

SAB Training Workshops

Purpose

This paper updates the SAB on the training Workshops agreed to be carried out in 2023 and provides feedback from the first training workshop held on 29th August.

The training consists of three sessions which are being organised, and partly delivered, by the independent adviser Clare Scott appointed by the SAB.

First Workshop and Feedback

The first session was delivered on 29 August. The second session is scheduled for 12 October and the third will be scheduled for October/early November shortly.

On 29 August:

- A list of those attended can be found below.
- Some advisers and representatives from SPPA also attended.
- Most members attended in person.
- Feedback from attendees was very good.

Members Attended	
Cllr David Richardson	East Ayrshire Council
Cllr David Parker	Scottish Borders Council
Cllr Vaughan Moody	East Dunbartonshire Council
Kenny Dick	Care Inspectorate
Kirsty Robb	Borders College
Brian Robertson	UNITE
Graham McNab	UNITE
Stephen Smellie	UNISON
Andrew Thompson	GMB
Members Apologies	
Cllr Simon Mountford	Scottish Borders Council
Cllr Mandy Watt	City of Edinburgh Council
Davena Rankin	UNISON
Simon Watson	UNISON
Annette Drylie	GMB
Advisers Attended	
Sarah Watters	COSLA
Bruce Miller	Lothian Pension Fund
Richard McIndoe	Strathclyde Pension Fund
Martin Booth	Directors of Finance
Angela Rainey	SPDS

The session noted results from a survey on good governance practices recently circulated to Scottish pension funds. The results of this survey, as analysed by Clare Scott, can be found attached.

The session is recorded will be made available to members. Clare has offered to hold a session (approximately 1 hour) for those members who were unable to attend, and have watched the recording, to answer and questions, in advance of the second session.

Second Workshop

The session on 12 October will be focused on investments and is expected to include:

- An introduction to investment
- An overview of investment pooling in England and Wales
- Investment benchmarking
- An overview of the investment collaboration model between Lothian Pension Fund and Fife Pension Fund.

Third Workshop

The third session is expected to include overviews of other LGPS delivery models including pensions administration and fund mergers.

Ongoing Training

Clare Scott has said that it would be good practice to make induction training, as well as ongoing training, compulsory for all current, and future, members of the Scheme Advisory Board. Regular (annual?) reporting of training achieved would also be good practice.

This is consistent with the expectations of training for those involved in managing the funds of LGPS in Scotland.

The Board may also wish to develop a training policy to set its approach to members gaining sufficient knowledge and understanding to undertake its roles.

Recommendation

The SAB is asked to note the update on the training Workshops and to comment in relation to the feedback from session one; to offer comments on the proposed second and third sessions; and comment on the advice on ongoing training provided by Clare Scott.