

Extract from Pensions Committee Report 4 June 2013

Delegation of decision- making in relation to administering authority discretions

2. The Scheme Regulations provide administering authorities with a range of discretions on managing specific employer and employee issues.
3. The Committee receives a report which allows it to set policies on how the discretions will be exercised. The policies were last reviewed by the Committee on 27th February 2013.
4. A number of the discretions relate to members' benefits and it is often necessary to take prompt decisions in order that a member's position is protected.
5. The current practice is that such discretions are managed through the general delegation to the Head of Pensions and in accordance with the Committee's agreed policies.
6. The views and practices of South Tyneside Council in dealing with similar applications from ex Council employees are taken into account when arriving at a decision.
7. These members' discretions and the Committee's policies are set out in an appendix.
8. In order that the approach to managing these discretions is clear, the Committee is recommended to confirm the existing practice of delegating the decision making in respect of these member related administering authority discretions to the Head of Pensions.

Recommendation

9. The Committee is recommended
 - To confirm the existing practice of delegating the decision making in respect of these member related administering authority discretions to the Head of Pensions
 - To note the report.