

TYNE AND WEAR FIRE AND RESCUE AUTHORITY

Item No. 8

HUMAN RESOURCES COMMITTEE:

4TH OCTOBER 2021

**SUBJECT: PROPOSED AMENDMENT TO TERMS OF REFERENCE OF
LOCAL PENSION BOARD**

REPORT OF: THE FINANCE DIRECTOR

1. PURPOSE OF REPORT

- 1.1 The purpose of this report is to provide Board Members with proposed amendments to the Board's Terms of Reference.

2. BACKGROUND

- 2.1 It is a requirement for a Local Pension Board (LPB) to have an agreed Terms of Reference. The Terms of Reference are approved by Tyne and Wear Fire and Rescue Authority in line with the Firefighter Pension Scheme (FPS) 2015 legislation and guidance provided by the Local Government Association.
- 2.2 The Terms of Reference for the LPB have been previously revised and approved by Authority in 2020.
- 2.3 The legislation requires that a LPB meets 2 times a year, however the Pension Regulator has stated an expectation of 4 meetings per year. The Authority currently aims to comply with the Pension Regulator requirements.

3. AMENDMENTS

- 3.1 The current Terms of Reference state - "A Member of the Human Resource Committee will attend each board meeting, so as to provide a link between the Board and the Human Resource Committee. The Scheme Manager Representative will not carry voting rights, but in every other way be treated as a board member."
- 3.2 Additionally "A meeting is only quorate when at least 2/3rds of both member and employer representatives are present plus the Scheme Manager Representative."
- 3.3 The requested amendment is that the requirement for the Scheme Manager Representative for the meeting to be quorate is removed, so that the terms of reference would read; "A meeting is only quorate when at least 2/3rds of both member and employer representatives are present."

- 3.4 This will allow that in the exceptional circumstances that a Scheme Manager is unavailable the board can still be quorate.
- 3.5 The Terms of Reference can only be changed by full Authority, hence the request for this Committee to review the change and support its progress to full Authority.

4. FINANCIAL IMPLICATIONS

- 4.1 There are no direct financial implications arising from this report.

5. EQUALITY IMPLICATIONS

- 5.1 There are no equality implications arising from this report.

6. HEALTH AND SAFETY IMPLICATIONS

- 6.1 There are no health and safety implications arising from this report.

7. RECOMMENDATIONS

- 7.1 The Committee is requested to note the contents of the report and recommend the proposed amendment to the Terms of Reference of the Local Pension Board to full Authority.