

FIREFIGHTERS' PENSION COMMITTEE: REVIEW OF NORMAL PENSION AGE

Issue

- Update on the Chair chosen by the Fire and Rescue Minister to undertake the review set out in (h) and (i) of the Heads of Agreement.
- The Chair will update the Committee on his proposals to conduct the review, including a mechanism for interested parties to submit evidence to the review.

Recommendation

- That the Committee notes that Dr Williams has been chosen by the Fire Minister to Chair the review, and the approach that Dr Williams proposes to take to undertake the review.

Background

- At the 44th meeting of the Firefighters' Pension Committee, the Local Government Association proposed Terms of Reference for the Committee's consideration, to undertake a review of Normal Pension Age in line with the Heads of Agreement. These Terms of Reference were approved by the Committee.
- Following initial discussions involving the Local Government Association, Fire Brigades Union, and Department for Communities and Local Government, Dr Tony Williams has been chosen by the Minister to undertake the review to deliver the terms of the Heads of Agreement.
- Dr Williams will discuss with the Committee his initial thinking on the conduct of the review, including a call for evidence from fire service interested parties, and any other relevant issues for Committee members.
- Dr Tony Williams - Medical Director of Working Fit - has fifteen years experience as a consultant occupational physician in the NHS and is a prominent member of the Association of Local Authority Medical Advisors. In 2004, Dr Williams produced a report for the Office of the Deputy Prime Minister (the then DCLG) entitled Medical and Occupational Evidence for Recruitment and Retention in the Fire and Rescue Services.