

COUNTY COUNCIL

Meeting date: 9 September 2020

From: Cabinet Member for Customer, Transformation
and Fire and Rescue

2019/20 ANNUAL REPORT OF THE CUMBRIA FIRE LOCAL PENSION BOARD

PART A - RECOMMENDATION OF CABINET MEMBER

This report presents the Annual Report of the Cumbria Fire Local Pension Board 2019/20. Members are recommended to note the report.

PART B – ADVICE OF CORPORATE DIRECTOR

1.0 EXECUTIVE SUMMARY

- 1.1 *The Cumbria Fire Local Pension Board is required to report on its activities to the Council.*
- 1.2 *The Annual Report of the Cumbria Fire Local Pension Board 2019/20 details developments of the Board and its activities during the year.*

2.0 STRATEGIC PLANNING AND EQUALITY IMPLICATIONS

- 2.1 *The Council's vision is to be "A Council that works with residents, businesses, communities and other organisations to deliver the best services possible within the available resources". This report supports the priorities of the Council Plan, in particular 'putting customers at the heart of everything we do'.*

3.0 RECOMMENDATION

- 3.1 *Members are recommended to:*
 - *Note the Annual Report of the Cumbria Fire Local Pension Board.*

4.0 BACKGROUND

4.1 The Cumbria Fire Local Pension Board is constituted under the Public Service Pensions Act 2013 and the Fire Pension Scheme (Amendment) (Governance) Regulations 2014. The role of the Cumbria Fire Local Pension Board is to assist Cumbria County Council (as the Scheme Manager of the Cumbria Firefighters' Pension Scheme) to:

A. secure compliance with:

- i. The regulations covering administration of the Firefighters' Pension Scheme (FPS);
- ii. Other legislation in relation to the governance and administration of the FPS; and
- iii. The requirements imposed by the Pensions Regulator in relation to the FPS; and

B. ensure the effective and efficient governance and administration of the FPS.

4.2 In its role in assisting the Scheme Manager, the Board is required to report to Council on matters reviewed and suggestions for its consideration. To comply with this requirement this report contains, in Appendix 1, the Annual Report of the Cumbria Fire Local Pension Board for 2019/20.

4.3 Where the Cumbria Fire Local Pension Board is concerned due consideration has not been given to matters of non-compliance, the Board may submit a report for consideration by the Audit and Assurance Committee as the body designated by the Scheme Manager with the capacity to investigate such matters on its behalf. There are no matters to be raised with the Audit and Assurance Committee.

4.4 The Annual Report of the Cumbria Fire Local Pension Board is presented in Appendix 1 to this report and considers matters including:

- Frequency of meetings;
- Membership;
- Update on 2019/20 Work Programme;
- Looking ahead to 2020/21; and
- Board member training.

5.0 OPTIONS

5.1 Members may either note the progress of the Cumbria Fire Local Pension Board in 2019/20 or request additional information relating to the activities of the Board.

6.0 RESOURCE AND VALUE FOR MONEY IMPLICATIONS

- 6.1 The Firefighters' Pension Scheme is a national scheme with individual fire and rescue authorities being responsible for its administration.
- 6.2 The Cumbria Fire Local Pension Board is responsible for ensuring the effective governance of the scheme for the c.1,400 scheme members.
- 6.3 The scheme is a defined benefit pension scheme and employer and employee contributions are set nationally.

7.0 LEGAL IMPLICATIONS

- 7.1 Under its terms of reference (Part 2Q of the Constitution) the Board must report twice yearly to Council on matters reviewed and suggestions for consideration (paragraph 2.3).

8.0 CONCLUSION

- 8.1 The Cumbria Fire Local Pension Board progressed its work to assist in the governance of the Firefighters' Pension Scheme during 2019/20. The Annual Report outlines work undertaken and developments with the Scheme.

Steve Healey
Chief Fire Officer
9 September 2020

APPENDICES

Appendix 1: Annual Report of the Cumbria Fire Local Pension Board 2019/20

Electoral Division(s): All

Executive Decision	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	No
Key Decision	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	No
If a Key Decision, is the proposal published in the current Forward Plan?	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	N/A
Is the decision exempt from call-in on grounds of urgency?	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	No
If exempt from call-in, has the agreement of the Chair of the relevant Overview and Scrutiny Committee been sought or obtained?	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	N/A
Has this matter been considered by Overview and Scrutiny? If so, give details below.	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	No
Has an environmental or sustainability impact assessment been undertaken?	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	N/A
Has an equality impact assessment been undertaken?	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	N/A

N.B. If an executive decision is made, then a decision cannot be implemented until the expiry of the eighth working day after the date of the meeting – unless the decision is urgent and exempt from call-in and the Head of Member Services and Scrutiny has obtained the necessary approvals.

PREVIOUS RELEVANT COUNCIL OR EXECUTIVE DECISIONS
[including Local Committees]

None

CONSIDERATION BY OVERVIEW AND SCRUTINY

Not considered by Overview and Scrutiny.

BACKGROUND PAPERS

No background papers.

RESPONSIBLE CABINET MEMBER

Janet Willis

Cabinet Member for Customers, Transformation and Fire & Rescue

REPORT AUTHOR

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