

Committee: Police Pensions Board	Date: 5 November 2024
Subject: CoL: Police Pension Scheme - Update	Public
Which outcomes in the City Corporation's Corporate Plan does this proposal aim to impact directly?	N/A
Does this proposal require extra revenue and/or capital spending?	N/A
If so, how much?	N/A
What is the source of Funding?	N/A
Has this Funding Source been agreed with the Chamberlain's Department?	N/A
Report of: The Chamberlain	For Discussion
Report author: Graham Newman – Chamberlain's Department	

Summary

The Board have agreed that at each meeting that information regarding a range of topics in relation to the City of London Police Pension Scheme (the Scheme) would be provided along with any updates.

Item	Update
Annual schedule of events for the Pensions Scheme	Update provided (Appendix 1).
Information of Scheme Record Keeping	No amendments since the last Board meeting.
A record of any complaints or disputes under the Scheme's complaints procedure	There have been no complaints made under the Internal Dispute Resolution Procedures (IDRP) since the last Board meeting.
A record of any formal complaints received by the Pensions Office.	There have been no formal complaints received.
Any recent Police Pension Scheme breaches of the law	There have been 3 breaches of the law.
Any audit reports relating to the administration of the Scheme	None to report.
Data Protection Act 2018 (DPA18) – Data Retention Policy	No amendments since last Board meeting.

General Data Protection Regulation (GDPR) / Data Protection Act 2018 (DPA18) – Privacy Notice	No amendments since the last Board meeting.
Guaranteed Minimum Pensions (GMP) Reconciliation	The project is still ongoing. A report will be brought to the Board once the reconciliation has been completed.
Procurement of Pension Administration System	<p>The Pensions Office is currently in the process of implementing the Member Self-Service system. This system has the potential to allow members to access their pension record, make amendments to selected personal data (i.e. name, partnership status, death grant nominees) and to run their own retirement estimates. It will also provide a platform for providing annual benefit statements and other bulk mailings.</p> <p>The roll-out of the system to active scheme members took place in August 2024, with the roll-out for pensioner members due to take place shortly. It is hoped that the roll-out to pensioner members will be completed by Christmas so that it can be rolled out to deferred members in the new year.</p>
Legal Challenge 1	<p><u>Lord Chancellor and Secretary of State for Justice v McCloud and others</u></p> <p>On 10 March 2022 the Public Service Pensions and Judicial Offices Act 2022 received Royal Assent.</p> <p>The main purpose of the Act was to implement the ‘McCloud Remedy’ in the public service pension schemes and it is to be implemented in two phases.</p> <p>Phase one was to move all remaining active members of the ‘legacy’ schemes (Police Pension Schemes 1987 and 2006) into the new scheme (Police Pension Scheme 2015) with effect from 1 April 2022.</p> <p>Phase two was implemented with effect from 1 October 2023. This second phase provides the deferred choice underpin which gives eligible members the choice between legacy scheme or new scheme membership for the period 1 April 2015 to 31 March 2022.</p> <p>The Pensions Office has implemented the Remedy in respect of active scheme members and all retirements that have occurred since this date (i.e. 1 October 2023) have been processed on this basis.</p> <p>For eligible members, the 2024 Annual Benefit Statement included a ‘Remediable Service Statement’ that provided comparative figures showing the benefits if the member accepted the Remedy together with those if they choose to reject it.</p> <p>In addition, a Remediable Pension Savings Statement was sent to all members whose pension growth exceeded the Annual Allowance</p>

	<p>during the Remedy Period as a result of the Remedy implementation.</p> <p>The Pensions Office, together with the City of London Police, is in the process of assessing and contacting all eligible retired and deferred officers to offer them their choices in respect of the Remedy.</p> <p>Updates regarding the implementation of the McCloud Remedy will continue to be brought to each Board meeting.</p>
Legal Challenge 2	<p><u>Evans & Ashcroft vs Chief Constable of South Wales</u></p> <p>This is a court of appeal case in respect of the Police (Injury Benefit) Regulations 2006.</p> <p>Guidance from the Home Office / Police Pensions Technical Group is awaited. Once received, a communication that can be sent to officers that make enquiries will be prepared.</p>
Pensions Dashboards	<p>Introduced by the Department for Work and Pensions (DWP), Pensions Dashboards have been designed to provide an online platform that will allow individuals to access details of their accrued pension benefits from multiple sources in one place. The intention is to support better planning for retirement, and help individuals reconnect with any pension pots they may have lost over time.</p> <p>In respect of Public Sector Pension Schemes, the initial expectation was that schemes would be required to connect to the online dashboard infrastructure by 30 September 2024.</p> <p>However, a written Ministerial Statement made on 2 March 2023 stated that delays setting up the dashboard programme has meant that the original timetables have been re-considered.</p> <p>A revised staging timetable has been set out in guidance with all schemes in scope given a single connection deadline of 31 October 2026, by which time they are legally required to be connected to the pensions dashboard ecosystem and be ready to respond to requests for pensions information.</p> <p>However, the guidance also sets out a staging timetable which provides a recommended connection date based upon scheme size and type – the connection date for public sector pension schemes is 31 October 2025.</p> <p>The Pensions Regulator (TPR) updated its 'Failing to comply with dashboards duties' guidance in June 2023: (https://www.thepensionsregulator.gov.uk/en/trustees/contributions-data-and-transfers/dashboards-guidance/failing-to-comply-with-pensions-dashboards-duties). The purpose of the guidance is to outline what schemes will need to do to demonstrate that they have had regard to the staging timetable that will be set out in the connection guidance.</p>

	<p>TPR expectations of schemes to show they ‘have regards to the connection guidance’ includes:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Connect to dashboards by the connection deadline of 31 October 2026 that is set out in legislation. Failure to do so could result in regulatory action by TPR. • A revised staging timetable is set out in guidance which indicates when schemes are scheduled to connect. All trustees and scheme managers must have regard to this guidance. Failure to do so will be a breach. • Although the timelines in the guidance are not mandatory, schemes will be expected to demonstrate how they have had regard to the guidance. • A phased approach to staging enables a controlled and well-planned connection, reduces the risk of provider capacity constraints and means savers can realise the benefits of dashboards as early as possible. • Continuing to prepare for dashboards by engaging with those who will support them and their dashboard duties. <p>The Pensions Dashboards Programme (PDP) has updated their FAQs to reflect the new connection deadline announcement https://www.pensionsdashboardsprogramme.org.uk/faqs/</p> <p>The Pensions Office has started the process of contacting potential ‘Integrated Service Providers’ to request their proposals for the services they can provide in respect of the Dashboard project.</p> <p>It should be noted that this project will be carried out in conjunction with the administration of the Local Government Pension Scheme and is not ‘stand-alone’ for the Police Pension Scheme.</p>
Task Statistics	Update provided on the Non-Public agenda (Appendix 2).
Pension Board Training	<p>Board Members are asked to consider any topics of training they would like to cover in the coming year ahead.</p> <p>Details in respect of tPR training modules completed by each Member are included on the Non-Public agenda. (Appendix 3).</p>
Documentation of all of the communications which are circulated to Scheme Members	Documents that have been amended / updated since the last review have been provided (Appendices 4.1 – 4.4)

Recommendation

Members are requested to review the information and provide any comments.

Appendices:

Appendix 1 – Annual Schedule of events

Appendix 2 – Key Performance Indicators (NON-PUBLIC)

Appendix 3 – Member Training (NON-PUBLIC)
Appendix 4 – Scheme Documentation

Contact:

Graham Newman

Pensions Manager

Chamberlain's Department

Email: graham.newman@cityoflondon.gov.uk