April 2016

Dear Colleagues

As the recently appointed Chairman I am writing to you all to inform you that the Local Government Pension Scheme Advisory Board (SAB) has now been established as required by Government regulations. The purpose of the Board is to advise the Minister who is responsible for the Scheme and to oversee and support the development of the administration and performance of the eighty nine member funds.

As you are all aware we are the largest funded scheme in the United Kingdom and the fifth largest in the world with assets in the region of £200 Billion. In these challenging times we are want to ensure you have access to the work undertaken by this board. This together with the previous activity of the shadow board can be viewed on our website www.lgpsboard.org.

At a special meeting of the Board held on 23rd March, Jon Richards from Unison was appointed as the vice chairman and the Board agreed a service agreement with the LGA to provide secretariat services.

Invitations to provide nominations to fill the three statutory non-voting positions were agreed to be sent to the Association of Local Authority Treasurers (ALAT), the Pension and Lifetime Savings Association (PLSA formerly NAPF) and the Trade Union Congress (TUC). A further paper will be taken to the next meeting to discuss if and how the Board may wish to appoint advisors and extend invitations for individuals or organisations to observe meetings.

There will be two sub committees chaired by members of Board; Cost management and Scheme Design and secondly Investment, Engagement and Governance. The Deficits Working Group will be reconstituted.

The Board also received an update paper on the governments’ response to asset pooling and commissioned work on the impact of academy status for all schools.

The Board will be publishing its third annual report of the scheme which has been collated from data supplied by all eighty nine funds and will be available during May.

We all have a great responsibility to provide a sustainable and affordable pension scheme for our members and the Board looks forward to working with you all.

Yours sincerely

Cllr Roger Phillips
Chairman of LGPS Advisory Board