

**Minutes****Title: Police Pension Board (Officer)****Date:** Thursday 25<sup>th</sup> April 2019 at 9am**Location:** Mason Room**Chair: Simon Pater****Attendees:**

Ian Perkin, Chief Finance Officer, OPCC, (Chairman)

Simon Pater, Federation, (Deputy Chair)

Peter Gillett, Executive Director of Commercial and Financial Services for Surrey &amp; Sussex

Daisanne Summersfield, Head of Employee Services for Surrey &amp; Sussex

Tony Suter, Scheme Member

**Advisors:** Jo Guy & Kelly Ellison, Surrey/Sussex Police

Rachel Lupanko, Office Manager, OPCC (Minutes)

**Guests:** Ben Read, Equinity (by telephone), Kevin Courtney NPCC Pension's Advisor

ITEM	NOTES	ACTIONS / OWNER
1	<b>Welcomes &amp; Apologies:</b> The Chair welcomed the Board, Ben Read from Equinity and Kevin Courtney NPCC Pensions Lead to the meeting. Apologies had been received from the Scheme Manager CC Gavin Stephens and the Superintendent's Association Member Jon Savell and John Boshier.	
2	<b>Conflicts of Interests:</b> No conflicts of interest were declared.	
3	<b>Minutes of the 24<sup>th</sup> January 2019:</b> The Board approved the minutes	
4	<b>Review of actions and decisions:</b> <b>Action 103 – Increased Reporting Requirements – Dashboard update – Kevin Courtney informed the Board that there is some debate about how Public Service schemes are to be reflected on the Dashboard but that the Dashboard would be up and running in the near future, enabling people to trace their pension benefits more easily. PG confirmed he had raised the technical issue between Surrey Police and Equinity with the lead person in ITC who had since left the Department, PG had now raised it with the new Head of the ITC Department, would follow this up today and report back to the Board at the next meeting - Open</b> <b>Action 104 – Increased Reporting Requirements - Data Scoring &amp; Improvement Plan – BR confirmed that he had been asked to run the reports, this work was still in progress BR and JG to discuss further outside of the meeting - to be added to the next meeting Agenda - Open</b>	<b>JG/PG</b>  <b>JG/BR</b>

ITEM	NOTES	ACTIONS / OWNER
4 cont.	<p><b>Action 117 – Compensation Considerations – Further update to be given to the Board when the final two cases completed - Still waiting for a response from two scheme members who had been offered compensation, one had stated he was getting legal advice but had not been in touch since and one who had not responded at all. JG to arrange a short message to go on payslip, SP to chase through the Federation and BR to check the contact information Equinity have for the retired member who has not responded in case the contact details are different – Open</b></p> <p><b>Action 121 - Quick easy guide – BR confirmed that he had contacted the MET but had received no response – BR to follow this up. SP confirmed his copy he had received had come from MET Friendly and he will contact them directly - Open</b></p> <p><b>Action 123 – Scheme Administrator Quarter 2 Report – Helpdesk Statistics (3.4) - Abandoned calls – BR advised the Board that as this was not a standard reporting tool so it had to be built specifically for this purpose, it had now been done but not been available in time for the Quarter 4 report. The next report would contain the additional information the Board had requested - Open</b></p> <p><b>Action 124 - Pension Statement Survey 2019 - Survey Results Report to be added as an Agenda item for January 2020 meeting and each subsequent January meeting - Open</b></p> <p><b>Action 125 – Voluntary Scheme Pays – KC confirmed that he could provide an overview to the Board or more detailed training was provided by Barnett Waddingham - DS confirmed that the Board were looking to provide detailed training for members who had exceeded the threshold and this training needed to be easy to understand and cost effective as this only concerned a very small number of members.</b></p> <p><b>DS to contact Barnett Waddingham to discuss the training available and will update the Board at the next meeting – Open</b></p> <p><b>SP confirmed that he had contacted the Federation to see if they had any information but due to the Cyber-attack the Federation had suffered they had not yet responded. - Open</b></p> <p><b>Action 126 – Publish the Pension Board TOR on the Surrey Police Website – RL confirmed that this had been published but since the migration of Surrey Police’s website to the single online home the links did not appear to work, this has been flagged as an issue to the Online team. RL to check again in a few days - Open</b></p> <p><b>Action 127 – Publish Privacy Statement on the Surrey Police Website – RL confirmed that this had been published but since the migration of Surrey Police’s website to the single online home the links did not appear to work, this has been flagged as an issue to the Online team. RL to check again in a few days - Open</b></p>	<p><b>SP/JG/BR</b></p> <p><b>BR/SP</b></p> <p><b>BR</b></p> <p><b>JG/KE</b></p> <p><b>DS</b></p> <p><b>SP</b></p> <p><b>RL</b></p> <p><b>RL</b></p>



ITEM	NOTES	ACTIONS / OWNER
6	<p><b>Ill Health Retirement &amp; Injury Award Update:</b></p> <p>The Board viewed the report and were informed that the information was slightly out of date as a PMB Appeal that had taken place this week had not been successful. DS advised the Board that Louise Monk from the Occupational Health Team should be able to attend the next meeting. The Board were concerned that no Injury on Duty Reviews had yet taken place as they had been assured they were due to commence in September 2018, DS confirmed that the Business Partners had assured her that these were taking place but agreed that the stats did not appear to reflect this.</p> <p><b>Action 129 – LM to be invited to attend the next meeting - Open</b></p> <p><b>Action 130 – Are Injury on duty reviews being completed? - DS to follow up with Occ Health and report back to the Board at the next meeting - Open</b></p>	<p>RL</p> <p>RL</p> <p>DS</p>
7	<p><b>Review of Reported Breaches:</b></p> <p>The Board were informed there had been no reported breaches in the last quarter.</p>	
8	<p><b>Scheme Advisory Board – Quarterly Letters, February and April 2019:</b></p> <p>The Board noted the information in the letters. The Chair confirmed that he was registered to attend the Joint Pension Governance event in May and KE confirmed that she was also registered to attend.</p> <p><b>Action 134 – Register DS, PG and SP for this event</b></p>	<p>RL</p>
9	<p><b>Scheme Administrators Quarter 4 Report:</b></p> <p>BR explained that there had been some changes to the Team with Jane Webb now the Team Leader and the Boards first point of contact. There were still a few vacancies within the Team following the move from London back to Crawley but these were being filled gradually and eventually there would be a team of 25 in the future. Of the 2 misses SLA's in this period, both had been completed within a week and in time for the payroll run so had not had any adverse effect on the member. SP queried retired officer's contributions to the Group Insurance whereby their payslips said one thing and the Equinity spreadsheet said another. SP had sent an email to the general inbox to query this but had not yet received a response. Also one member had asked for his ex-spouse to be removed from his insurance but was still being charged for both.</p> <p><b>Action 135 – Check query is being dealt with.</b></p> <p>BR was asked if more information could be put on the payslips as some retired members had queried adjustments to their NI. The Board were advised that there was limited space on the payslips to print information but that a separate letter should have gone out to those who had been affected by this change.</p> <p><b>Action 136 – Check letters were sent out.</b></p>	<p>BR</p> <p>BR</p>

ITEM	NOTES	ACTIONS / OWNER
10	<p><b>Update on GMP Training:</b></p> <p>IP confirmed that some Members of the Board had been able to attend the GMP Training provided by Equinity where the problems of reconciling records with the HMRC was explained in detail, this had been informative and a productive session.</p>	
11	<p><b>NPCC Boardblast &amp; Update on current issues:</b></p> <p>Kevin Courtney reminded the Board that the HO had announced a pause to one element of the valuation of public service pensions following the McCloud and Sargeant case court ruling. The 2015 pension reforms had seen most public service pensions moved to a new pension scheme and in December 2018 the Court of Appeal had ruled that the 'transitional protection', offered to some members as part of these reforms, amounted to unlawful discrimination. Given the uncertain impact of the Court of Appeal judgement, it had not been possible to assess the value if the current public service pension arrangements and the HO was now seeking permission to appeal this judgement. Whatever the outcome, the matter would then be referred back to an Employment Tribunal for remedy which may mean that some people are given an equivalent benefit for a period of time. This would all take time to sort. The funding of new arrangements was a concern with the Employer contribution going up starting this month. The PCC's had received funding to cover this for this financial year only and there was no guarantee of this funding going forwards. The NPCC would like to see this funding protected in the future.</p> <p>The Scheme Advisory Board had been pleased with the survey responses and there had been a good return. The Joint Pension Governance Event in May would expand on the survey results in more detail but one thing to come out of the survey was the Pension Boards concerns regarding cyber security and member access, the Advisory Board would like to unpick the detail behind this response in more detail and would also cover Local Pension Boards responsibilities as some Boards were not operating as they should be.</p> <p>All Chief Constables had received a letter re the uprating of certain Injury Awards in 2010. The benefits had been uprated but the pensions had not. The HO were looking at the guidance issued at the time and talks were taking place with the Federation regarding this issue. It would involve a lot of administration to look at small number of cases, for example, this may incur admin cost of £1,000 per person and only produce an uprated pension of £250 per person per year.</p> <p>The Lee Day case was still stayed and some Forces were still receiving claims. It was confirmed that Surrey Police had not received any claims and that the Federation was not supporting this case, it was currently being dealt with on a no win, no fee basis. KC confirmed that it was unlikely to affect benefits already accrued but may affect benefits going forwards.</p> <p>The HO are trying to gather data regarding officers opting out of their pension contributions. The last time this data had been collected North Wales had recorded a higher opt out rate than other areas of the country that had a higher cost of living and might have been expected to have a higher opt out rate. It was confirmed that there had been no increase in officers opting out of their pension contributions in Surrey.</p>	

ITEM	NOTES	ACTIONS / OWNER
11 cont.	The HO are looking to improve their communications in relation to legislative changes. In the past Police Authorities received regular circulars from the Home Office but they had been stopped some years ago and now people were not always aware that these legislative changes had come into effect. The Chair thanked Kevin for attending the meeting and for his update.	
12	<b>Any Other Business:</b> None	
13	<b>The date of the next meeting was confirmed as the 29<sup>th</sup> of July at 10am</b>	

Future meetings are planned for:

23/10/19

23/01/20

23/04/20

23/07/20

These dates may be subject to change, for more information please contact Rachel Lupanko on 01483 630200.

The meeting closed at 10.35am.