

CAMBRIDGESHIRE PENSION FUND



Pension Committee

Date: 24 March 2016

Report by: Head of Pensions

Subject:	Pension Overpayment Report
Purpose of the Report	To provide the Pension Committee with; 1) Details relating to overpayments that have occurred; and 2) An analysis of action taken and current position.
Recommendations	That the Pension Committee notes the content of the report.
Enquiries to:	Jo Walton – Governance and Regulations Manager, LGSS Pensions Service Tel: 01604 367030 E-mail: jwalton@northamptonshire.gov.uk

1 Background

- 1.1 This is a standing item that reports the overpayments of pension that have occurred during the reporting period and the relevant actions that have been taken.
- 1.2 The report details all the overpayments of pension for the period 1 November 2015 to 31 December 2015.
- 1.3 The overpayments of pension and the respective action taken with them is a statutory requirement for inclusion in the Fund's Annual Report.

2. Overpayment analysis for this reporting period

- 2.1 There were 42 scheme members that died during the reporting period and the date of notification to the Fund resulted in an overpayment of the late members' pension. The total value of these overpayments was £6,876.38 of which £4,278.83 remains outstanding and £2,597.55 was written off due to the individuals' overpayment being less than £250. Invoices have been raised for the 4 cases pending recovery.
- 2.2 One overpayment that occurred during this period was due to a child's pension not being assessed for continued eligibility at the appropriate time. A letter was sent requesting evidence of the child remaining in full time education but this was not responded to so the pension was suspended. The value of the potentially overpaid pension is £597.62 and an invoice has been raised. If the individual produces evidence of full time education during the 28 days the debt will be null and void.

2.3 The information in 2.1 and 2.2 is summarised in the following table:

Overpayment Type	Action	Amount	Total
Retirement	Written off	£0	£0
	Recovery	£0	
	Recovered	£0	
Death of a Pensioner /Dependent	Written off	£2,597.55	£6,876.38 (42 Cases)
	Recovery	£4,278.83	
	Recovered	£0	
Eligibility of a child's pension ceases	Written off	£0	£597.62 (1 case)
	Recovery	£597.62	
	Recovered	£0	

3 Overpayment analysis on previous reporting periods

- 3.1 For the period 1 April 2015 to 31 July 2015 three further overpayments have been recovered equating to £1,916.34 (the value of £2,451.86 was previously recovered). The outstanding balance for this period is £805.90 (2 cases) and the recovery of this amount will continue to be managed through the LGSS Debt Management Team.
- 3.2 For the period 1 August 2015 to 31 October 2015 there were six overpayments due for recovery with a combined value of £3,495.58. To date these all remain outstanding and will continue to be managed through the LGSS Debt Management Team.

4. Consolidated analysis for the period 1 April 2015 to 31 December 2015

- 4.1. The total monies outstanding for the period 1 April 2015 to 31 December 2015 stands at £9,177.93. The total amount recovered for this period is £4,368.20.

5. Relevant Pension Fund Objectives

Perspective	Outcome
Governance	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> To have robust governance arrangements in place, to facilitate informed decision making, supported by appropriate advice, policies and strategies. Ensure the Fund and its stakeholders have the appropriate skills and receive training to ensure those skills are maintained in a changing environment.
Funding and Investment	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> To ensure that the Fund is able to meet its liabilities for pensions and other benefits with the minimum, stable level of employer contributions. To ensure that sufficient resources are available to meet all liabilities as they fall due. To maximise the returns from its investments within reasonable risk parameters.

Perspective	Outcome
Communications	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Promote the Scheme as a valuable benefit. • Deliver a clear and consistent message; that is simple, relevant and impactful, uses plain English throughout and engages all levels of stakeholders' understanding. • Provide clear information about the Scheme, including changes to the Scheme, and educate and engage with members so that they can make informed decisions about their benefits. • Seek and review regular feedback from all stakeholders about communication and shape future communications appropriately. • Look for efficiencies in delivering communications including through greater use of technology and partnership working.
Administration	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Provide a high quality, friendly and informative administration service to the Funds' stakeholders. • Administer the Funds in a cost effective and efficient manner utilising technology. • Ensure the Funds and its stakeholders are aware of and understand their roles and responsibilities under the LGPS regulations and in the delivery of the administration functions of the Funds. • Put in place standards for the Fund and its employers and ensure these standards are monitored and developed as necessary. • Ensure benefits are paid to, and income collected from, the right people at the right time in the right amount. • Maintain accurate records and ensure data is protected and has authorised use only. • Understand the issues affecting scheme employers and the LGPS in the local and national context and adapt strategy and practice in response to this.

6. Finance & Resources Implications

6.1 The inability to recover monies due to the Fund.

7. Risk Implications

7.1 The inability to recover monies due to the Fund.

8. Communication Implications

Website	All overpayments of pension and the associated success and failure to recover will be reported in the Fund's Annual Report which will be published on the LGSS Pensions Service Website by 30 November each year.
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9. Legal Implications

9.1 There are no legal implications connected to the contents of this report.

10. Consultation with Key Advisers

10.1 There has been no requirement to consult with advisers over the content of this report.

11. Alternative Options Considered

11.1 There are no alternative options to be considered.

12. Background Papers

12.1 None

13. Appendices

13.1 None

Checklist of Key Approvals	
Is this decision included in the Business Plan?	Not applicable
Will further decisions be required? If so, please outline the timetable here	No
Is this report proposing an amendment to the budget and/or policy framework?	No
Has this report been cleared by Chief Finance Officer/Section 151 Officer?	Sarah Heywood – 2/3/2016
Has this report been cleared by Head of Pensions?	Mark Whitby – 26/1/2016
Has the Chairman of the Pension Committee been consulted?	Councillor Hickford – 2/3/2016
Has this report been cleared by Legal Services?	Sent to Quentin Baker – 7/3/2016