

Report to West Sussex Fire & Rescue Service Local Pension Board

8 October 2024

Risk Register

Report by Chief Fire Officer (Scheme Manager)

Summary

The purpose of the Board is to assist West Sussex Fire and Rescue Authority in its role as a scheme manager of the Firefighters' Pension Scheme including the review the risk register.

The report highlights changes or higher risk items. The full risk register is included in Appendix A.

Recommendations

- (1) To provide feedback on the content of the risk register
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Proposal

1 Background and context

- 1.1 A risk register is maintained to record the identification, evaluation and management of risks and management controls.
- 1.2 The risk register is actively reviewed prior to and during each Board meeting.

2 Update

- 2.1 There have been limited updates to the risk commentary and direction within the risk register since the Board met in June. No new risks have been added. The table below highlights the highest (red) risks.

Ref and Theme	Commentary	RAG and Direction	Summary Update
R11	Risk of a successful cyber-attack	Red Stable	This is likely to remain a high risk on the risk register, reflecting the general cyber threat. The Pensions Regulator have highlighted the importance of robust cyber security and business continuity plans. These are being developed by the team.
R07 and R08 Matthews	The O'Brien/Matthews judgement may require a reworking of the pension entitlements for all 2006 Special Scheme (RDS) members - work load for Administrator and risk to budget	Red Stable	<p>The exercise draws on teams across the County Council.</p> <p>The timescales for delivery have been extended reflecting the complexity of the work and is in line with experiences at other Fire Authorities.</p> <p>The activities continue to be reviewed to ensure that the most effective and efficient approach is taken to providing options to members.</p>
R13, R14 and R15 McCloud	Unable to implement changes required as a result of McCloud judgement including where WSCC does not hold required information to be able to complete the changes required or there are insufficient resources	Amber Stable	A resourced project plan has been prepared and is being monitored.
R17	Role of government policy on the management and benefits of the Scheme	Red Stable	<p>The impact of changes to the Regulations are highlighted within Matthews and McCloud Remedy work.</p> <p>Consideration also being given, nationally, to any changes in employee contribution rates following increases in the employer contribution rate from 1 April 2024 (38.7%).</p>

3 Other options considered (and reasons for not proposing)

N/A

4 Consultation, engagement and advice

N/A

5 Finance

N/A

6 Risk implications and mitigations

N/A

7 Policy alignment and compliance

N/A

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Appendices

Appendix A: Full Risk Register

Appendix B: Training Schedule

Background papers

N/A