

Pensions Groups/Bodies (to be circulated to staff)

This document details the various pensions related groups/bodies that Pension Fund staff may encounter, a brief description of what they do, if we attend meetings and any other useful information/tools available on their website. The document is updated on a quarterly basis and staff should use it to familiarise themselves with the groups/bodies.

Group name	What do they do?	Website link, Guides/Tools available? Meetings?
CIPFA (The Chartered Institute of Public Finance & Accountancy)	Leading accountancy body for the public services providing education & training in accountancy and financial management.	http://www.cipfa.org/ <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Training events/Qualifications • Publications & resources e.g. policy guidance • Articles, briefings, blogs, reports on public finance topics
CIPP (Chartered Institute of Payroll Professionals)	Provides training for pensions & payroll. They have a policy & research team represented at government consultation forums relating to legislation which impacts on payroll & pensions.	http://www.cipp.org.uk/ <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • News • Pension Qualifications • Events
ECWG (Employer Covenant Working Group)	Provides a forum to discuss regulatory issues on matters connected with employer covenant. They participate in discussions with The Pensions Regulator or the Pension Protection Fund; act as a vehicle for raising standards of, and promoting, the employer covenant financial advisory industry generally amongst the pension's community.	http://ecwg.co.uk <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • New & publications
IGG (Investment Governance Group)	Sets out a practical framework of principles and best practice guidance to help those running work-based pension schemes improve their investment decision-making and scheme	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Joint meetings held with SPLG. Attended by Pension Fund Manager and Investment Manager

	governance. Working group from all Scottish LGPS funds.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Meeting minutes available in Sup dat/Administration/SPLG Minutes
ILPA (Institutional Limited Partners Association)	Leading global, member driven organisation dedicated to advancing the interests of private equity Limited Partners through education programs, independent research, best practices, networking opportunities and global collaborations.	https://ilpa.org <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Events & training • News • Best practices & tools – reporting best practices (fee template), Private Equity principles, Due diligence
The Investment Association	Represents UK investment managers with aim to improve investments and works with investors, Investment Managers, Regulators & Governments worldwide.	http://www.theinvestmentassociation.org <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Policies & Consultations • Research & publications • Current initiatives • Training
LAPFF (The Local Authority Pension Fund Forum)	Leading collaborative shareholder engagement group bringing together Local Government Pension Funds in UK to discuss investment issues & stakeholder engagement.	http://www.lapffforum.org/ <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Quarterly meetings attended by Pension Committee Member & Senior Pensions Officer - Investments • LAPFF publications, reports & consultations • Details of conferences & presentations
LGA (Local Government Association)	Represents employer's interests to central government and other bodies on local government pension policies. They provide a secretariat service for the Local Government Pensions Committee (LGPC) which is made up of Local Government Association, Welsh Local Government Association and Convention of Local Scottish Authorities (COLSA). They provide	https://www.local.gov.uk/ <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • LGA publications/LGPC bulletins • Links to LGPS website & legislation • LGA training & events

	technical advice & guides on Local Government Pension Schemes and other compensation matters. Pensions Training is available on request.	
ICO (Office of the Information Commissioner)	Public official appointed by Her Majesty The Queen on the nomination of the UK Parliament. They promote and enforce the public's rights to ask for information held by public authorities under the Data Protection Act 1998. They also promote and enforce the public's rights (in England, Wales and Northern Ireland) to ask for information held by public authorities under the Freedom of Information Act 2000. Their main aim is to promote openness, transparency and accountability of public bodies and data privacy for individuals.	https://ico.org.uk/ <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Searchable appeals relating to Freedom Of Information requests made in England, Wales and Northern Ireland • Data protection online toolkit • Guidance notes • Source for information on GDPR
PASA (Pensions Administration Standards Association)	Aim is to promote and improve the quality of the pension's administration service for UK pension schemes.	http://www.pasa-uk.com <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • News • Publications
Pensions Infrastructure Platform (PiP)	An infrastructure investment platform which has been specifically developed to facilitate long term investment into UK infrastructure by pension schemes. Set up for pension schemes by pension schemes. Backed by group of leading UK pension schemes, offers transparency tailored to pension scheme needs.	http://www.pipfunds.co.uk <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Information on multi strategy infrastructure fund & other available funds • News
PIRC (Pensions & Investment Research Consultants Ltd)	Europe's largest independent corporate governance and shareholder advisory consultancy. They provide proxy research services to institutional investors on governance and other Environmental, Social and Governance (ESG) issues.	http://pirc.co.uk <p>Proxy voting (responsibility of Senior Pensions Officer – Investments or Pensions Officer - Governance)</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • News and resources • Events & publications

PLSA (Pension & Lifetime Savings Association), formerly NAPF (National Association of Pension Funds)	Represent the interests of the occupational pensions movement, organises conferences and training program for member.	http://www.plsa.co.uk/ <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Policy & research • 'Made simple' guides • Link to training & events • News
PMI (Pensions Management Institute)	The Pensions Management Institute is the UK's largest and most recognisable professional body for employee benefit and retirement savings professionals, supporting over 6,500 members in 32 countries. The purpose of the institute is to set and promote standards of excellence and lifelong learning for employee benefits and retirement savings professionals and trustees through qualifications, membership and ongoing support services.	https://www.pensions-pmi.org.uk <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • News & publications • Events • Qualifications • PMI TV
Scottish Information Commissioner	Public official appointed by Her Majesty The Queen on the nomination of the Scottish Parliament. They promote and enforce the public's rights (in Scotland) to ask for information held by public authorities under the Freedom of Information (Scotland) Act 2002. Their main aim is to promote openness, transparency and accountability of Scottish public bodies.	https://itspublicknowledge.info <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Guidance notes • Searchable appeals relating to Freedom of Information requests made in Scotland
SPLG (Scottish Pensions Liaison Group)	Scottish Pensions Liaison Group hold quarterly meetings and are all the Scottish Pension Funds along with representatives from Northern Ireland Local Government Pension Scheme, Local Government Association, Scottish Public Pensions Agency, Prudential and actuaries in which they discuss any regulatory or administration issues/changes in order to ensure all funds have a consistent approach.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Meetings attended quarterly by a member of the Training & Development Team and Pension Fund Manager. • Meeting minutes available in Sup dat/Administration/SPLG Minutes
TPO (The Pension)	The Scottish Public Services Ombudsman is the final stage for	http://www.spsso.org.uk

Ombudsman)	complaints against councils, National Health Service, housing associations, colleges & universities etc.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Information leaflets • Training • Decision & investigation reports
SLOGPAG (Scottish Local Government Pensions Advisory Group)	Comprises representatives of the Convention of Local Scottish Authorities (COLSA) - on behalf of councils and administering authorities, Local Government Unions and the Scottish Government. Scottish Local Government Pensions Advisory Group is an advisory group, providing advice to the Scottish Government.	http://www.sppa.gov.uk <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Meetings quarterly
The Pensions Regulator (TPR)	They work with pension scheme trustees, scheme managers and your employer to help protect your workplace pension. All breaches regarding the law in Pensions have to be reported to The Pensions Regulator.	http://www.thepensionsregulator.gov.uk/ <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Online interactive education portal with online assessments (TPR Toolkit) • Reporting facility • Dedicated online employer area • Updates and news • Document library e.g. guidance, code of practice and consultations
The Pension Advice Service (TPAS)	Free, independent financial advice regarding pensions.	http://www.pensionsadvisoryservice.org.uk/ <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Trace a lost pension • Annuity planner • Webchat facility, videos • news & publications
The Financial Conduct Authority (FCA)	The Financial Conduct Authority (FCA) oversees the conduct of individuals and companies who provide financial services. If you have a personal pension or stakeholder pension, or have used your pension pot to buy an income, your provider is likely to be overseen by the FCA.	https://www.the-fca.org.uk/ <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Consultation papers & policy statements • Information on range of topics for firms and for consumers

		<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • News and publications e.g. ‘regulation roundup’
The Prudential Regulation Authority (PRA)	The Prudential Regulation Authority (PRA) is responsible for making sure that companies offering financial services, including banks, insurance companies and major investment firms are run properly, and that people using their services have some protection against loss if the company or individual goes out of business.	http://www.bankofengland.co.uk/pru/Pages/default.aspx <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • News & publications • Knowledge bank • The Final Services Register • Events, research papers and blogs
UNPRI (Principles of Responsible Investment)	The world’s leading proponent of responsible investment works to understand the investment implications of environmental, social and governance (ESG) factors and supports its international investor signatories in integrating these factors into their investment and ownership decisions.	https://www.unpri.org/ <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Online interactive training • Reporting facility • News – quarterly updates • Reports, Guides • Events
Scheme Advisory Board (SAB)	The purpose of the Local Government Pension Scheme (Scotland) Advisory Board is to provide advice to the responsible authority, at the responsible authority’s request, on the desirability of changes to scheme design and the implication of other policy issues	http://lgpsab.scot/ <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • News & bulletins • Guidance • Meetings • Terms of Reference
The Financial Reporting Council (FRC)	The Financial Reporting Council is responsible for promoting high quality corporate governance and reporting to foster investment. They set the UK Corporate Governance and Stewardship Codes as well as UK standards for accounting, auditing and actuarial work. They represent UK interests in international standard-setting. They also monitor and take action to promote the quality of corporate reporting and auditing. They operate independent	https://frc.org.uk/ <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Guidance • News & events • Codes of Practice

	disciplinary arrangements for accountants and actuaries, and oversee the regulatory activities of the accountancy and actuarial professional bodies	
European Data Protection Board (EDPB)	<p>Its primary role is to contribute to the consistent application of the GDPR throughout the Union. It advises the Commission, in particular on the level of protection offered by third countries or international organisations, and promotes cooperation between national supervisory authorities. It issues guidelines, recommendations and statements of best practice: for example, on matters such as when a data breach is <i>“likely to result in a high risk to the rights and freedoms”</i> of individuals or on the requirements for Binding Corporate Rules. It is to encourage Codes of Practice and Certification, both of which will assist controllers and processors in demonstrating compliance with the GDPR. The EDPB’s most distinctive new role is to conciliate and determine disputes between national supervisory authorities.</p>	<p>https://www.twobirds.com/~media/pdfs/gdpr-pdfs/64--guide-to-the-gdpr--european-data-protection-board.pdf?la=en</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none">• Guidance• Monitoring & Reporting• Disciplinary measures• Policy creation and implementation