

**DERBYSHIRE COUNTY COUNCIL**

**COUNCIL**

**3 JUNE 2015**

**Report of the Strategic Director of Corporate Resources**

**LOCAL PENSION BOARD**

**1. Purpose of the Report**

To appoint members of the Local Pension Board for Derbyshire.

**2. Information and Analysis**

At its meeting on 8 April 2015 the Council approved the establishment of a Local Pension Board and the Terms of Reference for the Board. The Council was informed that a further report would be presented to this meeting relating to the appointment of Board members.

The Terms of Reference provide that the Board shall consist of four voting Board members, made up of two Employer Representatives and two Member Representatives, together with a non-voting independent Chair.

It was agreed that one of the Member Representatives would be subject to nomination by the Trade Unions which are recognised by the Pension Scheme's Employers.

A recruitment and selection process has been carried out, managed by the Assistant Director of Legal Services and the Deputy Director of Finance in consultation with the Strategic Director of Corporate Resources and the Leader of the Council. Applications were received for the position of Scheme Member Representative from Ms Karen Gurney and from Mr Nick Read whose appointment was supported by Unison, GMB, Unite and UCATT.

Ms Gurney is a Finance Manager in the County Council's Children and Younger Adults Department. She is a qualified accountant and before joining the County Council in 2004, Ms Gurney worked in the Financial Service Industry including over 12 years with a major insurance company.

Mr Read is a Business Services Assistant in the Derbyshire Business Centre and has worked for the County Council since 1971. He has been the Unison Trade Union observer on the Pensions and Investment Committee for the last two years.

No applications have yet been received for the two Employer Representative positions on the Board. There will be a further report to Council at its meeting on 23 September regarding appointments to these positions.

Applications were also invited for the position of Independent Chair which will be a paid position. Five applications were received via the Council's e-tendering system, Due North. These were evaluated against the published specification for the post and three applicants were invited for interview. The process of selection has not been completed at the time of writing this report and so all Members of the Council will be informed of the identity of the preferred candidate in advance of the Council meeting.

The Council is asked to approve the appointments of Ms Karen Gurney and Mr Nick Read as Scheme Member Representatives on the Local Pension Board for an initial two year term and the appointment of the Independent Chair of the Local Pension Board for an initial one year term.

### **3. Financial Considerations**

The costs of the Local Pension Board, including the fees paid to the independent Chair will be met by the Pension Fund.

### **4. Legal Considerations**

The appointment of members to the Local Pension Board complies with the Local Government Pension Scheme (Amendment) (Governance) Regulations 2015 and the relevant guidance.

### **5. Other Considerations**

In preparing this report the relevance of the following factors has been considered: prevention of crime and disorder, equality of opportunity, environmental, financial, health, human rights, personnel, property and transport considerations.

### **6. Background Papers**

Files held by the Director of Legal Services and the Director of Finance.

### **7. OFFICER RECOMMENDATION That the Council approves:-**

- 7.1 the appointment of Ms Karen Gurney and Mr Nick Read as Scheme Member Representatives to the Local Pension Board for Derbyshire for a two year term; and
- 7.2 the appointment of the Independent Chair of the Local Pension Board for Derbyshire for a one year term.

**JUDITH GREENHALGH**  
**Strategic Director of Corporate Resources**