

## **Pension Advisory Board**

**20 November 2019**

### **The Pensions Regulator Code of Practice 14 (Compliance)**

#### **Report by Director of Finance and Support Services**

##### **Summary**

The Pensions Regulator has issued a Code of Practice 14 covering relevant pensions legislation.

The Pension Fund has reviewed its compliance with the guidance.

##### **Recommendation**

That the Board feedback on the compliance checklist presented at the meeting

## **1. Introduction**

1.1 The Pension Regulator has issued a Code of Practice 14 (Code in force: April 2015) relating to public service pension schemes with the intention to provide "practical guidance in relation to the exercise of functions under relevant pensions legislation and set out the standards of conduct and practice expected from those who exercise those functions".

## **2. Code of Practice**

2.1 The Code covers the following areas:

- Governing the Scheme
- Managing Risks
- Administration
- Resolving Issues

2.2 The Code is not a statement of the law but it is considered good practice to use the document to demonstrate how the Pension Fund meet the underlying legal requirements relating to the Scheme.

2.3 The Code is particularly directed at Scheme Managers and the members of the Pension Boards. Scheme managers must comply with various legal requirements relating to the governance, management and administration of public service pension schemes. Pension boards must also comply with certain legal requirements, including assisting scheme managers in relation to securing compliance with scheme regulations and other legislation relating to the governance and administration of the scheme, any requirements of the regulator and with any other matters specified in scheme regulations.

### **3. Compliance Checklist**

- 3.1. Officers have developed a Compliance Checklist which is drawn from the Pension Regulators Code of Practice [and Guidance from the Scheme Advisory Board].
- 3.2. The checklist will help inform any improvements required by the Pension Fund in order to comply with the Pension Regulators expectations.
- 3.3. The latest compliance checklist has been appended (Appendix A) for the Board's comments.

### **4. The Pension Regulator (tPR) Public Sector Assessment Tool**

- 4.1 Separately the Pensions Regulator has published an assessment tool to provide an indicative risk rating for the Scheme in certain key areas to achieve best practice, as well as guidance and links to further information.
- 4.2 The assessment has been reviewed by Officers. It is considered that all areas included within the Pension Regulators Assessment Tool are covered within the existing compliance checklist. However the assessment tool has been populated by officers and can be made available on request.

### **5. Recommendation**

- 5.1 That the Board feedback on the compliance checklist presented at the meeting

#### **Katharine Eberhart**

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#### **Appendices**

Appendix A – TPR Compliance Checklist

#### **Background Papers**

Code 14: Governance and administration of public service pension schemes

<https://www.thepensionsregulator.gov.uk/en/document-library/codes-of-practice/code-14-public-service-pension-code-of-practice>

The Pension Regulators Tool for Assessing Your Scheme

[https://www.thepensionsregulator.gov.uk/en/public-service-pension-schemes/further-resources/assess-a-public-service-\(ps\)-pension-scheme](https://www.thepensionsregulator.gov.uk/en/public-service-pension-schemes/further-resources/assess-a-public-service-(ps)-pension-scheme)