

Judicial Pensions Board Administration Committee

Key issues discussed at the meeting held Wednesday 18 August 2021

Administration

The Committee was updated by the Ministry of Justice's Pension Administration and Contract Lead on this year's Pension Savings Statement (PSS) and Annual Benefits Statement (ABS) Exercise. The Committee was informed that by the end of July 2021, 98.9% of members had been provided with Pensions Savings Statements before the statutory deadline of 31 July 2021. Where XPS had remaining queries on records, meaning PSS could not be issued, those members affected had been written to and an explanation provided. The Committee sought and were given assurance that XPS and MoJ's focus remained on expediting the resolution of the outstanding PSS queries and that the ongoing ABS exercise remained on track for completion by 31 August 2021.

The Committee was informed that XPS's plans for the move of the MoJ Administration Team to Middlesbrough were advancing with recruitment of the senior management team, administration manager and deputy administration manager underway.

The Head of Pensions Operations and Pension Administration and Contract Lead updated the Committee on the outcome of the recent MoJ recruitment campaign which had resulted in the identification of several successful candidates, most of whom had prior pensions experience.

Government Internal Agency Audit

The Committee noted that the majority of the recommendations had been completed on time with the remaining recommendation due for completion by the end of September 2021.

Judicial Pension Scheme - Data

The Head of Pension Operations informed the Committee that the MoJ had engaged two contractors to work alongside colleagues from the Project Delivery Function on developing a pensions data strategy. The strategy will focus on the current situation with regards to data flows and how data is held, later moving to the creation of an overarching data strategy encompassing the Future Reformed Scheme and the McCloud options exercise. The Committee was informed that a contingent of Judicial Claims Team staff had been extended until April 2022 to assist with this work.

XPS Contractual Key Performance Indicators (KPIs) and Service Level Agreements (SLAs)

The Committee was informed that agreement between MoJ and XPS had been reached on revised Key Performance Indicators. These would form part of the contract variation and would begin to operate from 1 September 2021.

Date of next meeting: 1 November 2021