

Judicial Pensions Board

Key issues discussed at the meeting held on 11 September 2019.

Board Membership

The Board welcomed new member Professor Stephen Hardy replacing Judge Elizabeth Heap whose term ended in March 2019.

Administration

The Board were updated on the progress in implementing the outcomes of O'Brien/Miller and McCloud judgments. The Board were further briefed on the contract extension and governance of services provided by Xafinity Punter Southall (XPS); and pilots with Regional judicial members on MyPension.com before full roll out.

The Board discussed improvements and concerns around XPS's administration and asked for a plan to be presented to the Board at the March 2020 JPB meeting for the future tender of the administration contract.

The Board heard updates by the Ministry of Justice (MoJ) on the conclusion of the Fee Paid Judicial Added Years (FPJAYS) tax registration project and its inclusion in the members' benefits statements. The Board questioned the issue of late annual benefit and pension saving statements and requested a report from XPS for the November JPB Administration Committee.

The Board considered the backlog and the measures being taken by XPS to reduce it and asked XPS to provide analysis at the next Board meeting on the backlog to identify trends and patterns.

Annual Report & Account 2018-2019

The Board were briefed by the Ministry of Justice Finance team on the Annual Report and Accounts for 2018-2019, published each year to make it available to the public.

Risk and Assurance

The Board discussed the Risk Register and agreed amendments to reflect mitigations in place, noting for the highest rated risks reduction would be a longer-term exercise.

Internal Dispute Resolution and Appeal Cases

The Board noted the roles and responsibilities of the new Dispute Resolution Committee (DRC). The Board Chair sought interest from Members to be added to a pool for future DRC meetings. The Board were informed of three Internal Dispute Resolution Procedure (IDRP) Stage-2 complaints considered by the DRC since June 2019.

Date of next meeting: 4 December 2019