



PENSIONS COMMITTEE

Monday, 29 March 2021

REPORT TITLE:	NON-RECOVERY OF PENSION OVERPAYMENTS
REPORT OF:	DIRECTOR OF PENSIONS

REPORT SUMMARY

This report requests approval to write off a sum of £48,750.30, in respect of pension overpayments that have arisen, and Legal Services have recommended write off as they are deemed irrecoverable or are now Statute Barred.

The appendix to this report contains exempt information. This is by virtue of paragraph(s) 3 of Part 1 of Schedule 12A of the Local Government Act 1972, i.e. Information relating to the financial or business affairs of any particular person (including the authority holding that information).

RECOMMENDATION/S

That the sum of £48,750.30 is approved for write-off.

SUPPORTING INFORMATION

1.0 REASON/S FOR RECOMMENDATION

1.1 Further attempts to recover the overpayments are deemed by Legal Services as not cost effective with no realistic prospect of recovery.

2.0 OTHER OPTIONS CONSIDERED

2.1 Not relevant for this report.

3.0 BACKGROUND INFORMATION

3.1 Overpayment of pension benefits can arise in a number of circumstances where information that should result in the termination of a payment is not received, or only received some considerable time after an event.

3.2 Attempts are made to recover overpayments in accordance with an established debt recovery procedure. Each case is considered on an individual basis in regard its nature and sensitivity, particularly as the great majority of cases relate to the death of a pensioner member.

This involves sundry debtor accounts being raised against the notified beneficiary and pursued under the debt recovery process

- 3.3 The delegated authority of the Section 151 Officer to write-off debt is limited to £1,000 in any one case. As the individual amounts in these cases are above that figure, committee approval is requested.
- 3.4 Details of the individual cases of overpayment are provided in the exempt appendix.
- 3.5 The total annual payroll is circa £288m.

4.0 FINANCIAL IMPLICATIONS

- 4.1 There are no other financial implications arising from this report apart from the total of £48,750.30 under consideration for write-off.

5.0 LEGAL IMPLICATIONS

- 5.1 There are none arising from this report.

6.0 RESOURCE IMPLICATIONS: STAFFING; ICT AND ASSETS

- 6.1 There are none arising directly from this report.

7.0 RELEVANT RISKS

- 7.1 If recovery action is pursued, further legal costs will be incurred and the recovery of the sums likely to prove unsuccessful.

8.0 ENGAGEMENT/CONSULTATION

- 8.1 There are none arising from this report.

9.0 EQUALITY IMPLICATIONS

- 9.1 Has the potential impact of your proposal(s) been reviewed with regard to equality?

Not applicable for this report.

10.0 ENVIRONMENT AND CLIMATE IMPLICATIONS

- 10.1 There are none arising from this report.

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APPENDICES

Exempt Appendix One

BACKGROUND PAPERS

None.

SUBJECT HISTORY (last 3 years)

Council Meeting	Date
NON-RECOVERY OF PENSION OVERPAYMENTS	29 OCTOBER 2018