

Report to	North Wales Fire and Rescue Authority
Date	21 July 2025
Lead Officer	Helen MacArthur, Assistant Chief Fire Officer Finance and Resources
Subject	Firefighters Pension Schemes Local Pension Board – Annual Report 2024/25



PURPOSE OF REPORT

- 1 To present to Members of the North Wales Fire and Rescue Authority (the Authority) the annual report of the Local Pension Board (the Board) which details the work undertaken during the 2024/25 financial year. The annual report is attached at appendix 1.

EXECUTIVE SUMMARY

- 2 The annual report of the Local Pension Board details the work undertaken by the Board during 2024/25 and provides a work programme for 2025/26.

OBSERVATIONS FROM LOCAL PENSION BOARD

- 3 The report has been considered and endorsed by the Local Pension Board at its meeting of 15 May 2025.

RECOMMENDATION

- 4 It is recommended that Members:
 - i) **approve the Local Pension Board 2024/25 Annual Report.**

BACKGROUND

- 5 This document sets out the work undertaken by the Local Pension Board of the Authority. The Authority is the Scheme Manager as defined under Section 4 of the Public Service Pensions Act 2013. The Board is established in accordance with Section 5 of that Act.
- 6 The governance requirements around pensions were introduced as a result of the Public Service Pensions Act 2013 (the Act). The Act provides for clearer governance arrangements with specific defined roles, the publication of more information on a consistent basis, and administration practices in line with those in the private sector.

- 7 The Firefighters' Pension Scheme (Amendment) (Governance) Regulations 2015 relating to the creation and ongoing operation of local pensions came into force on 1 April 2015. These regulations require the Authority to establish a Local Pension Board in respect of the Firefighter's Pension Scheme by 1 April 2015.
- 8 The role and remit of the Board is to assist the Authority in its capacity as Scheme Manager by making sure it is administering the Firefighters' Pension Scheme effectively and efficiently and is complying with relevant laws and regulations. In order to aid transparency, the Scheme Manager is required to publish the annual report of its Local Pension Board.
- 9 As set in the terms of reference for the Board, the annual report should include:
- a summary of the work of the Board and a work plan for the coming year;
 - details of areas of concern reported to or raised by the Board and recommendations made;
 - details of any conflicts of interest that have arisen in respect of individual Board members and how these have been managed;
 - any areas of risk or concern the Board wish to raise with the Scheme Manager;
 - details of training received and identified training needs; and
 - details of any expenses and costs incurred by the Board and any anticipated expenses for the forthcoming year.

INFORMATION

- 10 The Local Pension Board Annual Report 2024/25 is set out in Appendix 1.

IMPLICATIONS

Wellbeing Objectives	Considered not relevant
Budget	Cost of the Local Pension Board is funded from existing Members' Services budget
Legal	The new governance requirements around pensions were introduced as a result of the Public Service Pensions Act 2013. FPS (Amendment) Governance regulations 2015.
Staffing	Considered not relevant
Equalities/Human Rights/ Welsh Language	It is not considered that there are any issues that need addressing as the recommendations apply equally to all Members regardless of protected characteristics under the Single Equality Act.
Risks	All FRAs need to comply with the guidance provided by the Pensions Regulator around the governance arrangements for Local Pension Boards.