

Fundamentals is a bespoke three-day training course aimed at elected members and others who attend pension committees/panels and local pension boards. Past delegates include elected members, trade union representatives, member and employer representatives, as well as a variety of officers who attend/support committees and some private sector organisations who provide services to administering authorities. The course provides a scheme overview and covers current issues in relation to administration, investments and governance of the LGPS.

Attending all three days will assist delegates in meeting the relevant requirement for knowledge, skills and understanding either required in statute or encouraged by relevant guidance.

Each day has a different theme and will include sessions delivered by experts in their field. The event also provides delegates with valuable networking opportunities. Each day's programme will start at 10am, with registration and coffee from 9:30am, and close by 4pm with refreshments and lunch provided. For full details see the Training programme at Appendix A.

As usual, the training will take place in three locations, London, Leeds and Cardiff. The London sessions will be hybrid, so delegates will have the choice of attending in person or virtually. The sessions in Leeds and Cardiff will be face to face only.

- **LGA Annual Governance Conference**

The annual conference retains its popular lunchtime to lunchtime format. It will start on Thursday 20 January and end on Friday 21 January 2022. It will take place at the Marriott Highcliffe Hotel in Bournemouth. The programme is currently being finalised.

- **LGA circulars and bulletins**

Members can also make use of the LGA website where circulars, bulletins and updates are published on a regular basis.

<http://www.lgpsregs.org/index.php>

- **Scheme Advisory Board website**

Members can find lots of useful information on the Scheme Advisory Boards website

<https://www.lgpsboard.org/>

Members can also make use of web based training.

1.3 Pensions Regulator toolkit

All Pension Board members should complete the Pension Regulators toolkit training. Once completed a copy of the completion certificate should be given to the Head of Employer Services and Compliance.

The Trustee toolkit is a free, online learning programme aimed at trustees of occupational pension schemes.

The Trustee toolkit includes a series of online learning modules and downloadable resources developed to help you meet the **minimum** required level of knowledge and understanding introduced in the Pensions Act 2004.

<https://trusteetoolkit.thepensionsregulator.gov.uk/>

Other online training is available at **Aberdeen Standard Investments Learning Gateway**

Web based training provided by Aberdeen Standard Investments:

<https://www.aberdeenstandard.com/en/uk/adviser/investment-tools/learning-gateway>

2. Annual Meetings

This year both annual meetings will be held virtually on:

- Members Meeting – 2pm on 27 October 2021
- Employers Meeting – 2pm on 28 October 2021

3. Recommendations

Consideration is given to attendance by Board Members at the event in Section 1

Pension Board Members note the requirement to complete the Pension Regulators toolkit training.