

South West Regional Police Pensions Board

Thursday 6 June 2024 at 10.00am

In the Whipton Room, Exeter Police Station and via Microsoft Teams

Attendance

Ian Pollitt (Independent Chair)

Tracey Bolt (Minute taker)

Member Representatives

Richard Wand (National Association of Retired Police Officers)

Jim Purkiss (Police Federation) (Devon and Cornwall)

Antony Hart (Superintendent's Association) (Devon and Cornwall)

Tony Henley (Police Federation) (Avon and Somerset) (virtual)

Employer Representatives

Richard Hicks (Regional Resource Advisor) (Dorset)

Neal Butterworth (Dorset)

Lisa Adams (Senior Accountant, Gloucestershire) (rep for Neil Chamberlain)

Dawn Young (Wiltshire) (virtual)

Claire Hargreaves (Avon and Somerset) (virtual)

Guests – all virtual online attendees

Claire Neale (NPCC Pensions) (for minute reference 02/24/22 only)

Kevin Courtney (NPCC Pensions) (for minute reference 02/24/22 only)

Shirley Cuthbert (Peninsula) (for 02/24/23 only)

Emma Sanders (Peninsula) (for 02/24/23 only)

Tracey Luxton (Peninsula) for minute reference 02/24/23 only)

David Wilkins (XPS) (for minute reference 02/24/24 only)

Paul Mudd (XPS) (for minute reference 02/24/24 only)

Apologies

Neil Chamberlain (Chief Financial Officer Gloucestershire)

Nick Adams (Director of Finance Avon and Somerset)

02/24/14 Introductions and Apologies, Declarations for Conflict of Interests [FOIA Open]

The Chair welcomed members to the meeting and introductions were completed. It was noted Ian Pollitt had been appointed for the next three years as Independent Chair of the Pension Board. The Board was recognised as quorate and there were no declarations of interest raised.

02/24/15 Minutes of the previous meeting 14 March 2024 [FOIA Open]

The minutes from the meeting held on Thursday 14 March 2024 were agreed as a true and accurate record.

02/24/16 Action Log [FOIA Open unless exemptions specified below]

Official

The Chair presented the action log, and highlighted the following updates:

- a. **Action 211 Board Members Training (previous minute reference 01/24/04)**
New training documents had been created and circulated to members for feedback. Members were asked to complete the training questionnaire. Once collated, any training requirements would be evaluated and potentially guest speakers would be invited to the Board to deliver training.
Action to remain open.
- b. **Action 212 Scheme Sanction Charges (previous minute reference 01/24/06) [FOIA Closed s.22 Information Intended for Future Publication]**
- c. **Action 213 XPS Updates (previous minute reference 01/24/10) [FOIA Closed s.43 Commercial Interests]**
- d. **Action 214 XPS Updates (previous minute reference 01/24/10) [FOIA Closed s.43 Commercial Interests]**
- e. **Action 215 XPS Updates (previous minute reference 01/24/10) [FOIA Closed s.43 Commercial Interests]**
- f. **Action 216 XPS Updates (previous minute reference 01/24/10) [FOIA Closed s.43 Commercial Interests]**
- g. **Action 217 XPS Updates (previous minute reference 01/24/10) [FOIA Closed s.43 Commercial Interests]**
- h. **Action 218 Peninsula Updates – Remedy (previous minute reference 01/24/11) [FOIA Closed s.43 Commercial Interests]**

02/24/17 New Board Documents [FOIA Open]

- a. **Terms of Reference**
Members received and noted the revised Terms of Reference for the Board, presented by the Chair.

Members would review the revised Terms of Reference and provide any feedback to Ian Pollitt and the document would be endorsed at the 5 September 2024 Board.
For action by: All members
- b. **Reporting Breaches**
Members received and noted the new Policy for Reporting Breaches of the Law presented by the Chair, which provided instructions on how to contact the Pension Regulator via their website. It was recognised that any identified breaches could be reported by a Finance Director as the Scheme Manager representative.
- c. **Training Assessment**
As discussed at Action 211, the Training Assessment questionnaire had been developed with the Pensions Regulator to ensure any gaps in knowledge could be resolved.

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d. Knowledge and Understanding Policy

The Training, Knowledge and Understanding Policy had been developed in association with the Pensions Regulator to ensure all members has sufficient pension knowledge to carry out their duties.

e. Risk Register

The new Pensions Dashboard would be presented at the 5 September 2024 Board.

02/24/18 Scheme Sanction Charge [FOIA Closed s.43 Commercial Interests]

02/24/19 Pensions Compliance and Performance Group Updates [FOIA Closed s.43 Commercial Interests]

02/24/20 Board Members – Training/Knowledge of Board Constitution [FOIA Closed s.43 Commercial Interests]

02/24/21 Review of the Risk Register [FOIA Open]

Members received and noted the revised Risk Register presented by the Chair, which outlined several risks affecting the Pension Board's work. The number of officers opting out of the pension scheme was discussed, and it was perceived that some of the reasons for this included the cost-of-living increases and the cost of housing, albeit in some Forces Officers were re-joining the scheme once a reminder of the full benefits were understood.

The following actions were raised:

1. The Specialist Support Hub would circulate the revised Risk Register to all Board members.
For action by: Specialist Support Hub
2. All members would review the Risk Register and provide any feedback to Ian Pollitt before the 5 September 2024 Board.
For action by: All members
3. Ian Pollitt would circulate the draft letter outlining the benefits of being in the Pension Scheme to Board members for feedback.
For action by: Ian Pollitt

Guest Speakers, Claire Neale and Kevin Courtney of NPCC Pensions, joined the meeting virtually.

02/24/22 Pension Remedy – Overview [FOIA Closed s.43 Commercial Interests]

02/24/23 Peninsula [FOIA Closed s.43 Commercial Interests]

02/24/24 XPS [FOIA Closed s.43 Commercial Interests]

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02/24/25 Formal Complaints [FOIA Closed s.22 Information Intended for Future Publication]

02/24/26 The Pensions Regulator [FOIA Open]

There were no formal issues raised for discussion.

02/24/27 Update from Chair [FOIA Closed s.22 Information Intended for Future Publication]

Date, Time, and Location of Next Meeting

There being no further items for discussion the meeting closed at 2.38pm.

The next Board meeting will be held virtually on Thursday 5 September 2024 commencing at 10.00am.

The meeting scheduled for Thursday 7 November 2024 will be held in person, with the location to be confirmed, with Exeter provisionally the most suitable. *NOTE: This date is being reviewed to achieve better spacing of meetings. A date in late November or early December is being researched – TBA.