

The Local Government Pensions Committee Secretary: Terry Edwards

## **CIRCULAR**

Please pass on sufficient copies of this Circular to your Treasurer/Director of Finance and to your Personnel and Pensions Officer(s) as quickly as possible

## No. 243 - FEBRUARY 2011

# ANNUAL LGPS "TRUSTEES" CONFERENCE JUNE 2011 - BOURNEMOUTH

## Purpose of this circular:

1. This Circular has been issued to update authorities on the forthcoming Annual LGPS Trustees' conference organised by the Local Government Pensions Committee (LGPC).

## Background:

- 2. Responding to numerous requests from elected members, the LGPC staged an inaugural trustees' conference at York back in September 2003. The conference was specifically aimed at elected members with responsibility for the Local Government Pension Scheme in their area, and a number of speakers addressed issues from a "trustee" perspective.
- 3. Following the success of the inaugural event, the conference became an annual event but, as announced in Circular 238 in June 2010, it was decided that our Eighth Annual Trustees' Conference would take place in Spring 2011 rather than its traditional place in the calendar in late October. In Circular 240 of September 2010 it was announced that the dates had been set in late-Spring, namely 8<sup>th</sup> and 9<sup>th</sup> June 2011.

## **Intended Audience**

4. Delegate places have never been restricted to elected members only; indeed the conference has been attended by many officers who either support pension committees or hold pension fund investment or administration responsibilities, along with trade union and other scheme member representatives.

5. Bearing in mind the present expectation of significant employee contribution increases coupled with medium and long-term scheme design changes, the 2011 Conference may also be of particular interest to Pension Managers who will be faced with both managing and communicating the transitions to the scheme membership, and also Directors of Finance and other budget holders who will be faced with the financial implications of any scheme changes.

## **Venue and Programme**

- The conference programme will have its popular lunchtime-to-lunchtime format on Wednesday 8<sup>th</sup> and Thursday 9<sup>th</sup> June 2011. Having previously been held at several venues in the North of England and Wales, the conference this year moves to the South of England, namely the Marriott Highcliff hotel in Bournemouth <a href="https://www.marriott.co.uk/hotels/travel/bohbm-bournemouth-highcliff-marriott-hotel/">https://www.marriott.co.uk/hotels/travel/bohbm-bournemouth-highcliff-marriott-hotel/</a>
- 7. The conference is now bookable (see Section 'Cost and Booking' below for details) but the programme is yet to be finalised. It is expected that another Circular will be issued in late-March / early-April 2011 which will include a full programme of events.
- 8. The LGPC are pleased to announce that Bob Neill, Parliamentary Under Secretary of State for Communities and Local Government, has agreed to give the keynote address.

Highlights of the rest of the draft programme include:

- Outcomes of the 2010 Valuations in England and Wales and the outlook for Scotland and Northern Ireland
- Legal update the case load gets heavier
- NEST, auto-enrolment and the LGPS
- Managing Contribution Increases
- Scheme Design another new-look scheme?
- New Scheme New Investment Strategy?
- Census 2011 The Longevity Gap

## Cost and booking

- 9. **The conference fee is all-inclusive**. All meals from arrival to departure, overnight accommodation at the Marriott, and all delegate materials are included in the conference fee of £475 plus VAT. The conference also includes a pre-dinner drinks reception, an after-dinner speaker, and a delegate gift, courtesy of our sponsors Hymans Robertson, Prudential and UBS Global Asset Management.
- 10. Early booking is highly recommended as places are limited. Although final details of the conference will follow in another Circular, in order to avoid any disappointment, the event has been uploaded on the on-line events booking facility which is part of the Local Government Employers' website at <a href="www.local.gov.uk">www.local.gov.uk</a>. Delegates who book their places early will receive an email with a link to the Circular immediately it is issued so it is important that correct delegate email information is supplied when booking.

- 11. Please be sure to note our cancellation policy contained in our Terms and Conditions which you will be asked to confirm you have read when completing your booking details on the booking events page. You will also need full delegate details to hand including the address to which the invoice for payment is to be sent. Purchase order numbers must also be provided if required by your organisation to pay invoices.
- 12. If you experience any difficulties in using the on-line website booking facility, please contact Elaine English, LGPC Executive Officer, by email <a href="mailto:elaine.english@local.gov.uk">elaine.english@local.gov.uk</a>

## **ACTIONS FOR ADMINISTERING AUTHORITIES**

13. All Administering Authorities are urged to copy this Circular to all employers in their Fund or bring the Circular to the attention of employers by directing them to it on the LGE website.

Tim Hazlewood LGPC Training and Development Manager 22 February 2011

#### **Distribution sheet**

Local authorities who have registered for notification of Circulars
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Officer advisory group
Local Government Pensions Committee
Trade unions
DCLG
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SPPA
Regional Directors
Private clients

#### Website

Visit the LGE's website at: www.local.gov.uk

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