

TEESSIDE PENSION FUND
Administered by Middlesbrough Council

TEESSIDE PENSION BOARD REPORT

9 FEBRUARY 2026

DIRECTOR OF FINANCE AND TRANSFORMATION – ANDREW HUMBLE

Pension Board Membership

1. PURPOSE OF THE REPORT

1.1 The purpose of the report is

- to ask the Chair to appoint a new Chair from the employer representatives;
- to update the Members of the Teesside Pension Board (the Board) on progress and proposals to fill vacancies on the Board;
- to remind the Board Members of their terms of office and that that the Deputy Chair will become the Chair (by rotation).

2. RECOMMENDATIONS

2.1 That the Board notes the report.

2.2 That a new Chair is appointed from the Board's employer representatives.

3. FINANCIAL IMPLICATIONS

3.1 There are no financial implications resulting from this report.

4. APPOINTMENT OF CHAIR

4.1 At the last meeting of the Board the role of Chair rotated from the scheme member representative to the Deputy Chair in accordance with the Board's terms of reference.

4.2 The new Chair has indicated that due to work commitments he will struggle to fulfil the role of Chair on a consistent basis and has asked for the Board to consider finding an alternative Chair for the Board.

4.3 This means there is a vacancy for Chair which needs to be filled from the existing employer representatives.

5 BOARD VACANCIES

- 5.1 There were two vacancies on the Local Pension Board following the last meeting;

A vacancy for a scheme-member Board representatives drawn from the recognised trade unions representing employees who are scheme members of the Fund following the retirement of June Stubbs and,

A vacancy for an employer-member Board representatives drawn from an employer other than the four main Councils (Hartlepool, Middlesbrough, Redcar & Cleveland and Stockton Councils).

- 5.2 The Board would like to put on record its appreciation for all of the input into the work of the Board made by June Stubbs since her appointment in November 2022.
- 5.3 A request was made to the trade unions to nominate a scheme member representative to the Board with a closing date for nominations of 19th January 2026. No nominations were received and so a further request for nominations has been made. The trade unions that can nominate employer representatives are GMB, UNISON and UNITE. Previous scheme member representatives were able to apply.
- 5.4 To fill the vacancy of employer representative from employers other than Council's a request has been made to the employers of the Fund to nominate a scheme employer representative with a closing date of 27th February 2026. This request has already generated some interest.
- 5.5 If there is more than one nomination for either of these roles the candidates will be invited to interview, which will be conducted by a selection panel consisting of Middlesbrough Council's Chief Finance Officer, Monitoring Officer and Head of Pensions Governance and Investments.

6 TERMS OF OFFICE

- 6.1 The term of office for members of the Board is four years from the date of the first Board meeting after their appointment. Extensions to terms of office up to a maximum of two years may be made by the Appointment Panel with the agreement of the Board or a Board member may be appointed for further terms of office using the usual appointment process.
- 6.2 The terms of office for the current members of the Board are detailed below.

Vacancy – Member Representative

Paul Thompson - Member Representative

Appointed 7 November 2025 for four years (2029)

First Board meeting after appointment is 17 November 2025

Mr Jeffrey Bell – Member Representative (Deputy Chair)

Appointed 28 January 2022 for four years (2026)

Extension 17 November 2025 for two years (2028)

First Board meeting after appointment was 9 February 2026

Councillor Christopher Massey – Employer Representative (Chair)

Appointed 4 July 2023 for four years (2027)

First Board meeting after appointment was 11 Sep 2023

Councillor Nicky Walker – Employer Representative

Appointed 4 July 2023 for four years (2027)

First Board meeting after appointment was 11 Sep 2023

Vacancy – Employer Representative (Non-Council)

- 6.3 It is worth noting that Deputy Chair will become the Chair through rotation which happens every two years as set out in the terms of reference.

7 NEXT STEPS

- 7.1 Board agree to replacing the Chair with another employer representative drawn from existing Board members.
- 7.2 The Head of Pensions Governance and Investments will coordinate the recruitment process set out in paragraph 6 and report back on progress to the next Board meeting.

CONTACT OFFICER: Andrew Lister – Head of Pensions Governance and Investments

TEL NO.: 01642 726328