Judicial Pensions Board

Key issues discussed at the meeting held on Friday 3 December 2021

Administration

The Judicial Pensions Board (JPB) was updated on the progress of the recruitment campaigns for new independent Board members and an actuarial Board member.

The Deputy Director for Pensions Operations updated the Board on ongoing work that was underway in preparation for the McCloud options exercise and the Future Reformed Scheme 2022. The Board was informed that the delivery plan for the introduction of the Future Reformed Scheme on 1 April 2022 remained on track subject to the timely progress of the legislation through Parliament.

The Board was advised that the performance of XPS, the scheme administrator, against SLA targets had risen to 92.6% in October and had remained above 90% for the last quarter. XPS confirmed its preparations for the Future Reformed Scheme 2022 were on track for 1 April 2022 and communications would be sent to members early in 2022 regarding contribution choices and the elective opt-out process.

The Board reviewed and noted the AAF report which had been issued following the audit of XPS internal controls.

Annual Benefit Statements (ABS) Pension Savings Statements (PSS)

The Board was advised that a lessons learned exercise was undertaken after the 2021 PSS/ABS exercise to inform the 2022 ABS/PSS programme. The Board highlighted the importance of sufficiently detailed communications being issued to members in advance of the exercise as well as confirmation for members of what information they could expect to receive in their 2022 statement.

Fee Paid Judicial Pension Scheme (FPJPS) Data Queries and MoJ Data Strategy

The Head of Pension Operations advised that good progress had been made in resolving fee paid data queries and whilst the work was complex with each record requiring detailed examination, there was a steady flow of data from MoJ to XPS which had significantly reduced the outstanding number of data queries awaiting resolution.

The Board was updated on the work being undertaken by MoJ on the overarching data strategy which was looking at data flows across between MoJ and its stakeholders including Her Majesty's Courts and Tribunal Service and included the mapping out of data requirements for the Future Reformed Scheme 2022.

Risk and Assurance

The Board considered the Risk Register and agreed to retain the current risk assessment levels. An update on cyber security was requested for the next meeting.

Internal Dispute Resolution and Appeal Cases

The Board was updated on the progress of current Stage 1 and Stage 2 (appeal) cases.

Date of next meeting: 24 February 2022