

SCOTTISH BORDERS COUNCIL PENSION BOARD

MINUTES of Meeting of the PENSION BOARD held in via Microsoft Teams on Friday, 22 September 2023 at 2.30 pm

Present:- Mr D Bell (Chair), Mr. A. Daye, Mr. M. Drysdale, Mr. M Everett,
Apologies:- Councillor J. Pirone, Ms K M Hughes and Ms K Robb.
In Attendance:- Director – Finance and Procurement, HR Shared Services Manager,
Democratic Services Officer (D. Hall)

1. MINUTE

There had been circulated copies of the Minute of the meeting held on 22 June 2023. In response to a question regarding the appointment of a representative from LiveBorders, the Director – Finance and Procurement, Mrs Suzy Douglas, explained that a temporary staff member was in post at LiveBorders. It was expected that a representative would be appointed following a permanent appointment.

DECISION

NOTED for signature by the Chair.

2. JOINT MEETING OF PENSION COMMITTEE AND PENSION BOARD

The Chair invited members of the Board to raise any issues which had arisen from the Joint meeting of the Pension Fund and Board. In response to a question regarding training records, Mrs Douglas explained that work had been undertaken to put more organised training recording in place. The record was up-to-date and arrangements in place to ensure that that continued to be the case. In response to a question regarding the financial responsibility for paying Board members to attend events and conferences, Mrs Douglas acknowledged the importance of clarity and confirmed that she expected that attending events should be as straightforward as possible. The Chairman welcomed Mrs Douglas' comments and expressed his hope that an agreement concerning financial responsibility for attending such events could be put in place. In response to a question regarding engagement, Mr Angus confirmed that Hymans Robertson would be able to provide an accurate picture of how many site visits to the pension website there had been. Mr Angus confirmed that an issue regarding email addresses and payslips was a separate issue from the Pension Fund and that a Yammer post would be sent out in the coming weeks to highlight the Fund's self-service provision. In response to a question regarding whether a pension fund group could be set up on Yammer, Mr Angus explained that all company posts had the potential to reach a very wide audience, and that setting up too many groups had the potential to not engage effectively.

DECISION

AGREED that there were no issues to raise.

3. DATE OF NEXT MEETING

The date of the next Meeting of the Pension Board was set for 12 December 2023 following the joint meeting of the Pension Fund and Board.

The meeting concluded at 2.40 pm