

Haringey Council Pension Board Information for Prospective Fund Member Representatives

Background

The Public Sector Pensions Act 2013 introduced a requirement for Local Government Pension Scheme (LGPS) Administering Authorities such as Haringey Council, to establish a Pension Board to work alongside the existing Pensions Committee.

The purpose of the Pension Board is to assist the Administering Authority in securing:

- compliance with LGPS and any other relevant legislation;
- compliance with requirements imposed by the Pensions Regulator in relation to the LGPS;
- the effective and efficient governance and administration of the LGPS.

The Board will be made up of five persons –

Two employee representatives – one union appointed and one nominated

Two employer representatives – one Council and one other employer

One independent, who will Chair

We are seeking a member of the Haringey LGPS (not the teachers pension scheme) to join the Pension Board.

What will the Pension Board do?

The role of the Pensions Board is to provide scrutiny of the way the Council's pension fund is governed and administered, monitoring compliance with legislation and regulations affecting the fund and also best practice across the fund's activities, in particular guidance from the Pensions Regulator and Scheme Advisory Board. The Board will make recommendations to the Pensions Committee and to officers to improve governance standards.

Within the context of this role the Board may determine the areas it wishes to consider, including, but not restricted to, the following tasks:

- monitor compliance of the Pension Fund with legislation, guidance issued by the Pensions Regulator, and with the policies set out in the Fund's statutory statements;
- review and scrutinise the performance of the Pension Fund in relation to its governance and administration, policy objectives and performance targets;
- approval of the Annual Internal Audit Plan for the Pension Fund and reports thereon;
- consideration of the External Audit report on the Pension Fund Annual Report and Statement of Accounts;
- review of the Pension Fund Risk Register;
- monitoring of the Fund's Internal Dispute Resolution Procedures.

In support of its core functions the Pension Board may make recommendations to the Pensions Committee and officers.

What will be expected of me?

You will be invited to attend meetings of the Pension Board at least twice a year. You will need to prepare for such meetings by reading papers, reports and background information.

It is a legal requirement that all Members of the Pension Board be conversant with the LGPS Regulations 2013, other regulations governing the LGPS and any policies relating to the administration of the Haringey Pension Fund (which you will be advised about). Members of the Board must also have a good level of knowledge and understanding of the law relating to pensions. Members will be supported in their role by a training programme that will address these requirements and to which you will be required to attend.

What qualities are required?

Pension Fund Member Representatives need to demonstrate that they have the capacity to represent fund members. In addition, knowledge and understanding of pension issues will be an advantage. However training will be provided to ensure that all Board members have the required knowledge and skills.

Qualifications/Disqualification

You cannot be a Fund Member Representative on the Haringey Pension Board if you:

- are an officer of Haringey Council with responsibility for the discharge of any function under the Local Government Pension Scheme regulations (apart from any function relating to the Pension Board or the national Scheme Advisory Board);
- have a financial or other interest which is likely to prejudice your role as a member of the Board.

What are the terms and conditions of appointment?

Age

There is no upper age limit but applicants should be at least 18 years old.

Time commitment

You must be able to commit yourself as a minimum to attending and preparing for Pension Board meetings and also taking part in other activities such as training sessions, meetings with other bodies etc.

Most meetings will be held during weekday evenings.

Allowances/Expenses

As a member of the Pension Board you will be entitled to receive travelling and subsistence allowances for any meetings held outside of the borough.

Length of appointment

Employee and Employers representatives for a period up to April 2019.

How to apply

Please complete the enclosed application form giving a full description of why you wish to become a representative of Haringey Fund members on the Pension Board and your relevant skills and experience.

Please then send your completed application form to the Head of Finance – Treasury & pensions at the address given on the form. The closing date for applications is Friday 5th June 2015.

For more information please contact George Bruce, Head of Finance – Treasury & Pensions 020 8489 3726 or email George.bruce@haringey.gov.uk

What happens then?

All applications will be considered by the Council.

You may be invited to attend an interview with the Chair of the Board and officers of the Council, which will be held in order to select the Fund Member Representatives on the Board from the applications received. Interviews will be held in the week commencing Monday 15th June.

Equal opportunities

The Council is firmly committed to a policy of equal opportunities. It welcomes applications from all eligible persons irrespective of colour, race, nationality, ethnic origin, sexual orientation, age, disability, marital status, trade union membership and activity, political or religious belief, or unrelated criminal convictions.