

## **PE8. GENERAL GOVERNANCE MATTERS**

The Committee and Board considered a report by the Chief Finance Officer presenting an update on various matters associated with the governance of the Falkirk Council Pensions Fund.

The report detailed that the new version of the Local Government Pension Scheme came into effect on 1 April 2015 and this included the undernoted key changes:-

- the career average accrual;
- the protection of final salary rights;
- that the scheme's normal retirement age was now equivalent to each member's own State Pension Age;
- the accrual rate of 49ths rather than 60ths;
- the member contribution rate for part time members being based on actual rather than full time pay;
- the overtime hours pensionable for part time members;
- the details of the 50/50 option;
- the no detriment underpin for older members;
- the employer discretions policy due by 30 June 2015; and
- the new governance arrangements.

The new pensions administration system became operational in March 2015. The system was maintained by external software providers and reduced reliance on a key individual for systems development. A degree of further development work was required, in particular in relation to the migration of the pensioner payroll to the Altair platform.

The other areas covered within the report comprised:-

- the risk register;
- the progress of the social and affordable housing investment with Hearthstone plc;
- the UK local infrastructure projects in collaboration with Lothian Pension Fund;
- the National Scheme Advisory Board;
- the Pensions Regular and the Code of Practice – Governance and Administration in Public Service Pension Schemes; and
- the work of the Local Authority Pension Fund Forum (LAPFF) and its Conference in Bournemouth from 2 to 4 December 2015 to be attended by Committee members Councillors Blackwood and Coleman.

### **Decision**

**The Committee and Board noted the report.**