

NESPF Pension Administration Strategy 2022

December 2022

1. Background

Regulation 57 of the Local Government Pension Scheme (Scotland) Regulations 2018 allows the Fund to develop a Pension Administration Strategy (PAS) which outlines the responsibilities of both the Fund and its participating employers. In addition it details the service standards expected for Fund administration and provision of information from all employers with active members within the scheme. These service standards are in line with meeting the needs of the Fund, the regulatory requirements and minimum customer service standards.

The PAS was last approved in 2017 and therefore the document has been reviewed in line with current processes and requirements.

2. Aims and Objectives

The aim of the PAS is to aid the delivery of high quality pension administration for the members of the Fund on behalf of its participating employers.

The underlying objectives are as follows:

- To provide high quality pension service delivery
- Paying pensions and calculating benefits due accurately and on time
- Good working relationships between the North East Scotland Pension Fund (NESPF) and its participating employers
- Delivery of the Local Government Pension Scheme (LGPS) requirements in line with the scheme regulations and compliance around the Codes of Practice put in place around service delivery and service standards.

The draft PAS in Appendix 1 outlines how these objectives are to be achieved with the Fund and the employers working together.

3. Consultation

The 2022 PAS has been issued to all participating employers in November for a two week consultation period. At the time of writing this report the consultation remains open for comment. Any comments or suggested changes will be advised verbally to the Pensions Committee by the report author.

4. Finalising the FSS and Next Steps

The NESPF has a good working relationship with its participating employers and this is maintained by the support provided by the Employer Relationship Team. The PAS provides

direction and transparency around the approach for delivering the scheme on an ongoing basis. The draft document has been brought to this Committee for approval. If approved, the new PAS will become effective from 1 January 2023 with a copy being sent to all participating employers and to the Scottish Ministers.

The PAS report that goes to Committee quarterly will be revised with the new report being used for the new reporting period. Quarter 1 (April to June 2023) will be reported on using the new version and will be brought to Committee in September 2023.